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THE  
PHILATELIC TIMES:

A MONTHLY JOURNAL FOR

Stamp Collectors and Dealers.

No. 2, Vol. 1.

JULY, 1896.

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Edited by Henry Bagshawe, Miller's Dale, Buxton.

Tideswell:

PRINTED BY W. M. SLACK, COMMERCIAL ROAD.

On May 15th will appear the 5th edition for 1896, of the

# Catalogue of Postage and Telegraph Stamps, and Post Cards of Spain and Colonies.

This 5th edition is completely revised, and augmented by all existing varieties and errors, and the new issues for 1896.

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# THE PHILATELIC TIMES.

No. 2.

JULY, 1896.

Vol. I.

## NOTICES.

ALL communications for the next issue must reach us by July 20th, or are liable to be held over till the following number.

ARTICLES, Notes, Particulars of New Issues, etc., always welcome.

ADVERTISING RATES (until further notice):—Whole page 9/6, half page or no column 5/6, quarter page or half column 2/6, one inch 1/6.

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## "For and against" Papers.

SPECIALIST OR GENERALIST?

BY A SPECIALIST.

AT the commencement of this article, I cannot refrain from drawing attention to a sentiment expressed in the first of this series, in which the writer is evidently of opinion, both though he is to confess it, that Generalism has had its day and that its partisans are daily becoming a decreasing quantity. That such is my opinion it is needless to say, all the same it would perhaps be wisdom on my part to attempt to instance proofs of such statement.

The fact that so many dealers

now advertise their stock as "scientifically arranged in countries," is in itself a powerful argument, as dealers only alter to meet the times; thus, if a demand for minor varieties were not experienced, such announcements would not be an evidence. One firm, in a preface to their list, go so far as to say that "nine out of ten collectors are specialists in one country or group of countries." At first sight this sounds incredible, on closer consideration, however, and after examination of a number of collectors' albums, it will no doubt be found little, if any, exaggeration. Again, whenever discussions have been raised in philatelic circles, resulting in the question being carried

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to a show of hands, the Specialist has nearly always come out triumphant; had Generalism any important claim to prominence, surely the decision would have been otherwise, in very many cases. Other proofs could no doubt easily be cited, but I imagine the preceding ones will be sufficient for the majority of collectors, and as the space at my disposal is too slight to be dribbled away in unnecessary arguments, I will proceed.

In the article referred to above, the writer goes on further to lament (?), that there are always some unattainables in every specialistic group, be it ever so small. I think I may safely set his mind at rest on that point, for in that, in my opinion, lies the chief popularity of specialism; I allude to the exciting hunt through countless stamps for some rarity, and to the pardonable pride expressed by that mortal on the satisfactory conclusion of his search. For, were it not for some goal in view to excite our ambition, stamp-collecting would become a colourless and uninteresting pursuit. Nor do I wish my readers to run away with the idea that if they do not possess every rarity their collection is thereby rendered valueless. Far from it,

and by introducing this subject Generalist opened a vital place in his armour. For, in comparison, how many blanks has he in his generalistic comprehension of the Isle of Mauritius? and as he is devoted to all the stamps that ever have been, are, or will be, he cannot shirk such responsibilities. Having satisfactorily disposed of this, I read a few lines and meet with the argument, that when the Specialist has completed the object in view his interest wanes, finally disappears, and Philately loses a votary.

About this, however, I do not feel myself capable of arguing, for personally I have never yet been able to finish my object to such a degree; possibly a few philatelists may have selected a very small group, after finishing it to their satisfaction, and not appreciating this branch of the hobby, have retired from its ranks altogether. But this is only surmise, for if a collector select any moderate amount of ground, whether it be the British Empire, or Europe, or Australia, or any large country (philatelically), such as Gt. Britain, Spain, or Mexico, and work it thoroughly in all its various aspects of perforations, watermarks, shades, and types; and further should he

prove only a lukewarm aspirant for philatelic honours, I think it will be many years before he has exhausted his subject.

With regard to the amount of information gained, I cannot help thinking that a specialist must obtain a very much greater insight into the science than his generalistic brother, for the latter is so much engrossed in the vast considerations the world's stamps open out, that it is impossible for him to find time for careful study and reading.

A generalist collection may perhaps be better appreciated by non-philatelists, but otherwise—say for inspection by your society—specialism comes out far ahead. For by it you are often in a position to teach others, by the exhibition and explanation of some minor variety you have discovered; a very much pleasanter experience, I can assure you, than being taught by some painstaking collector whose albums you, as a generalist, have rather despised, owing to lack of variety.

### Editorial.

THE "NEW PHILATELIST," as the collector of new issues has been derisively christened, appears to

have provoked much warm discussion and afforded much interest leavened with a modicum of amusement. When both sides have "said their say," it seems to us, however that there is little need to create such a disturbance. In our private opinion, he is simply a device on the part of certain journals to fill up blank spaces, and that the title of one of the famous comedies of the immortal Shakespeare would be a most appropriate name for the whole business. It is therefore with extreme reluctance that we open our columns to a discussion of the matter, nor would we do so at all, were it not for a desire to expose the frailties of those who, while holding up to ridicule the mote in their brother-dealer's eye, apparently ignore the fact that they themselves might be the better for a little wholesome chastisement.

As is now well-known the idea was first broached in the journal published by a prominent dealer hailing from Salisbury. No doubt visions of future benefits to accrue from the adoption of this plan by philatelists appeared before his mind's eye at the time, that goes without saying, and equally of course it was not hinted at in the

article in question; but that Mr. Brown laid this trap in cold blood to catch the unwary collector we cannot, nay, *will* not believe; and it was, we have no doubt, to the writer's great surprise that the idea was seized on by all the lynx-eyed scrutineers of the philatelic press, and pulled to pieces by a majority of them in little less than no time. Some, indeed, first pretended a luke-warm appreciation, and we can recall to mind one journal which first took credit for ORIGINATING the craze, by reason of a few remarks on the subject the month previous. But, seeing which way the tide was running, its publishers veered quite round, and took the exasperating mildly-neutral phase, and are probably awaiting future developments before making another move. All this, however, is wandering from the point.

Those dealers who had the welfare of philately so much at heart, that their consciences would not allow collectors to blindly rush headlong into such a dreadful pitfall, urged as their principal reason for opposition against the scheme the fact, that it was so obviously a dodge on the part of interested dealers to enable them to dispose of

many stamps which falling under the New Philately also fell (dreadful thought,) under the ban of the four Sd. league. But, be this as it may, in their eagerness to cry it down, they seemed entirely to have forgotten the fact that THEY, also in pursuit of business, deigned to write articles, &c., puffing *their* wares, that is *old* issues.

"Live and let live," is a motto which might be adopted with advantage by many of the larger stamp-dealing firms. An impartial critic cannot fail to admit that Mr. Brown has as much right to oppose old issues (and recommend the new,) as his opponents have to do the opposite; and although we ourselves are not exactly warm partizans of the new issue craze, yet we trust we have yet the politeness to allow those of our friends who do favour them to please themselves, by leaving them a free hand in the matter. In conclusion, we may mention that we have a notion that the consternation raised by such a simple article, has not after all done the enterprising dealer, to whom is due the credit of originality, very much damage, either in reputation or pocket, in fact probably the extreme opposite, and he will not yet



have to close shop for all their opposition.

## LONDON NOTES AND NEWS.

BY PHIL. A. TELIST.

SUMMER is with us again; dealers' shops are looking dry and musty; auctions are not frequent; and our collectors are either off to the country, or those who are still in town are indulging in some pleasant out-door hobby in their spare time.

I note that the Philatelic Club and Exchange is going ahead in the right direction. I think I shall not be far wrong, when I say this club fulfils a real long-felt want. It is to be hoped that the scheme on foot for an International Philatelic Exhibition in 1897 may not fall through for want of support. I am sure if collectors would only unite with dealers, we might have an exhibit we should be proud to show our non-collecting friends.

By the time this is in print, most of our readers will have heard of the stamp robbery from the auction-rooms of Messrs. Puttick and Simpson. I consider it only reasonable that collectors should expect such occurrences to be guarded against by our auctioneers, we can therefore

only compliment the firm in question on their lucky escape from what might have proved a costly affair.

Whilst on the subject of auctioneers, I cannot help remarking that others might, with benefit, follow Mr. Hadlows' method of illustrating his catalogues, the reproductions appearing in the margins alongside the text. Not only is it an improvement in the way of handiness and for reference, but it makes the catalogue more acceptable to collectors. Next month the collections of two well-known philatelists will be offered for sale, both include some rarities of the first water, and I think it will repay all who are able to attend them. It would be interesting to investigate the reasons that occasion the dispersal of these patiently acquired specimens.

A rise may be expected in the price of the St. Helena 1/- value, Cr. and C.C. perforated 14, as the remainder sold was not any very large quantity; collectors should bear in mind the rapid rise of the same value in the case of the obsolete Leewards. Another stamp I have experienced a difficulty in procuring in quantity at a reasonable rate, (in fact some dealers did not possess it at all), was the 2½

annas value of British East Africa, used, and I would advise collectors to procure a copy without delay before a further advance ensues. It is reported the 2/- and 5/- values of Jamaica are now both obsolete, but I am awaiting confirmation of this.

## Chronicle of New Issues.

**BARBADOES** has secured the honour of being first amongst British colonies to institute a  $\frac{1}{4}$ d. rate. This applies to newspapers posted at the G.P.O. for delivery within the island, the charge being a farthing for every 2oz. The design is of the current type; slate-grey, value in carmine.

**BULGARIA.**—High value stamps of 2 and 3 levas, current design have been issued.

**CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.**—A  $2\frac{1}{2}$ d. blue stamp is reported. This is the first of the colour chosen for use throughout South Africa. Design, water-mark and perforation unchanged.

**DANISH WEST INDIES.**—The 1 cent has now the centre in brown-red. The 7 cent is obsolete.

**GRENADA.**—The 1d. value of the bi-

coloured type has appeared. Lilac, value in carmine. Speculation is reported to be rife in the remainder of the late issue of a similar value which was purchased by a syndicate. It is refreshing to learn that affairs are not particularly felicitous in their ranks.

**GUATEMALA.**—The A.J. of P. has received the 5 centavos of the current issue with the surcharge 1-centavo-1895, in three different types, all in red.

**HAITI.**—The colours of the current issue are about to be changed. A 2 cent maroon already exists.

**JOHORE.**—The Sultan of this province having undergone the ceremony of coronation, is anxious to acquaint collectors with the fact. The series of stamps bearing his image have therefore been surcharged with an unpronounceable word meaning Coronation. This raises visions of the S.S.S.S.

**ROUMANIA.**—A 2 bani chestnut of the current design has been issued.

**SIAM.**—4 atts surcharged on 12 atts in English and Siamese.

## Important Notice.

WHEN we selected a title for this journal, we were so unfortunate as to hit upon one already appropriated, Mr. Witherick of Leytonstone having registered the name "Stamp Collector" several years ago. Although that publication has for the present ceased, we have no wish to infringe, so in future we shall fall back upon our sub-title—The Philatelic Times—by which name this journal will be known.

## Our Review.

WE have received from Mr. Robert Croome, (Tewkesbury,) the second number of his "Stamp Collector's Library," being a history of the postal issues of Austria. It is next to impossible to estimate the amount of good arising from the publication of such works as these. Mr. Croome deserves success if only for the fact that he is the pioneer publisher of a class of literature that has become very necessary in view of the increase of specialistic tendencies. We can confidently recommend the work in question, secure at least in

the conviction that it cannot be considered dear at 4d., post free.

From Mr. Ewen, Swanage, we receive No. 8 of the *English Specialists' Journal*, which contains the continuation of Mr. S. C. Skipton's "The plating of the 2d. blue Gt. Britain." A most interesting and instructive article is contributed by Dr. Plowright on "The large Crown Watermark." "General News of the Month" comes from the pen of P. C. Bishop. A few pertinent remarks on the "Foreign-English" stamp question, by the Editor, will repay perusal. This journal improves each number.

The principal article in the June number of the *Philatelic Journal of Gt. Britain* (W. Brown, Salisbury) is a translation of an article concerning the "Austrian Mercuries" and the investigations of Herr Fraenkel on that subject. His conclusions point at forgery, but so thoroughly carried out as to render detection almost impossible.

NOTICE.—"The Vade Mecum" has had to be left out this month owing to lack of space, but will appear again next month as usual.

## Society Reports, &c.

BIRMINGHAM PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

President: W. T. Wilson, Esq.  
Hon. Sec.: Mr. G. Johnson, B.A.,  
208, Birchfield Road, Birmingham.

MAY 7th.—Paper—“*The Stamps of Greece*,”—Mr. P. T. Deakins.—Mr. Deakins' elaborately and scientifically arranged collection, together with autotype enlargements of the chief varieties, formed capital illustrations to one of the most carefully prepared papers given to the Society. This is, without doubt one of the most difficult countries to arrange, but at the same time one of the most interesting, and Mr. Deakins admirably succeeded in his work of distinguishing the numerous printings and varieties of the various issues.

MAY 21st.—A *Philatelic Display*, by W. B. Avery, Esq.—Mr. Avery first showed his collection of New South Wales, a page of each variety of the early issues, pairs and blocks used and unused; all recent issues catalogued, and many uncatalogued, and many reconstructed sheets of Sydney Views and re-touches, laureated &c. Passing on to *Switzerland*, he showed all types of the Cantonal, —used and unused,—and

many reconstructed sheets of the Federal stamps, with a complete collection of post-marks used on both. Later issues shown complete in all shades, threads, paper, perfs., &c.

*Italy and Italian States* followed next, with all rarities, used and unused, many on originals. A grand block of 8 half-Tornese blue on original being the most unusual. All the 1858 issue of Sicily were shown in complete sheets. These were succeeded by the *West Indies*. Every island was shown complete. Every variety of Nevis except 1/- on laid was shown in uncut sheets, and in the case of those printed from plates, in reconstructed sheets. No less than 3 complete sheets of the rare 6d. litho were shown, used and unused. Although the evening was now getting late, all were anxious for even a hasty look at *West Australia*, with its grand pages of early issues in superb condition, inverted Swans and similar rarities. A hearty vote of thanks was tendered Mr. Avery for the trouble he had taken, and for the pleasure it had given all present. The next meeting will be the Annual General Business Meeting for election of officers, &c., on Thursday, October 1st.

# The Stamp Mart.

Stamps, etc., inserted under this heading FREE.

All goods intending to be included in this list must reach us by the 16th of the month, together with a stamped addressed envelope for their return.

If goods are sold, 15 PER CENT (3/- in the £1) will be deducted for our commission, but no charge will be made if no sale is effected.

All lots not disposed of in three months will be returned to owner, unless otherwise arranged.

1.—Cape, triangular, 6d.	3/6
2.—Chine on 1 fr. France Used rare in this condition.	1/8
3.—Gr. Britain, 4½d. Govt. Parcels	1/6
4.— Do. 2d. blue, no lines	1/-
5.— Do. 8d. orange	1/6
6.— Do. 10d. red brown	1/6
7.— Do. 10s. grey, wmk. cross	17/6
8.— Do. 6d. grey green, L.R.	1/-
9.—Labuan 1c., 1893	1d.
10.—Alsace and Lorraine 10c. brown	6d.
11.—Austria 1867, 50c. flesh	1/-
12.—Argentine 1892, 1 peso, carmine	1/6
13.—Canada, 3d. rose, imperf.	1/6
14.—British Columbia, 3d.	2/-
15.—Ceylon, 1d. blue, imperf.	1/-
16.— Do. 2d. green	2/-
17.— Do. 6d. claret	6/-
18.— Do. 1s. violet	10/-
19.—Chili 1852, 1c. yellow	1/9
20.— Do. 20c. green	1/9
21.— Do. 1 peso	1/6
22.—Dominica, 1d. lilac, CA	1/3
23.—Grenada, 8d. bistre	6/6
24.— Do. 2½d. on 8d., unused	1/6
25.—1c. & 2c. Postage Due U.S.A. pair	6d.
26.—Saxony, 3 pf., unused	2d.

27.—Straits, 5 cents, blue	2d.
28.—Travancore, 1 chuk	1d.
29.—Turkey, 20 paras, rose	1d.
30.—Van Dieman's Ld., 4d. orange imperf.	8/6

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*RATES:—Four words 1d. Four insertions at price of three. Replies can be sent to our office upon an extra payment of 3d.*

**COLLECTORS.** I give stamps, &c. in exchange for books, curios, &c.—Wilorea, office of this paper, Miller's Dale, Buxton.

**GRATIS.** ½d. Malta and 25 other good stamps to applicants for cheap sheets.—Yorkshire Stamp Co., Low St., Keighley. Foreign correspondence and papers desired.

Secretaries of Exchange Clubs may possibly learn something very much to their advantage by making application to the Editor. Letters only, containing stamp for reply, will be noticed.

If you do not receive a circular relative to the Kingston Stamp Co. with this Journal, drop a card to them mentioning the fact. Their address is 44, Sykes St., Bull.

**DEALERS' DIRECTORY.** The charge for this, "Name, Address and Speciality," is 4d. per insertion, or 3s. per annum. Collectors specializing in any country will find it pay them to announce the fact in our "Collectors' Directory," same terms as above. There is little doubt that by so doing they obtain the pick in bargains of the country in question.

**ADVERTISE** in this paper. A trial advertisement solicited.

### Circulars, Price Lists, etc.,

May be sent out and posted with this Magazine for 7/6 per 1000, 4/- per 500  
2/3 per 250, 1/3 per 100.

\*\*\* This saves over £1 14s. 0d. in postage if 1,000 are thus sent, and they will be circulated carefully amongst buying collectors.

# HOPKINS BROS.,

*Crouch End,*

**LONDON, N.**

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We have made up some very fine Approval Books of Stamps, which contain only genuine stamps, worth buying. They contain no rubbish or seebecks, as we do not sell that class of stamp. The books are made up one for each continent, five in number, and average value £20 each. These books will be sent on approval to each applicant in turn; and each must send two first-class references, and 6d. in stamps to cover cost of registration and postage.



“The Stamps of the Leeward Isles.”

**BY R. HOLLICK.**

A most concise and useful work. Price 10d. post free.

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Retail Price List for Collectors.

Wholesale Price List for Dealers.

Both post free on application.



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BY R. HOLLICK, REVISED BY T. H. THOMPSON.

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### Editorial.

THE Society for the Suppression of Speculative Stamps, or, as it is termed for brevity, the S.S.S.S., has now fairly reached its first birthday. Such an anniversary presents itself naturally to one's mind as a suitable period at which to review its past work, and give heed to its schemes for future beneficent intentions.

Many collectors are propounding

amongst themselves, (but withal receiving no capable reply,) questions as to whether it possesses any real and practical utility. Although its condemnations with regard to suspicious stamps have in some few cases proved ill-advised, yet, taken as a whole, it cannot be denied that its operations have been productive of much good. What has proved the weakest point in its organisation, is the never too much to be deplored secession (if not in words

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[1884

# THE PHILATELIC TIMES.

No. 3.

AUGUST 1896.

Vol. 1.

## NOTICES.

ALL communications for the next issue must reach us by August 20th, or are liable to be held over till the following number.

ARTICLES, Notes, Particulars of New issues, etc., always welcome.

ADVERTISING RATES (until further notice):—Whole page 9/6, half page or one column 5/-, quarter page or half column 2/6, one inch 1/6.

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WE desire to Exchange one or two copies of this Journal for other Philatelic Publications.

TO OUR SUBSCRIBERS.—If you see a blue "X" in the adjoining space, it signifies that your subscription expires with this No. The favour of a prompt renewal is requested.

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### Editorial.

THE Society for the Suppression of Speculative Stamps, or, as it is termed for brevity, the S S.S.S., has now fairly reached its first birthday. Such an anniversary presents itself naturally to one's mind as a suitable period at which to review its past work, and give heed to its schemes for future beneficent attentions.

Many collectors are propounding

amongst themselves, (but withal receiving no capable reply,) questions as to whether it possesses any real and practical utility. Although its condemnations with regard to suspicious stamps have in some few cases proved ill-advised, yet, taken as a whole, it cannot be denied that its operations have been productive of much good. What has proved the weakest point in its organisation, is the never too much to be deplored secession (if not in words

at least in actions), of several of its most prominent constituents. It must not be argued from this, however, that the Society is radically wrong; it is in the persons composing it that we must seek for fault. Had these members never joined the association, but held aloof secure in a feeling of their own ability to distinguish necessary from unnecessary, we would not have found the slightest fault with them. For in every question, philatelic or otherwise, each man has a right to his own opinion, and we should consider it very bad policy on the part of dealers to refuse to sell those goods for which a demand was experienced. However, again we must remark, that having once passed their word, it bordered dangerously near the dishonourable to openly ignore the Society's decisions by advertising and selling those wares to which a protest had been made, and the weight of their several names and reputations added thereto.

This great evil: and a few lesser ones which we will not enumerate here cleared away—the chaff separated from the grain—to borrow an agricultural simile, probably the material left, will, in conjunction with foreign societies possessing a

kindred purpose and aim, accomplish a work, the benefit of which will affect collectordom at large. Indeed, their attempts to "scotch" the speculative stamp have already been effective, and if in this article we refrain from bestowing on our S. S. S. Society the praise it might in justice expect, it is only from a wish not to appear to be too premature in our congratulations. With all good wishes, therefore, for their FUTURE success, we withhold our opinion at present, preferring to await the turn of events as regards philately in general.

We have been much encouraged in our duties by the kindly remarks of our contemporaries of older standing than ourselves, as well as by the rapidly increasing circulation we are already obtaining.

No effort on our part will be spared to make the P. T. still more deserving of success. For this purpose we have purchased the right of presenting to our readers in a serial form Dr. G. I. Bryant's book on the "Stamps of Heligoland," an acknowledged standard work on the subject of which it treats, the first portion will appear in our next issue.

In the current number we introduce another new feature in the form of a series of interesting and chatty articles, entitled: "Philately of To-day." These are gathered and compiled by "Vindex," the "nom de plume" of an able and not altogether unknown philatelist.

### Philately of To-Day.

ONE of the most satisfactory signs of philatelic progress is apparent in the large numerical increase of exchange societies and town philatelic clubs. The past month has witnessed the inauguration of clubs for Hull, Dundee, Swansea and Huddersfield, and six new exchanges.

In a German philatelic paper a very well-known Parisian dealer occupies half-a-page in a fierce attack, verging on the libellous, on Messrs. Puttick and Simpson, of Leicester-square, London, who are philatelic auctioneers on a large scale. He deliberately declares that underhand dealings take place at these auctions, and warns philatelists on the Continent against English auctioneers in general. And why forsooth? just because

some stamps he included in one of their sales failed to realise his expectations. To use a vulgarism—"this is a bit thick"!

An unexpected exhaustion of the supply of the 50 cent. orange Mauritius, has given many speculators an irritable ten minutes. The issue has not been cornered to any great extent, and it is safe to say that whatever copies are wanted now will have to be paid stiffly for.

An amusing experience of a provincial dealer was brought to my notice the other day. He was visited by an olive-complexioned foreigner, ostensibly a Portuguese, who had "some stamps" for sale. The book he exhibited contained some rare gems, including two Sydney Views. On a casual inspection several forgeries were apparent, but as the catalogue value of the lot exceeded £50, the sum of 50s. he paid for them could not be considered other than moderate, to say the least of it. With many chuckles, the dealer placed his bargain away, but when, the next morning, he found that the only genuine stamp in the lot was a current St. Helena 1d. his language was of the unprintable description.

Moral: Beware of urbane foreigners.

New stamps for Siam, France, Italy, Egypt, New Zealand, Gold Coast and Argentine Republic, may be counted upon as additions to next season's catalogues.

Apropos of Siam, some persons look askance upon the provisionals recently issued there, but I know for an absolute fact that they are *postal* and not philatelic necessities.

## The Vade Mecum.

*A Column to Contain all knowledge necessary to young collectors.*

CONDUCTED BY

**PAUL MARRIOTT.**

### History of Stamps and Stamp Collecting.

(Part 1 continued.)

**A**FTER the "death" of Mount Brown's Catalogue, described in my last, the enthusiasm till lately displayed in stamp-collecting, appears to have gradually waned; why, it is hard to tell; but most probably on account of the

"reaction" attendant, or rather, closely following all great impulses of either nature or men; and from this cause philately was not to be exempt. Thus at this period, the late sixties, we find our hobby deserted by all but a faithful few, and it is no doubt to these that we must ever feel indebted for the SCIENCE of philately as it now is.

A few years later, or to be precise, in 1872, stamp-collecting made another bold bid for public patronage, but unfortunately, as after events proved, this was premature, and after a short fitful career of several years philately again retired to comparative obscurity. This period, however, deserves a more worthy mention than I have time or space to give here; for it was in 1872 that the first public sale by auction of rare stamps took place in this country. This notable event occurred at the rooms of Messrs. Sotheby, Wilkinson and Hodge. From amongst the various rarities offered, we select the following: Lot 49, Jefferson Market, P.O. (U.S. Local), which fetched £5, and now worth at least four times that amount. Lot 159, Sandwich 1s. 13 cents. 1st issue (very fine), sold for £6 10s.; this is now

valued at upwards of £70. On the other hand we note Lot 147, a set of 4 Mexico, 1867, (on thin paper) then brought £1 9s., recently catalogued at only 4s. This sale was then considered a most satisfactory one, and certainly there is no doubt that a return to those figures would be welcomed with acclamation by present-day investors. When this short reign was over public fancy, ever fickle, declaring against gummed labels, the devotees of the sticky science returned again to seclusion.

In 1874, interest in stamps and stamp-collecting could not fail to be awakened by the formation of the "Universal Postal Union," though the effect was not lasting, for a short time after we have abundant proof of this, in the fact that most of the English philatelic journals, including the old "Stamp Collectors' Magazine," after a useful career of twelve years, were compelled to cease publication through lack of support; thus leaving, for some two years, the interests of British collectors and dealers to be represented by the "Monthly Circular," a useful paper still extant, till in 1878 it was joined by Nunn's "Stamp Collec-

tor's Journal," these being succeeded at intervals during the next decade by many literary aspirants for public favour. A full list of those "which came to stay" was given in No. 1 of the "P.T. & S.M.," and to this I refer those of my readers who are curious.

Nothing particularly worthy of chronicling occurred until 1888, what is erroneously termed the **FIRST** auction took place, the previous one having been relegated to history as none had taken place during the interval. From that date till now philately has never looked back. Misgivings often seem to assail the hearts of lookers on as to the end of its popularity; still, in face of what we HAVE undergone, I think we need have no fears for our future, for it is plain that philately has already passed through the dread ordeal known as "reaction," and has risen phœnix-like from its ashes as no hobby ever did before or probably ever will again. And with this parting shot to scoffers we will leave the future to unfold itself at will.

*(To be continued.)*

## A Menace to Philately.

**A** DANGER daily growing more palpable and serious is the obvious overcrowding of the ranks of stamp-dealers. Boys smitten with the fever of speculation, and perverted from the natural and healthy pursuit of merely collecting, throw up their hobby and sell their collections piecemeal, after which, they invest in "dozens" and "fifties" with which they prostitute the market, and in some cases elbow out dealers of many years standing. There are too many collector-dealers, and not enough collectors, pure and simple.

Where, fifteen years ago there were ten dealers, fifty exist to day, and not wanted either. Competition is thus sharpened beyond ordinary keenness, and some must go to the wall. Strange to say, the youth with a few shillings capital does not immediately succumb. It is the dealer dependent on the stamp-trade for a living, or who has, by assiduous care and energy established a good connection, and requires expensive accessories to keep going as his position warrants.

Together with this evil another,

and perhaps more dangerous one, is daily increasing, and out of proportion to all requirements. Collectors expect "novelties," and dealers must perforce stock them as they appear, to the detriment of stuff of real merit. After a run of a few weeks, these pall on the collector, and the dealer finds himself with the bulk on his hands, each succeeding "boom" only increasing his burden. His capital becomes cramped, there are many accounts to pay, and not enough incoming revenue to adequately compensate him for his outlay. Disheartened at this state of affairs, he omits to lay in a supply of the next gaudy issue, and his customers fly to his rivals in the trade; he gradually loses custom, and in disgust throws everything up.

It is not a pretty picture, but it will prove to be not an altogether fanciful anticipation of a future reality. Only those old established firms, who know their business well and thoroughly, can hope to last through the present crisis, for it is nothing else, and even they are feeling the effects of the dangers threatening philately as a whole.

FERVINARD.



## The Stamps of Roumania.

VARIETIES IN SHADE AND COLOUR.

BY STEPHEN HELBUSH.

FEW European countries offer to the specialist a more prolific source for uncatalogued varieties than Roumania, and that at a very low cost.

The first issues, up to 1865, present no particular features, but in that of 1866 the first noticeable varieties can be readily distinguished. In my collection I have a pair of the 2 paras, black on orange, and one specimen of the same value on almost white paper. The 5 paras black on blue has been found in a light-greenish shade, but I have not seen it myself. The 1868 issue, a gorgeous sight in the album, contain several interesting stamps. My specimen of the 3 bani mauve is a delicate violet, and the 18 bani is a rather striking brick-red. The only novelty in the 1869-70 series is the shades of paper of the 25 bani, which can be found in yellow, buff, lilac-pink, orange, and light-brown. A friend of mine has an unused specimen of

the same value in sea-green on orange; this, I believe, is a chemical changeling, although it must have been an exceptionally neat job, as the operation left the paper unharmed.

The next important varieties are those of 1872 perforated issue. I have three shades of the 5 bani, excluding the one issued in yellow, viz., brick-red, scarlet, and carmine and each is a distinctive colour.

In the 1872 "Parisian" issue, the commoner varieties begin to appear. I have two specimens of the 1½ bani on light-green, as well as the 3 bani, and possess also four shades of the former value—olive-green, sea-green, grey-green and bronze-green. The 5 bani I have in orange, chestnut-brown, buff, and yellow-brown, and I have seen a 50 bani of this issue in a pink shade. The 15 bani can be found in reddish, chestnut, yellowish and olive shades of brown, and in dark-red, dark-carmine, red, and brick-red. I have one on green paper and one on light-blue, both perfect shades, and also one on buff. The 10 bani carmine can also be seen on buff and yellow papers and I have three 50 bani buff on three shades of yellow.

The 1885—7 issue is quite as prolific of novelties. I have a whole row of 3 bani stamps, olive and yellow-green on white, light-green, buff, and an olive tint. The 5 bani has been seen on light-green and light-blue; the ten and 15 bani values on yellow, light-brown, and buff, the latter can also boast of green and bluish papers. The 3 bani I have in mauve on light-green, violet on bluish, violet on deep-yellow, buff and light-orange. The 25 bani I possess in dark-blue on yellow, indigo on buff, and light-blue on yellow. I have also heard of a dark-green on buff, but have never had the pleasure of a personal inspection of it.

Most of the varieties I have briefly described are NOT mere chemical changelings; that I am convinced of, both by investigation and patient testing and examination, and there may be many shades and tints other than those enumerated. Altogether there are far worse subjects for the specialist than bizarre Roumania.

## LONDON NOTES AND NEWS.

BY PHIL. A. TELIST.

**N**EWs of any moment is extremely difficult to meet with.

Every one is out of town on their holidays, and the stamp-season is entirely "off," albums are relegated to the bookcase, together with all accessories.

The most important item I can mention is the concert given last month under the auspices of the Philatelic Club and Exchange. The music was admirable, and the general management reflects great credit on the committee.

Much argument has lately been rife as to whether the remainders of the Leeward Isles are still available for postal purposes. In reply to a letter addressed to the Colonial Secretary for Antigua I am informed, "That in 1890, the stamps formerly employed by these islands (here follow the names of each) were recalled, and a uniform set issued for the Colony of the Leeward Isles."

Does this ambiguous reply mean that the stamps in question are obsolete or not? Personally I do not think they are, but in any case it is quite time the knotty question was solved.

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Stamps, etc., inserted under this heading FREE.

All goods intending to be included in this list must reach us by the 16th of the month, together with a stamped addressed envelope for their return.

If goods are sold, 15 PER CENT (3/- in the £1) will be deducted for our commission, but no charge will be made if no sale is effected.

All lots not disposed of in three months will be returned to owner, unless otherwise arranged.

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2.—China on 1 fr. France	1/8
Used rare in this condition.	
3.—Gt. Britain, 4½d. Govt. Parcels	1/6
5.—Do. 8d. orange	1/6
6.—Do. 10d. red brown	1/6
7.—Do. 10s. grey, wmk. cross	17/6
9.—Labuan Is., 1893	1d.
11.—Austria 1867, 50c. flesh	1/-
13.—Canada, 3d. rose, imperf.	1/6
14.—British Columbia, 3d.	2/-
16.—Do. 2d. green	2/-
18.—Do. 1s. violet	10/-
19.—Chili 1852, 1c. yellow	1/9
20.—Do. 20c. green	1/9
22.—Dominica, 1d. lilac, CA	1/3
23.—Grenada, 8d. bistre	6/6
24.—Do. 2½d. on 8d., unused	1/6
25.—1c. & 2c. Postage Due U.S.A. pair	6d.
26.—Saxony, 3 pf., unused	2d.
27.—Straits, 5 cents, blue	2d.
29.—Turkey, 20 paras, rose	1d.
30.—Van Dieman's Id., 4d. orange imperf.	8/6
31.—Odense, ½ and 1 vlnza	Offers.
32.—N. E. Railway New Stamps, 3 varieties, scarce	3d.
33.—Nova Scotia, 12½ct., black	2/9

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RATES:—Four words 1d. Four insertions at price of three. Replies can be sent to our office upon an extra payment of 3d.

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GRATIS. ¼d. Malta and 25 other good stamps to applicants for cheap sheets.—Yorkshire Stamp Co., Low St., Keighley. Foreign correspondence and papers desired.

Secretaries of Exchange Clubs may possibly learn something very much to their advantage by making application to the Editor. Letters only, containing stamp for reply, will be noticed.

50 South American, 1/-; 50 North American, 1/-; 50 West Indian, 1/-; 50 African, 1/-; 50 Australasian, 1/-—No duplicates. Champion Stamp Company, Ilkerton. (C3.)

CRESTS, 50 varieties, regimental, etc., post free 7d. Wilorca, c/o Editor.

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A MONTHLY JOURNAL FOR

**Stamp Collectors and Dealers.**

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No. 4.

SEPTEMBER 1896.

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### Editorial Notes.

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PHILATELIC SYNDICATE,

MILLER'S DALE, BUXTON.

# THE PHILATELIC TIMES.

No. 4.

SEPTEMBER 1896.

Vol. 1.

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an invidious inspection of those of other collectors, why then, the Water Colour Gallery is as good a place as any other. The real weakness in the decision arrived at by the Committee is the fact, that apparently it does *not* represent the unanimous opinion of members of the London and County Philatelic Societies and leading dealers; and what is worse still, not even the majority of them, as was promised us when the idea was first broached.

We consider this, in itself, most unfortunate, as thus ignoring many prominent and enthusiastic collectors has occasioned friction, which cannot fail to exercise anything but a beneficial effect on the forthcoming exhibition.

## The Vade Mecum.

*A Column to Contain all knowledge necessary to young collectors.*

CONDUCTED BY

PAUL MARRIOTT.

### Part II.—The Perforation of a Stamp.

ALTHOUGH this series is avowedly written only for

beginners, I had serious thoughts of placing at the commencement of the present portion a warning notice, to the effect that "No advanced collectors need apply," but on second thoughts (which nearly always prove the best), I came to the conclusion that things would get sorted without my help, those would not read it who did not require the information, and *othe s* vice-versa. Here, I wish to confide a little secret, it's not always the *advanced* ones who know most about their hobby. I could mention one or two collectors, (not philatelists), with collections nicely on in the four figures who still talk about "little dents round the edges;" and this in the days of late nineteenth century advanced specialism! After this little ventilation of ideas, I will come at once to my subject.

As I have previously stated, at the time of the introduction of the adhesive stamp in 1840, perforation had not been invented, or perhaps it would be more correct to say, had not been *applied* in connection with postage stamps, and from that date till about 1854, scissors reigned supreme in all post-offices in this country. It could not however be regarded but as a waste of time, and

also a considerable expense to the government in providing these scissors. As early therefore as 1847, human ingenuity, ever ready in the hope of acquiring a little gain, had been at work to solve the knotty point, in the person of Mr. Henry Archer, a native of the Emerald Isle, and employed as a civil engineer on some little speculative railway in Wales.

He made known the result of his labours, in the same year, to the then Postmaster-General, Lord Clanricarde, and trials were instituted presumably at Archer's own expense. The first results were a series of jagged cuts of various lengths, in fact a rough form of roulette; this machine was condemned as unsatisfactory because the table on which it stood quickly wore down under the pressure of the knives.

Not discouraged however, we find Mr. Archer again experimenting. In the present machine he substituted for the *broad* blades which were evidently used in the former, lancet pointed ones. These however wore down too quickly again, with disastrous results to the platform on which the machine stood, so this

must be termed a second failure. During the winter of 1848 protection, "Royal Letters Patent," was issued to Archer for his invention. In the next year, his *third* attempt must be chronicled, this, inasmuch as he employed needles, differs but little from the first official work. Archer now came to an almost impossible attempt, viz., to obtain interest and recognition of the utility of his invention from the "powers that be,"—with their usual conservatism however, he was doomed to disappointment. The sole reward they could afford to offer was £200 as compensation for five years costly experiments and toil, and £400 as purchase money for the machine outright. These terms he did not deign to accept.

The next phase in the history of perforation commences with Archer making the acquaintance of an engraver named Branston, they appear to have formed a partnership and in conjunction the Prince Consort labels were produced, on which to further experiment and perfect and so show proofs of the utility of the machine. In 1851 they submitted terms for printing, gumming, and *perforating* the whole of the postage stamps required at the inclusive

price of 5d. per thousand, and subsequently offered to lower their tender to 4½d., if surface printing might be employed (this term is explained later in the *Vade Mecum*), but the then contractors immediately lowered their price to renew the contract. It is worthy of mention here, that in this present proposal of Archer's, he waived all claim for either compensation for his arduous labours, or for the machine itself, were his terms accepted.

*(To be continued.)*

## Philately of To-Day.

THE latest novelty in philatelic publishing hails, of course, from Germany. It is in the form of an advertiser. size 4in. by 3½in., containing 16 pages. On the one side are spaces for inserting stamps. ruled and numbered. On the other are advertisements. This novel publication has already, it seems, attained a huge circulation, as it deserves.

In Alexandria, Egypt, there is a nice little business done in forged Argentine Columbians. The difference between the genuine and the forgery is slight, lying chiefly in the

numerals of value, and the adjoining spandrels. The watermark, too, is clumsily done; but caution is needed, especially as the stocks, "cornered" at the time of issue are now being unloaded at very low prices.

It is to be hoped the coming stamp season will be a little better than that of 1895-96. I hope and trust it touched bottom then, for a more depressed state of affairs never existed in dealerdom. I know dozens of London dealers who only just contrived to keep afloat successfully, and it has not been much better on the continent. Wholesale dealers in France and Germany advertise for orders on three months credit—and are glad to get them.

I have not yet stated my views on the "New Collector" business, principally because I do not consider the question at all momentous to any earnest philatelist. It is now a fad of the few, not of the whole, and while those few are, of course, perfectly at liberty to collect whatever they choose, it is more than absurd to expect anyone to go out of their way to recognise or acknowledge such "system."

The French dealer, who has been previously mentioned here as in-

veighing against the methods of a well-known English firm of auctioneers, is in no wise daunted by the disapproval exhibited by the majority of philatelic journals. He reiterates his assertions, and adds something else to them,—all of which is decidedly unpleasant, and the sooner this mercurial gentleman “simmers down” the better it will be for him.

VINDEX.

## The Stamps of Heligoland.

By Dr. G. I. BRYANT.

Roth ist der strand,  
Weiss ist der sand,  
Grün ist der kant,—  
Das sin die farben von Helgoland.  
—(Local Legendary Lines).

OR

Red is the strand,  
White is the sand,  
Green is the band,—  
These are the colours of Heligoland.

THE above four lines may well form a prelude to the subject of the following essay, viz., the various tri-coloured issues of Heligoland. Such lines have been current in the island for many years, even prior to the use by the islanders of distinctive stamps. In bygone days—while its own stamps were

in use—we paid some frequent visits to this islet, for it is hardly more, and hence can speak with knowledge on certain disputed points.

A few words as to its geography and history may not altogether be out of place. To proceed then. Heligoland is a very small island, in fact, almost an islet, for its area is something under a square mile, in the North Sea or German Ocean, a few miles from Altona on the river Elbe, in Germany. Its name seems to be derived from an ancient Scandinavian Goddess, and answers to “Holy Land;” there is, we may remark, an islet on the coast of Northumberland called Holy Island. We have heard that many such islets and islands were used as refuges for monks and pagan priests. Such a use gave the name of Heli or Holy Land. The population is, or was, 2,000, i.e., the fixed part, for the vast number of German tourists who annually visit and stay in the island, add considerably to the number for the time. It is acknowledged on all sides, and we can add our personal testimony from actual experiences, that no finer sea bathing facilities exist than at Sandy Island, a small portion of territory

once joining Heligoland, but which in 1720 was divided by a violent irruption of the sea. This indeed is the only livelihood possessed by the natives, who speak Frisian, an unwritten dialect of Dutch and German, and who belong to the German Lutheran Church. Up to 1807, the island belonged to Denmark as a fief of the Grand Duchy of Schleswig-Holstein, but was surrendered to Great Britain in that year following the great siege of Copenhagen by Parker and Nelson, and by the Treaty of Kiel. 1814, was ceded in perpetuity to England.

Its government was up to 1864 a purely Frisian one, being somewhat antiquated, when a more directly representative constitution was formed, and in 1868 the status of the island was somewhat raised by the elevation of its previously styled Lieutenant-Governor to the dignity of Governor and Commander-in-Chief. This became law by Her Majesty's Order in Council dated the 29th of February, 1868. But before that date postage stamps had been issued, and which we now proceed to treat of.

English stamps of various values were available for postage duty from

about 1857, and their use lasted up to about 1869. As may be easily imagined, such are of the highest degree of rarity. In many instances the postage must have been pre-paid in cash, and the rate struck with hand-stamps.

On April 1st, 1867, (the day and month is delightfully suggestive!) the first series of special stamps for Heligoland was issued, consisting of four values. The design in all is alike, being Profile of Queen Victoria embossed, the inscription, figures, and borders, being variously disposed (in colour) in the different values. Coloured impressions. Rouletted.

1.— $\frac{1}{2}$  schilling, green oval, angles red, lettering and numerals coloured, on white ground.

2.—1 schilling, red oval, angles green, lettering and numerals coloured, on white ground.

3.—2 schilling, green oval, angles green, lettering white on coloured ground, figures coloured.

4.—6 schilling, red oval, angles red, lettering white on coloured ground, figures coloured.



## LONDON NOTES AND NEWS.

BY PHIL. A. TELIST.

COLLECTORS will, no doubt, be glad to learn that a suitable place for the forthcoming Philatelic Exhibition has at last been found. Although not so well known as were some of the other buildings under consideration, yet the Gallery of the Royal Institute of Painters in Water Colours, in Piccadilly, possesses nearly all the requisite qualifications for such a purpose. To find a situation at once airy, well-lighted, and occupying a central position, equally available from all parts of London, needed an extensive search, but philatelists may safely congratulate the Committee appointed by the London Society on their decision. Let us hope there may arise no petty bickering to disturb the harmony and mar the success of the International Philatelic Exhibition of 1897.

Only two sales are announced for this month, though soon the auction season will be in full swing.

Amongst the lots we notice the English envelope, 10d. blue Error. As, according to the catalogue, only

five others exist, it may be reasonably expected to fetch a fancy price, amongst the now rapidly increasing collectors of entries.

Next winter promises to be a happy time for philatelists, as three of the chief London clubs intend to institute periodical "social" evenings, etc. These will, no doubt, be successful in bringing collectors and dealers in company more frequently.

If I may repeat a "tip" contained in last month's "P. T.," I would strongly advise the speculative collector to keep his eye on the Mauritius 50 cent. orange. Further intelligence states that the stock is exhausted, none being now obtainable in the Island, and it is understood the government does not intend to issue any more.

## Society Reports, &amp;c.

THE PHILATELIC CLUB gave their third monthly "at home" on Thursday evening, August 6th, when their spacious rooms at 40, Jermyn Street, were filled by a large and distinguished company. The concert was under the direction of the secretary, Mr. H. Lawrence

Harris. The programme contained no less than forty items, and with only two exceptions all the artistes announced appeared. Miss Yvette Violette (from the Empire), gave two songs, and most realistically imitated Yvette Guilbert. The Comtesse de Brémont gave two new songs of her own composition, accompanied on the piano by Signor A. Romili. Miss Susetta Fenn, Miss Helen St. John, Mr. Sinclair Dunn, Mr. Arthur Barry, and Mr. Lyman Knight were the principal vocalists; Miss Emma Barnett, Miss Buffon, Signor Mascheroni contributed piano solos; Mr. Jack Davids, a violin solo; Miss Florence Glamoye, Miss Norah Hastings, Miss Hilda Trevelyan, Mr. Uridge, and Mr. Standville recited; and Mrs. Albert Barker gave her clever imitation of birds.

Light refreshments were served in the Board Room, and wines and spirits in the smoking and card rooms.

These soirees are given on the first Thursday in each month, and tickets (gratis) are sent to all members of the club to distribute to their friends.

CAMBRIAN STAMP EXCHANGE CLUB.  
The August packet of the Cambrian

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Although only in its third month the club has met with remarkable success, and up to date *thirty-one* members have been enrolled.

There are vacancies for a few additional members, who can furnish good references.

Draft of rules may be had on application to the Secretary:—MR. CHARL. ESFORD, 8, Malvern Terrace, Swansea.

## Japan.

WE are indebted to a correspondent for the following notice published in a Japanese paper of June 17th:—

“The memorial postage stamps bearing portraits of their Imperial Highnesses, Princess Arisugowa and Kitashirakawa have been completed and passed the inspection of the Minister of the Communication Department, last week. They will be issued on the 13th of September, the anniversary of the Emperor removing to headquarters at Hiroshima.”—*Monthly Circular*.

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## PRIVATE ADVERTISEMENTS.

**RATES:**—Four words 1d. Four insertions at price of three. Replies can be sent to our office upon an extra payment of 3d.

Stamps, etc., inserted under this heading **FREE**.

All goods intending to be included in this list must reach us by the 16th of the month, together with a stamped addressed envelope for their return.

If goods are sold, 15 PER CENT (3/- in the £1) will be deducted for our commission, but no charge will be made if no sale is effected.

All lots not disposed of in three months will be returned to owner, unless otherwise arranged.

- |   |         |
|---|---------|
| 1.—Cape, triangular, 6d.                          | 3/6     |
| 9.—Labuan 1c., 1893                               | 1d.     |
| 19.—Chili 1852, 1c. yellow                        | 1/9     |
| 20.—Do. 20c. green                                | 1/9     |
| 23.—Grenada, 8d. bistre                           | 6/6     |
| 25.—1c. & 2c. Postage Due U.S.A. pair             | 6d.     |
| 26.—Saxony, 3 pf., unused                         | 2d.     |
| 27.—Straits, 5 cents, blue                        | 2d.     |
| 29.—Turkey, 20 paras, rose                        | 1d.     |
| 30.—Van Dieman's Id., 4d, orange imperf.          | 8/6     |
| 31.—Odense, ½ and 1 onza                          | Offers. |
| 32.—N. E. Railway New Stamps, 3 varieties, scarce | 3d.     |
| 33.—Nova Scotia, 12½ct., black                    | 2/9     |
| 34.—Natal, Half on Id.                            | 3d.     |
| 35.—*Straits, 3 con, 32c.                         | 2d.     |
| 36.—Holland, 1 guld, Queen                        | 4d.     |
| 37.—Gr. Britain, I.R., ½d. green                  | 2d.     |
| 38.—Japan, 2 sen, Silver Wedding                  | 2d.     |
| 39.—" 20 sen, orange,                             | 1d.     |
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| 41.—Alwur, ¼ anna                                 | 1d.     |
| 42.—Selangor, 1 and 2c. tiger, pair               | 2d.     |
| 43.—*New Brunswick, 17c.                          | 1/-     |
| 44.—Russia, 1865, 20 kop, perf. 15                | 1/-     |

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**GRATIS.** ½d. Malta and 25 other good stamps to applicants for cheap sheets.—Yorkshire Stamp Co., Low St., Keighley. Foreign correspondence and papers desired.

1,000 Stamps free to collectors buying 3/- worth of stamps from me.—S. N. VITCH, 58, North Road, Durham. [7

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A MONTHLY JOURNAL FOR

**Stamp Collectors and Dealers.**

No. 5, Vol. 1.

OCTOBER, 1896.

Price  $\frac{1}{2}$ d

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**RARE DUPLICATES for Sale.**—HERN-  
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### Circulars, Price Lists, etc.,

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2/3 per 250, 1/3 per 100.

\* \* \* This saves over £1 14s. 0d. in postage if 1,000 are thus sent, and they will be circulated carefully amongst buying collectors.

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### OUR APPROVAL SHEETS

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No. 5.

OCTOBER 1896.

Vol. 1.

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### Mems. of the Month.

THE Philatelic season of 1896-7 may now be said to have fairly commenced. May it be a prosperous one. At the conclusion of the last no little grumbling was heard from many speculators and dealers. To us the reason seems very apparent, though possibly we may be wrong. Until a few years since summer was regarded, (and correctly), as the "off" season for collecting; no business in stamps was therefore attempted; but now we endeavour to maintain our interest throughout all seasons and all weathers. This is impossible. The greatest calamity that can befall any hobby is to ride it too hard, and this is what Philately is undergoing. Let us beware it is not ridden to death.

Sundry of our Philatelic magazines, after a long spell of catering for advanced collectors, have at length remembered the boys, and that from them we expect to cull our future great collectors. A Boy's Column is therefore commenced in the August number of the "P.J.G.B."; we understand the "Fortnightly" contemplates a similar innovation.

Mr. H. L'Estrange Ewen sends us a specimen of the new "ARMY OFFICIAL" Stamp, which was issued on September 1st. There are three values thus overprinted:— $\frac{1}{2}$ d., 1d., and  $2\frac{1}{2}$ d. The surcharge on the latter is in thicker type and the words are  $9\frac{1}{4}$  m. m. apart instead of 12 m. m.

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We would advise collectors who

require to dispose of their duplicate stamps to write to Mr. G. B. Frudd, 21, North Street, Sleaford, for rules and particulars of the "Rocket" Foreign Stamp Evercirculator, to which he is secretary and conductor. To those who may be uncertain as to the meaning of an "Evercirculator," we may mention that this combines the profitable exchange of duplicates with the attraction of an amateur philatelic magazine, to which each member is invited to contribute an article monthly, though this is not compulsory. The rules are easy to keep. The conductor, we know from experience, is honourable and straightforward in his dealings, and withal a capable philatelist. Further particulars can be obtained from Mr. Frudd.

Messrs. Butler Bros., late of Oxford, publishers of the well-known "Excelsior" Albums, have removed to Clevedon, in Somersetshire.

From Mr. W. Brown, Salisbury, we have received specimens of his "Ideal" Club Sheets. In style of arrangement, as well as quality of paper, they are almost beyond criticism, being quite the nicest we have

hitherto encountered in this line; all the same, we think that though provision in the shape of ruled squares is made for mounting stamps on all four sides, many exchangers will prefer to use the right-hand side only, and thus obviate the danger of specimens "catching" one another, ruining one or both.

Whilst on the subject of philatelic stationery, we must refer to some samples of dealers' sheets, printed packets for stamps, approval or duplicate books, &c., received from "The Northern Stamp Co.," Great Horton, Bradford, Yorks. They are cheap, and appear of excellent quality, and will no doubt repay investigation by our dealer friends. The duplicate books, holding 120 stamps, will appeal no doubt most strongly to our junior readers who are careful of what they term "swaps."

From the "P.J. of G. B." we gather that Obock, Djibouti and the coast of Danakils are to be amalgamated and called "Côte Française des Somalis." We fear this portends a new set of unnecessaries, but if so, let us pray for a more ornamental type than the current colonials.

## The Vade Mecum.

*A Column to Contain all knowledge necessary to young collectors.*

CONDUCTED BY

**PAUL MARRIOTT.**

### Part II (continued).— Perforation.

AS a result of agitation in political circles instituted and forwarded by Archer's exertions, a Parliamentary Committee was formed in 1852 to consider the merits, or otherwise, of his perforating machine. This body met for some weeks and as a result of their labours, unanimously recommended the Government to purchase the patent and bring the principle into general use. Accordingly the sum of £4,000 was paid to Archer; as he had already, however, disbursed at least half that sum to the various mechanics who had assisted him in any way in the construction of the machine, and incurred besides numerous and heavy charges in connection with protecting the invention, very little out of a sum, which at the commencement could not be termed extravagant payment, must have

found a resting-place in Archer's own pocket. Of course the honour he achieved was no slight thing, but unfortunately this does not fill the inner man;—which after all is the principal thing.

As soon as the patent became the property of the Government, a full-sized model adapted for steam as the motive power, was constructed, and perforated stamps were first on sale in the Post Offices of this country early in April, 1854. The first official work had a gauge of 16 holes to the two centimetres ( $\frac{3}{4}$  ins.) but several years later this was reduced to 14, as the former proved to render the connection too fragile, allowing the stamps to separate at inopportune times; and at this latter gauge our English stamps have remained ever since. During its early years the work was occasionally inaccurate, sheets were carelessly placed in the press, thus we find specimens perforated almost across the middle instead of in the proper position. I well remember as a child, receiving a severe reprimand for purchasing at the Post Office some stamps which had evidently been by some means perforated twice over, once in the regulation place, and again as I

mentioned above, so that when one endeavoured to separate them, the result became disastrous for their proper use. Some sheets have even been issued totally imperforate, (I refer of course to the time when the innovation had become general); amongst this class by far the most important is what is now termed "The Cardiff Penny;" by some misadventure one or two sheets of the Id. red Plate 116 had escaped perforation, these were on sale at Cardiff for about a couple of days and have since become valuable, a copy recently producing £5 at an auction.

The first foreign countries to adopt perforation were Norway, Sweden, and Russia. The United States commenced in 1855, and the various other countries from 1862 onwards; it was at this date that Archer's patent expired, thus giving all free access to the use of the invention. I believe I am correct when I affirm that France was the only foreign country which recognised Archer's claim to remuneration and sooner than wait till the patent was free, the authorities at the Mint, paid Archer, (who lived in the south of France,) some £400, to enable them to reap the benefit of the invention.

It was in 1866 that Dr. Legrand, the chief of French philatelists, began to draw attention to varieties of perforation in connection with Philately, and a method of measurement was proposed. This was known as the "Odontometre" or teeth-measurer, by which name it is still recognised on the continent but in England and English-speaking countries it is now universally termed the Perforation Gauge, a much simpler and more comprehensive name.

*(To be continued.)*

## Philately of To-Day.

THE Continental papers may be trusted to always furnish plenty of material for philatelic scoundalmongers.

Hardly has Mr. Hoffman cooled down, before we have the leading German Stamp Dealers' Association, and a prominent London dealer, levelling pages of abuse at each other, at forty marks (£2) a page, to the edification and enlightenment of all readers. This form of threshing out a dispute, or repudiating libels, is very common on the Continent, and is far from harmless, as each party suffers from the inde-

pendent verdict of public opinion.

“Set a thief to catch a thief” is hardly an original remark, but it serves to illustrate a dispute of the above-named description going on in several German stamp journals. Two persons have issued a black list, containing a number of names, more or less authentic, of swindlers, thieves, and other amiable gentry in the stamp world. Each of these publishers claims that his book was the first to appear, and is also the only genuine black list published. To clinch the matter, as it were, one of the rivals asserts that the other would better prove the usefulness of his publication by including his own name amongst those he offers for sale. All of which is truly Continental!

The “corner” in the two dollars Columbian stamps has been broken, and it is now possible to obtain them at 2dol. 75c. each, at which price I have seen them offered.

From what I hear it is very probable that the unloading of all the 1dol. values which have been so sedulously hoarded since their issue, will commence shortly.

Experience begets wisdom, and it will certainly be some time ere a similar “scoop” is attempted.—*Apropos* of “corners” a syndicate of stamp-dealers have recently purchased all the Nova Scotian remainders of the last issue, and after a certain number have been disposed of, the prices will be raised. This “remainder” business is the curse of Philately; it is nothing more or less than the prostitution of our hobby, and this latest enterprise is so influentially supported that I fear for further developments.

When the self-constituted “suppression” societies have emptied their vials of wrath on all existing and proposed commemorative issues, it would be well for them to consider that this country was the first to start “Jubilee” issues.

It is not necessary to particularise, but I cannot say I approve of these jeremiads on the issues of other countries—no matter what they be. Bogus issues, reprints, and remainders, I draw the line at, and so do other self-respecting philatelists, but if Greece issues an “Olympian” set of stamps, or Japan a “Silver Wedding” pair, and intends, and uses them for legitimate postal pur-

poses, I allot them places in my album.—I have spoken!

VINDEX.

## The Stamps of Heligoland.

By Dr. G. I. BRYANT.

CHAPTER I. (continued.)

REMARKS.—It appears from an account published in 1863, by the Prussian Foreign Office, that all the postal affairs of Heligoland were carried on by the Free City of Hamburg, i.e., under and by the Stadts-Postmaster. The rates varied considerably till 1866, when a Convention was entered into between Great Britain, the kingdom of Prussia, and the Free City of Hamburg, by which the whole postal department (such as it was!) of Heligoland, was placed under the administration of Hamburg, the British Government supplying labels and paying all expenses of maintenance. The postal authorities of Prussia undertook to design, engrave (en épargne), and print all necessary labels and stationery at their Royal Printing Office, Berlin.

The rates at first were 2s. to Hamburg, 3½s. to all other parts of Germany, and 2schg over and above *the then German rate* to all other parts of the World. So that a letter to the United Kingdom from Heligoland cost something like 9d. inclusive of the island rate and continental postage. The ½s. was for making up the aforesaid rate of 3½schg., and otherwise there was no use for it. The most commonly used value was the 2schg, and the postal returns show a large increase in the summer sales of labels owing to the increasing annual influx of visitors. The salary of the Postmaster in 1866 was fixed at £30 per annum, and it was at the time of the cession of the island to Germany, £54 per annum. In one year, only 23 letters were received at St. Martin's-le-Grand from Heligoland, so there will be little use in searching for cancelled specimens in this country.

No work on any series of postage stamps can be regarded as in any way complete until notice has been taken of reprints and forgeries, should such exist.

In the first place we will descant somewhat upon the cancellation marks and *their* forgeries, for such,



we regret to say, are woefully abundant. The list of genuine is as follows:—

1.—HELIGOLAND, double-lined half circle below, day, month, and year, in two lines. All forming a circular stamp. Used from 1868 to 1873.

2.—The same, but the month comes before day. Used from 1873 to end of 1874.

3.—The same, but name is larger. Used from 1875 to 1884.

4.—The same, but smaller, thicker than No. 2. Used for 5 months in 1885.

5.—HELIGOLAND, close, thick, coarse Roman letters. Used from April, 1867, to July, 1869.

6.—The same, but larger. Used from 1869 to 1875.

7.—Same as numbers 3 and 4, modified. Used from 1884 to 1890.

### Our "Young Philatelists" Column.

**M**OST of my prospective readers, no doubt, will know that many Stamp Papers offer prizes of varying value to their readers; and of course the "P.T.," which ever

looks to the interests of all grades of collectors cannot be backward in a similar capacity, I have therefore been invited by the Editor to conduct a monthly column under the above heading. Unfortunately the dominant feature of these competitions is that only the expert can answer correctly; what chance then has the average school-boy or school-girl collector? Such being the case I intend to offer prizes monthly to such readers of this journal whose age does not exceed 17 years—Philatelic works, packets of stamps, rare single stamps, albums, tongs, &c., &c., in fact everything a collector can possibly desire.—these are my gifts. But better still, will my readers let me know what prizes they would like to see offered? In conclusion I shall be most happy to assist them in any way, and hope that young philatelists will write me, saying frankly what they think of things here. All queries connected with our hobby will be willingly and carefully answered. My first competition will be announced next month.—T.R.

—All communications to Editor: Philatelic Times, Miller's Dale, Buxton. Mark your letters "Y.P.C." in top corner.

## Society Reports, &c.

THE Philatelic Club's usual monthly soirée took place on Thursday, the 3rd. September inst. at their rooms 40, Jermyn Street, when the concert on this occasion was directed by Mr. H. Percy Colson. The members of the Club were assisted by the following well-known artistes, namely:—Laura Johnson, Annie Collins, Ray Cantor, Vera Le Dain, Cynthia Granville, and Minnie Cantor, together with Messrs. Hermann Vezin, Bertram Mills, Walter Mair, and S. R. Suravitch. The next soirée will take place on Thursday, October 1st, when the concert will be under the direction of Mr. J. S. Fleming. Members can obtain tickets for their friends free, on application to the Secretary. The Committee of the Club have arranged with Mr. William Hadlow to hold auction sales in the Club Exchange Hall, on September 15th; October 16th, 19th, and 20th insts.; November 9th, 10th, 16th, and 17th insts.; and December 11th. The Club's own first auction will take place early in October.

Stamps for sale will be received from non-members on special terms, to be obtained from the Secretary.

The Committee have decided to allow non-members of the Club to participate in the privileges of the postal Exchange Division on payment of an annual subscription of 5/-.

CAMBRIAN STAMP EXCHANGE CLUB. The September packet of the Cambrian Stamp Exchange Club was despatched on the 3rd of that month and comprised a good display of rare and valuable stamps, to the amount of about £130. Although only in its fourth month the Club has met with remarkable success, and up to date thirty-two members have been enrolled.

There are vacancies for a few additional members, who can furnish good references.

Draft of rules may be had on application to the Secretary:—Mr. Charles Ford, 8 Malvern Terrace, Swansea.

# The Stamp Mart.

Stamps, etc., inserted under this heading FREE.

All goods intending to be included in this list must reach us by the 16th of the month, together with a stamped addressed envelope for their return.

If goods are sold, 15 PER CENT (3/- in the £1) will be deducted for our commission, but no charge will be made if no sale is effected.

All lots not disposed of in three months will be returned to owner, unless otherwise arranged.

1.—Cape, triangular, 6d.	3/6
9.—Labuan 1c., 1893	1d.
25.—1c. & 2c. Postage Due U.S.A. pair	6d.
26.—Saxony, 3 pf., unused	2d.
27.—Straits, 5 cents, blue	2d.
29.—Turkey, 20 paras, rose	1d.
30.—Van Dieman's Id., 4d. orange } imperf.	8/6
31.—Odense, ½ and 1 onza	Offers.
32.—N. E. Railway New Stamps, } 3 varieties, scarce }	3d.
33.—Nova Scotia, 12½ct., black	2/9
34.—Natal, Half on 1d.	2d.
35.—*Straits, 3 con, 32c.	2d.
36.—Holland, 1 guld, Queen	4d.
37.—Gt. Britain, I.R., ½d. green	2d.
38.—Japan, 2 sen, Silver Wedding	2d.
39.—,, 20 sen, orange,	1d.
40.—Indo-China, 25c., used	2d.
41.—Alwur, ¼ anna	1d.
42.—Selangor, 1 and 2c. tiger, pair	2d.
43.—*New Brunswick, 17c.	1/-
44.—Russia, 1865, 20 kop, perf. 15	1/-
45.—Gt. Britain, 4½d. Govt. Parcels	1/6
46.—,, 2d. blue, no lines	1/3

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37	Gr. Britain, 1 R., ½d. green	2d.
38	Japan, 2 sen, Silver Wedding	2d.
39	" " 20 sen, orange,	1d.
40	Judo-Chin, 25c., used	2d.
41	Alwar, ¼ anna	1d.
42	Selangor, 1 and 2c. tiger, pair	2d.
43	*New Brunswick, 17c	1.
44	Russia, 1865, 20 kop, perf.	1.
45	Gr. Britain, ½d. Govt. Parcels	1/6
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THE  
PHILATELIC TIMES:

A MONTHLY JOURNAL FOR

Stamp Collectors and Dealers.

No. 6, Vol. 1.

NOVEMBER, 1896.

Price ½d

NOTICES FOR 1896.

ALL communications must be addressed to the Editor:—HENRY BAGSHAW, MILLER'S DALE, NEAR BUXTON.

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PRINTED BY W. M. SLACK, COMMERCIAL ROAD

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1,000 Stamps free to collectors buying 3/- worth of stamps from me.—S. N. VECRO, 58, North Road, Durham. [7

**ALBUMS.** On sale, cheap. Serf's 6th edition, cost 16/- a year ago. Had about 1,500 stamps hinge-mounted, otherwise perfect. Also, latest edition of Stafford Smith's "Permanent," cost 15/- a month ago. Offers requested for one or both. Will accept approved stamps to value per Bright's Catalogue. Further particulars, address H. BAGSHAW, Millers Dale, Buxton.

50 South American, 1/-; 50 North American, 1/-; 50 West Indian, 1/-; 50 African, 1/-; 50 Australasian, 1/-—No duplicates. Champion Stamp Company, Ilkeston. (C3.)

**CRESTS,** 50 varieties, regimental, etc., post free 7d. Wilorea, c/o Editor.

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**DEALERS' DIRECTORY.** The charge for this, "Name, Address and Speciality," is 4d. per insertion, or 3s. per annum. Collectors specializing in any country will find it pay them to announce the fact in our "Collectors' Directory," same terms as above. There is little doubt that by so doing they obtain the pick in bargains of the country in question.

**RARE DUPLICATES for Sale.** HEN. PERSON, Elton Grove, Lewisham. [11

Secretaries of Exchange Clubs may possibly learn something very much to their advantage by making application to the Editor. Letters only containing stamp for reply, will be noticed.

ADVERTISE in this paper. A trial advertisement solicited.

### Circulars, Price Lists, etc.,

May be sent out and posted with the Magazine for 7/6 per 1000, 1/- per 500, 2/3 per 250, 1/3 per 100.

\* \* This saves over £1 14s. 0d. in postage if 1,000 are thus sent, and they will be circulated carefully amongst buying collectors.

## "Stamp Chronicle."

The publication of this journal has been postponed until January next. Advertisers and subscribers please note. 5, Pier Street, Swansea.

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### OUR APPROVAL SHEETS

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### OUR PACKETS

are quite unsurpassable. Buy them.

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GRAVE AND GAY.

THE Cambrian Stamp Exchange, of which our readers see a monthly report, is evidently making uncommonly rapid and satisfactory progress.—To quote Mr. Ford's own words in answer to our enquiries, "My time is fully occupied with business incident to my club, the success of which is phenomenal, and has already far exceeded my expectations and ambitions for 12 months to come."

Speaking of Exchange Clubs reminds us that we received the other day particulars of another. This is the "South-west Lancashire Philatelic Exchange Society." The Secretary is Mr. W. Diehl, 101, Dinning Street, Wigan. Does

not this make a good half-dozen in the cotton county? Philately does not appear to be on the wane to any appreciable extent!

In spite of the counter irritation exercised by the "S.S.S.S.," during the last few weeks we have been presented with "Commemorative" issues by Japan, Montenegro, Uruguay, and Venezuela. And although each and all of these may appear excellent and worthy objects for such attentions in their place of birth, yet abroad nothing could be possibly more insignificant, and even puerile.

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long, to London, 37 Essex Street, Strand, W.C. Messrs. Smyth and Co., late of 40, Brecknock Road, N., now try provincial air. Their address is now 1, Campbell Road, Boscombe, Bournemouth. Mr. C. J. Smith, 4, Arthur Road, Kingston Hill, owing to increase of business removes to more commodious premises at "St. Neots," Upper Park Road, Kingston. Mr. W. Ridout, the auctioneer, lately found at 99, Strand, owing to ill-health in his firm removes to Sunbury-on-Thames where he will continue his business as before. Whilst Mr. Dominic Broman leaves England altogether for similar reasons.

Although the name "Smith" and its variations are fairly common, it appears strange to mention at one time three dealers of that ilk,—and all three removing.

We have received from Mr. A. E. Witherick, 30, Worsley Road, Leytonstone, a copy of the "Stamp Collector," (the same whose title we were so unlucky as to pirate for our first number). It is interesting and will no doubt in time resume its former position in Philatelic journalism. A series of articles is

promised in its pages in the near future, which bids fair to be interesting. These are "a Lady Philatelist's opinion, and impressions of the stamp collecting craze."

There is a little matter about that Stamp Collector's "error" of ours, which we feel diffident in introducing for fear some warped understanding might accuse us of trying to emulate the promoters of the Nova Scotian "ring." Without divulging the number of copies of No. 1 printed we should advise holders of it to keep holding and those who have not got a copy to look sharp, as the price we offer it at must soon be doubled in self-protection; perhaps even raised to a prohibitive price to ensure our keeping a few copies on file for binding purposes.

We note in the advertisement of one of our auctioneers the following gem.—" &c., &c., and a *superb* specialist's collection of—." Is the designation correct however? Some of our big men *may* have a good opinion of themselves, but pride does not *always* go with position.

'Our Review' and 'The Vade Mecum' unavoidably omitted this month.

## The Stamps of Heligoland.

By Dr. G. I. BRYANT.

CHAPTER I. (continued.)

### Postmarks.

THERE are besides, a few special postmarks, which were used at Hamburg, Cuxhaven, and Geestemünde, on letters brought thither per packet from Heligoland. Some are oblong, others either double or single lined circular, named and dated. According to a well-known authority on these postmarks, the perforated series of schillings issued 1869 were only cancelled "RITZEBUTTEL." This we are inclined to doubt, inasmuch as the employment of such a special cancellation would imply that such perforated labels were provisionals only.

Now, as to the imitations. All the foregoing have been forged. And it is extremely difficult for an expert to detect them in every case. No. 3, the forged is easily told by the date, which is almost "188"; the reading is "D E 17." and looks as if drawn by hand, and smudged

In addition, the lines are broken.

Numbers 2, 4, and 7. In these imitations, we find amongst their various defects and faults, 1st, year is wanting, 2nd, the colour of impression is pale and 3rd, badly drawn. And very often we find the whole of the cancellation to be *lithographed*. Numbers 5 and 6. The first is a dangerous forgery, as the genuine stamps are none too good in execution. The type is too even and cleanly cut in the forgeries. About all, the "i" is found in the false, condemning them at once.

### Forgeries and Reprints.

So far back as in 1870, the first, i.e., the above series, were *forged* to a considerable extent. One would hardly believe it, but it is a fact, that rather than purchase the genuine for a nominal sum, our worthy Teuton friends prepared to imitate—to speak mildly—these pretty stamps. And to add to this confusion, the series has been several times reprinted. Here it is that a description of the colours, paper and perforation comes to our aid. The undoubted originals are printed on soft white wove (plain) paper, and engraved en épargne rouletted. There is a curl from the back of the Queen's head. The

lettering is clean, clear and distinct, sometimes embossed from die pressure.

The forgery is lithographed on soft white paper, thicker than the genuine *and perf. 13*.

There is no curl, only a shapeless blotch, and the lettering is ragged, and rough and flat. No embossing.

This series of forgeries was made by Spiro Brothers, and their plates fell into the hands of a firm at H—. But although the Rev. R. B. Earéé remarks that the forgeries seem to have met with a large sale, we must confess that we find them comparatively scarce. Possibly the reverend gentleman meant in Germany.

*(To be continued.)*

### Abridged Philately.

**W**ITHIN a very recent date, stamp collectors appear to have been gradually awakening to the fact, that the task of the generalist, i.e., collecting everything in the way of postal issues, is an obviously impossible one. A glance at any standard catalogue will at once prove this; varieties have been

so endlessly multiplied by the inclusion of minor, and shall I say paltry, details, that there is abundant excuse for the specialist's plea, that one, or at the most two or three countries, present sufficient interest and occupation for any one person, especially as regards the pocket. It is not everyone, however, who prefers such a limited method of collecting, and undoubtedly the general way is the most interesting from a many points of view. Thus it will excite no wonder that collectors' brains have been hard at work to evade the dilemma; otherwise specialism might safely have been regarded as the inevitable end of all Philatelic schemes.

One method suggested was the "New Philately," which was fully dealt with in a previous number of this journal, and although I still contend that the idea was undeserving of the ridicule and even contempt poured upon it by trade rivals of the innovator, it yet possessed drawbacks which a self-respecting collector could not ignore; of these the principal was the now time-worn question of "necessary and unnecessary," which at once required solution at the hands of the followers of the cult. As a

commencement it was particularly unfortunate that the time limit, 1890, was commemorative of some of the most glaring examples of the speculative possible to imagine. I refer of course to the "Seebeck" remainders. Again, although not so limited as the specialists' sphere, yet the ban of "before '90," would have denuded our albums of many interesting stamps which were at the same time of moderate price. In conclusion, there is a sort of charm, a halo so to speak, about old issues, possibly from the very fact of their age, which is entirely lacking in the new.

Having now disposed of specialism and the New Philately, it remains for me to suggest my alternative plan. First, I will remark that I do not write in a dictatorial spirit, but simply to recommend to such of my confrères as have been baffled by interminable variety and long prices, a method I have adopted with both pleasure, and perhaps profit, in more senses than one for the last few years, but at the same time I am quite prepared for a storm of adverse criticism.

The key-note of my plan is found in the title of this article — "Abridged

Philately." Under such a regime the philatelist selects what countries he fancies from amongst the "ruck," and studiously ignores the rest; to what extent minor varieties are noted lies with each individual collector. I must needs admit the idea savours to no small extent of the specialist and his aims, though in practice I consider it quite distinct; very few would carry hair-splitting to the same extent, and also the large and varied range at command in such a collection should preclude comparison.

As printed albums are at present manufactured, blank ones are of course a necessity to the abridged collector. If however printed leaves for every country could be purchased separately, and adapted for insertion in a binding after the fashion of the "Philatelic" albums, the average collector would, I consider, have arrived at the millennium.

Sometime in the future I may probably give a few notes on countries I have studied in this manner.

H. B.

[The above article has, owing to want of space, been awaiting insertion some time. By this means we find our claim to some original-

ity has been dispelled. An American contemporary, writing under the title of "An Abridged Album" suggests much the same method. On the other hand this similarity of idea rather goes to prove there may be "something" in it.—Ed.]

## LONDON NOTES AND NEWS.

BY PHIL. A. TELIST.

ONCE more, we return to our albums. Summer is over and we are now fairly launched into the stamp season of 1896-7, which promises to be a very busy one.

That idea of Mr. Hadlow's in securing the rooms of The Philatelic Exchange, Ltd., is very good. At his opening sale he had quite a record attendance. Amongst the lots sold I noticed two sheets of 60 stamps each of the Selangor 2c. on 24c. green, these could not be dear at £5 per sheet. An unsold lot was a Soruth, 1st issue, 1 anna, black on white, this I understand was bought in at 20/-. Its interest lies in the fact that it is the only known specimen on white paper, the ordinary issue being on blue.

The pleasure of a peep at a fine private collection, shortly to come into the market, has just been

afforded me. Amongst the rarities were three copies of the B.S.A. 3d. on 5/-, these stamps although catalogued are seldom seen, they were surcharged at the post office in Bulawayo to the order of one person.

At Messrs. Ventom, Bull, and Cooper's sale, on October 28th, will be offered one of Thomson's original £100 lots of the Leeward stamps. The result will be awaited with interest. There are included in it eighty 1/- values, which represent on a fair average 20/- per copy.

Apropos of downward tendencies in the prices of stamps, the 2/- yellow-green Victoria, of 1895, should teach speculators a wholesome lesson. If we remember rightly a well-known firm purchased in open auction a block of four of these at an average of 30/- each. Now a certain dealer offers them at the retail price of 13/6.

The Philatelic Club and Exchange continues to flourish apace. Amongst other prominent members who have recently joined appears the name of the well-known magistrate Baron de Worms. On October 1st, the usual monthly soiree



book place and was well attended; lengthy programme was admirably rendered by various members of the Club, assisted by well-known professionals.

On entering a small dealer's shop a few days ago, my attention was immediately arrested by some fine old and unused Victorians in perfect condition. This rather aroused my suspicion, and enquiries from the dealer elicited the tale, that they were purchased from an old lady who brought them to him saying, she had found them amongst some old letters. My companion (a well-known expert) declared them at once to be the reprints. Needless to say, on again passing that way, the Victorians had vanished.

## Society Reports, &c.

THE BRITISH COLONIAL STAMP EXCHANGE CLUB.—The October packets were dispatched promptly on the 20th of October. Section I composed of British and British Colonials only valued at £121 4s. NETT. Section II, a packet for general collectors valued at £76 NETT contains some good European etc. The colonial packet being very strong in really good stamps. Sales

on the last four packets average 25/0/0 off total amount sent in. Speciality; prompt monthly nett cash settlements. I have still a few vacancies for medium and advanced collectors. Full information post free from secretary: C. J. M. Lehner, 3 Bloomburg Street, Westminster.

CAMBRIAN STAMP EXCHANGE CLUB. Owing to the increase of members since the last packet was sent out, the Cambrian Stamp Exchange Club dispatched *two* packets for the October circulation on the 5th of that month, which contained some rare valuable stamps to the amount of £100 odd. Although only in its fifth month the Club has met with remarkable success, in fact it is the *only* club to the secretary's knowledge that has sent out *two* packets in its fifth month. There are thirty-six members on the roll and some half-a-dozen new ones to be entered for the November packet. There are vacancies for a few additional members who can furnish good references.

Rules may be had post free from the Secretary, on application:— Charles Ford, 8 Malvern Terrace, Swansea.

## Our "Young Philatelists' " Column.

AS promised last month I have pleasure in announcing my first competition. Many readers have written from time to time expressing a desire to help the publishers to increase their circulation. I have therefore arranged for a

### DISTRIBUTION COMPETITION.

What you have to do is very simple. To every reader (age limit, not to exceed 17 years,) who sends me his name and address, I will forward carriage paid, six specimen copies of the "Philatelic Times" for distribution amongst his friends who are not already regular readers, and who are stamp collectors. When the applicant has disposed of them,—of which not more than a single copy has been handed to one person,—let him post me a letter giving a full account of how he has distributed them, adding names and addresses of the recipients. On December 14th all communications will be read, and to the senders of the twenty adjudged by us to be the most worthy of reward we shall give prizes of Philatelic works.

### CONSOLATION PRIZES.

I shall be pleased to add to my original offer a number of EXTRA PRIZES if I am justified by the results of the contest. Another competition will be announced next month.

All communications to Editor: Philatelic Times, Miller's Dale, Buxton. Mark your letters "Y.P.C." in top corner.

### Publisher's Notice.

IN our first issue we stated that if we found our magazine unsuccessful after a trial of six months it would be discontinued.

At a meeting of the Syndicate held October 14th last, the secretary read a report showing the very satisfactory advancement made by the paper since its commencement in June last; the following extract from the minute book explains itself:

"The Chairman having expressed his delight at finding the journal on so substantial a basis, remarked this success was far beyond the expectations of himself and fellow-members, he therefore proposed the "P.T." be continued and considered an established magazine, and that Mr Bagshawe be retained as editor."

The Philatelic Club & Exchange, Ltd.,

40, JERMYN STREET, PICCADILLY,  
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is £2 2s. for Town Members, and £1 1s.  
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The Exchange Division is Free to Mem-  
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set of 6 Switzerland (unused), &c.

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AS promised last month I have pleasure in announcing my first competition. Many readers have written from time to time expressing a desire to help the publishers to increase their circulation. I have therefore arranged for a

### DISTRIBUTION COMPETITION.

What you have to do is very simple. To every reader (age limit, not to exceed 17 years,) who sends me his name and address, I will forward carriage paid, six specimen copies of the "Philatelic Times" for distribution amongst his friends who are not already regular readers, and who are stamp collectors. When the applicant has disposed of them,—of which not more than a single copy has been handed to one person,—let him post me a letter giving a full account of how he has distributed them, adding names and addresses of the recipients. On December 14th all communications will be read, and to the senders of the twenty adjudged by us to be the most worthy of reward we shall give prizes of Philatelic works.

### CONSOLATION PRIZES.

I shall be pleased to add to my original offer a number of EXTRA PRIZES if I am justified by the results of the contest. Another competition will be announced next month.

All communications to Editor: Philatelic Times, Miller's Dale, Buxton. Mark your letters "Y.P.C." in top corner.

## Publisher's Notice.

IN our first issue we stated that if we found our magazine unsuccessful after a trial of six months it would be discontinued.

At a meeting of the Syndicate held October 14th last, the secretary read a report showing the very satisfactory advancement made by the paper since its commencement in June last; the following extract from the minute book explains itself:

"The Chairman having expressed his delight at finding the journal on so substantial a basis, remarked this success was far beyond the expectations of himself and fellow-members, he therefore proposed the 'P.T.' he continued and considered an established magazine, and that Mr Bagshawe be retained as editor."

## The Philatelic Club & Exchange, Ltd.,

40, JERMYN STREET, PICCADILLY,  
LONDON, S.W.

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Special "NOVEMBER" Packet, contain-  
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France unpaid, Tunis, Mauritius, Obock,  
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WE have just completed books of Antigua, Dominica, and Virgin Isles, and shall be pleased to send same on approval on receipt of 4½d. to cover postage and registration.

These books are of a handy size, and each stamp is priced separately. Where possible every copy is shown both used and unused.

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THE BRITISH COLLECTORS' PAPER,

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**Dealers Commencing.** I have prepared a packet especially for Dealers about to commence, which contains three varieties of small envelopes, printed on outside. A good variety of stamps, ranging from common to stamps to sell at 3d. and 4d. each, &c. &c.

This packet will enable anyone to commence as a dealer, containing as it does an immense variety of stamps, which could not be bought from any wholesale dealer under twice my price. Large profits certain

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THE  
**PHILATELIC TIMES:**

A JOURNAL FOR

**Stamp Collectors and Dealers.**

*Published Monthly.*

*1/- per annum.*

---

**CHRISTMAS NUMBER.**

ON DECEMBER 21st, we shall publish an extra large number for Christmas of the above journal, and we invite the attention of

**COLLECTORS**

to the fact, that in addition to the increase of size, it is our intention to present to all our regular readers

**A Good Stamp Gratis!!**

It will also be good policy on the part of all enterprising

**DEALERS**

to remember the above date, as such an opportunity of reaching all classes of philatelists is seldom available. In spite of this large circulation

**Advertising Rates**

remain as before:—Whole page 10/6, half page or one column 5/6, quarter page or half column 2/9, one inch 2/-. Short advertisements, no display, 4 words a 1d., minimum, 4d.

All matter intended for insertion in this extra number must reach our office not later than DECEMBER 10th.

Address all communications to the

**Editor:—Mr. H. Bagshawe, Miller's Dale, Buxton.**

**Published by the Philatelic Syndicate.**

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Will our regular readers kindly note that this special number supersedes the ordinary issue, and that the December number will not appear until the 21st inst.

The price of the Christmas number including the presentation stamp is 3d. post free to non-subscribers.

---

**Tideswell:**

PRINTED BY W. M. SLACK, COMMERCIAL ROAD.





Sole London Agents:—HOPKINS BROS., Crouch End, N.

THE

# PHILATELIC TIMES:

A MONTHLY JOURNAL FOR

Stamp Collectors and Dealers.

**CHRISTMAS NUMBER.**

No. 7, Vol. 1.

DECEMBER, 1896.

Price  $\frac{1}{2}$ d

## NOTICES FOR 1897.

ALL communications must be addressed to the Editor:—HENRY BAGSHAW, MILLER'S DALE, NEAR BUXTON. .

SUBSCRIPTION 1s. per annum (or foreign equivalent), post free to any part of the world. Voucher and specimen copies 1d. each.

N.B.—All Subscriptions must commence with the current number. Back numbers can still be supplied as follows, but the supply of each is *very* small. No. 1, price 6d. No. 2, 4d. All others 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. each, post free.

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Editor:—Mr. H. Bagshaw, Miller's Dale, Buxton.  
Published by the Philatelic Syndicate.

Tideswell:

PRINTED BY W. M. SLACK, COMMERCIAL ROAD.

## PRIVATE ADVERTISEMENTS.

**RATES:**—Four words 1d. Four insertions at price of three. Replies can be sent to our office upon an extra payment of 3d.

**COLLECTORS.** I give stamps, &c. in exchange for books, curios, &c.—Wilorca, office of this paper, Miller's Dale, Buxton.

1,000 Stamps free to collectors buying 3/- worth of stamps from me.—S. N. VITCH, 58, North Road, Durham. [7

**ALBUMS.** On sale, cheap. Senf's 6th edition, cost 16/- a year ago. Had about 1,500 stamps hinge-mounted, otherwise perfect. Also, latest edition of Stafford Smith's "Permanent," cost 15/- a month ago. Offers requested for one or both. Will accept approved stamps to value per Bright's Catalogue. Further particulars, address H. BAGSHAW, Millers Dale, Buxton.

50 South American, 1/-; 50 North American, 1/-; 50 West India, 1/-; 50 African, 1/-; 50 Australasian, 1/-.—No duplicates. Champion Stamp Company, Ilkeston. (C3.)

**CRESTS,** 50 varieties, regimental, etc., post free 7d. Wilorca, c/o Editor.

**COLLECTOR'S DUPLICATES.** 30 good varieties—no common, many unused post free 1/-.—Philato, c/o Editor.

**DEALERS' DIRECTORY.** The charge for this, "Name, Address and Speciality," is 4d. per insertion, or 3s. per annum. Collectors specializing in any country will find it pay them to announce the fact in our "Collectors' Directory," same terms as above. There is little doubt that by so doing they obtain the pick in bargains of the country in question.

**RARE DUPLICATES for Sale.**—HEXDERSON, Eton Grove, Lewisham. [11

Secretaries of Exchange Clubs may possibly learn something very much to their advantage by making application to the Editor. Letters only, containing stamp for reply, will be noticed.

**WANTED, Collectors to join Cambrian Stamp Exchange.**—Secretary:—Charles Ford, 8, Malvern Terrace, Swausea.

**STAMPS.** Japan One Yen (Catalogue value 6s.), Bhopal, Bogota, British South Africa, Chamba, Chili, Faridkot, Gambia, Gold Coast, Gwalior, Johore, Persia, Puttialla; fifty-two genuine varieties. 1s. 1d. Smith, Upper Park-rd., Kingston, Surrey.

**STAMPS.** British East Africa surcharged on Indian, obsolete, very scarce; Bogota, Beira, Canada eight cents, Cyprus, India one rupee, three Tunis, six Turkish, forty-five varieties, 1s. 1d.—Smith, Upper Park Road, Kingston, Surrey.

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Hold 60 stamps. Printed instructions.

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# CATALOGUE

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An exact complement of all Philatelic Newspapers appearing in Europe, Africa, America (North and South), Australia, and Asia, with the exact address of the publisher, the country, and the town, as well as terms for advertisements and subscriptions.

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in Czernowitz, Bukowina, Austria.

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**THE BELLE STAMP Co.,**  
FOREST HILL, LONDON, S.E.

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1.—This represents a means for the FREE sale or exchange of member's duplicates.

2.—All goods (which may include single stamps, sets, literature and accessories.) must reach us by the 16th of the month, together with a stamped, addressed envelope for their return. Unsold lots returned after three insertions.

3.—All 'stamps are fair "catalogue" copies unless otherwise described.

4.—Not more than three lots received from any person monthly.

5.—If goods are sold, 15 PER CENT (3/- in the £1) will be deducted for our commission. No sales no pay.

6.—Purchasers must enclose stamped envelope for amounts under 2/6.

1.—Cape, triangular, 6d.	3/6
9.—Labuan 1c., 1893	1d.
25.—1c. & 2c. Postage Due U.S.A. pair	6d.
26.—Saxony, 3 pf., unused	2d.
27.—Straits, 5 cents, blue	2d.
29.—Turkey, 20 paras, rose	1d.
30.—Van Dieman's Id., 4d. orange } imperf.	8/6
31.—Odense, ¼ and 1 onza	Offers.
32.—N. E. Railway New Stamps, } 3 varieties, scarce	3d.
33.—Nova Scotia, 12½ct., black	2/9
34.—*British East Africa on 4 } annas "Co." stamp	3/6
35.—*British South Africa on 1d. } Cape 1896.	1/0
36.—*British South Africa on ¼d. } Cape 1896.	1/6
37.—British Central Africa "Ne- } groes," 6d. used.	3/6

38.—Victoria, 9d. rose, 1895	1/-
39.—*Perah, 2c. orange, 1895	6d.
40.—" " 1 to 10 cent Tiger's head	1/-
41.—*Zanzibar, ½ anna on Indian	6d.
42.—" " 1 " "	9d.
43.—" " 2 " "	1/6
44.—Belgian, 50c. unpaid	8d.
45.—Gt. Britain, 4½d. Govt. Parcels	1/6
46.—" " 2d. blue, no lines	1/3
47.—Chine on Ip. French, used	6d.
48.—Queensland, 6d. solid ground	3d.
49.—Hawaii, 1c. green, 1883	2d.
50.—" " 2c. violet, 1889	2d.
51.—" " 5c. blue, 1864	1/6
52.—" " 2c. rose, 1873-82	2d.
53.—*Luxembourg, 5c. green, 1895	2d.
54.—Collection of 2,000 different } unmounted }	110/-

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Society Reports, &c.	60

## Mems. of the Month.

### THE COMPLIMENTS OF THE SEASON TO ALL OUR READERS.

THE present is the time when most of our contemporaries are engaged on the entertaining subject of retrospection, as regards the present year, and anticipation as regards the future, always, of course, in a philatelic sense.

It is amusing at the end of 1896 to look over the January magazines and read the Utopian sentiments which pervaded the articles therein. Various were the items to interest, to elevate, and—latterly—to amuse. We were informed as to our gains, which included in this case the Djibouti, Obock and similar monstrosities. Great gains, these! For our future edification we were told what stamps to "corner" as a profitable speculation, and what would fall in value; in several cases we could mention, this has been worked by the rule of contrary. The "gumpap" (unpleasant word) was to be entirely "scotched." And still the fiend remains with us, if possible more active than before. However, for fear of being accused as pessimistic we will enumerate no longer, for we cannot deny that being able to look on the bright side of things is a most valuable property, possibly

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45.—Gt. Britain, 4½d. Govt. Parcels	1/6
46.— " 2d. blue, no lines	1/3
47.—China on 1p. French, used	6d.
48.—Queensland, 6d. solid ground	3d.
49.—Hawaii, 1c. green, 1883	2d.
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we, personally, may not possess it. No one can tell in what condition our hobby will be in twelve months' time, and we consider to endeavour to do so is to rank with the imposture, so dear to the credulous, which foretells the weather for a similar period in advance.

---

We had a pleasant surprise the other day. That there is a class of rogues who make stamp collectors their especial prey is possibly a well-known fact among our readers, but to learn that any check can be introduced to their depredations is as equally unknown, and as surprising. We therefore hasten to convey the glad tidings that an Enquiry Bureau for philatelic purposes has been lately formed, furnished with competent legal advisers. The Secretary is Mr. Charles Ford, 8, Malvern Terrace, Swansea. The Bureau undertakes to ascertain the status of any person in the United Kingdom on payment of a small fee, and will undertake the collection of debts on a commission of 5 p.c. There is no doubt as to the ultimate success of such an undertaking if it can perform its promises in a reliable manner. The best advice we can give to our readers is to give the Bureau a trial case.

---

The "Stamp Advertiser" is the name of a new English philatelic journal which we have received from its publishers, Messrs. Roberts and Co., 12, Lancaster Road, Birkdale, Southport. It is neatly got up and offers great facilities to the advertising portion of our collectors and dealers. Both subscription and advertisement rates are within the reach of all, and we have little doubt that it will soon make for itself a prominent position in journalism. It has our best wishes for its success.

---

Probably most of our readers have heard of the "Rowland Hill" series of packets introduced by Messrs. A. Smith and Son, 37, Essex Street, London, and a large number may have purchased the same. A little booklet has lately been published by this firm, descriptive of



these packets, and although, of course, appealing more directly to purchasers, it cannot fail to be largely circulated amongst many other beginners and medium collectors. It contains some interesting item on nearly every stamp in the packet, of a historical, biographical, or philatelic nature; we cannot do justice to it in this short review, and the book must be seen to be properly appreciated. The price is 7d. post free.

---

The ninth edition of Nunn's Directory of the Stamp Dealers of Great Britain reaches us. Its old price of 5d. remains unaltered, although the book by reason of its size, has almost grown out of recollection. This last edition contains in addition to the ordinary list of dealers, a list of publishers of albums and other philatelic specialities; a descriptive list of all British magazines with publisher's name, subscription rates, &c., &c., and a complete catalogue of all stamp societies and clubs. We have only one little improvement to which we respectfully beg Mr. Nunn's attention. Although the names are arranged in the alphabetical sequence of their respective initial letters, yet afterwards they are somewhat mixed; thus we find "Ca" sandwiched in between "Cl" and "Cr," rendering search for a desired or expected name a little irksome. Otherwise we find the book as nearly perfect as can be expected on this terrestrial sphere.

---

From an American contemporary we gather that the American Bank Note Co. is again to undertake the printing of the postal labels of the United States. In face of the large amounts credited to Uncle Sam as saved by doing his own printing, this sounds improbable.

---

In New York almost every dealer offers for sale sets of stamps issued for the *Republic of Cuba*. Truly they are almost too energetic across the "pond."

---

Our next number will be issued about January 12th, after which we shall gradually regain lost time till we publish on the 1st again.

## The Stamps of Heligoland.

By Dr. G. I. BRYANT.

### CHAPTER I (continued.)

AND now as regards reprints, which we are sorry to say, are super-abundant and cheap. Three sets of reprints have been made or struck by Herr Goldner, a dealer of Hamburg, into whose domains we have several times penetrated. Immediately after he obtained possession of no less than 10 plates, i.e., 10 values, by purchase from the Royal Printing Office at Berlin, he set about producing reprints, of which the first series are somewhat scarce. At least, specialists in Heligoland will find them to be so. According to Dr. Kalckhoff, supported by both the American and English translators of his valuable catalogue of reprints, the plates were sold in 1880, but we understand that the reprints first appeared about July 1879, and moreover that the first set of reprints was made at Berlin. We do not insist on the accuracy of the foregoing statement, which is based on semi-official information only. Strange to say, this first reprint is *imperfurate!* The originals *never* were issued in this condition, all stamps printed at the Royal Printing Office, Berlin, at that period being rouletted.

5.— $\frac{1}{2}$  schilling, green and rose, imperf., reprint of 1879-80.

6.—1 schilling, rose and green, imperf., reprint of 1879-80.

7.—2 schillings, green and rose, imperf., reprint 1869-70.

8.—6 schillings, rose and green, imperf., reprint 1879-80.

The colours are somewhat lighter than the genuine, but otherwise are similar. The paper is thickish and a little finer in texture, and smoother. The two lower values were reprinted with roulette, and the two other values with a perf., 13 x 14. This all occurred in 1879-80.

9.— $\frac{1}{2}$  schilling, green and rose, rouletted, reprint 1879-80.

10.—1 schilling, rose and green, rouletted, reprint 1879-80.

11.—2 schillings, green and rose, perf. 13 x 14, reprint 1879-80.

12.—6 schillings, rose and green, perf. 13 x 14, reprint 1879-80.

In 1886, strong rumours were prevalent that Heligoland was about to change owners, as overtures had been made in July of that year by the German authorities. But the affair ended in smoke, for the time being at least, yet—to satisfy a then growing demand (?)—Herr Goldner reprinted in vast quantities the whole set with roulette, and the two higher values with a perf.  $13\frac{1}{2}$  x  $14\frac{1}{2}$ .

13.—2 schillings, green and rose, rouletted, reprint 1887.

14.—6 schillings, rose and green, rouletted, reprint 1887.

15.—2 schillings, green and rose, perf.  $13\frac{1}{2}$  x  $14\frac{1}{2}$ , reprint 1887.

16.—6 schillings, rose and green, perf.  $13\frac{1}{2}$  x  $14\frac{1}{2}$ , reprint 1887.

These with the  $\frac{1}{2}$  and 1 schilling rouletted, form the "Second Reprint," and as in 1889 and 1892, they were again reprinted for the American dealers, the supply must be nearly inexhaustible.

It appears that Herr Goldner charges double the ordinary price for supplying these reprints *postmarked*, and in 1887 a well-known U.S. firm were offering at 4c. or 2d. each, all the values of Heligoland, save the mark values cancelled. The postmarked reprints are really dangerous, and the grand test is as follows: The paper is thinner, the gum white and thin (for unused copies,) and a good test is to look at the stamps by holding them with their backs to you. You will see the inscriptions quite easily: this being impossible with the originals; the latter had brownish thick gum.

(To be continued.)

## Philatelic "Simon Pures."

ALTHOUGH the philatelic market for the past three or four years has been flooded with an abnormal quantity of stamps gaudy

beyond seeming requirements, and tinged with a more or less suspicion of speculation—still the vast majority of philatelists, i.e., the beginners and the medium collectors, are for the most part, totally in the dark as to what to collect, and what to avoid. In this short article, I will endeavour to give the readers of the "Philatelic Times," the benefit of twenty years philatelic experience, and thirteen in the stamp trade. Irrelevant though this premise may sound, it is however, necessary, so that readers may understand that I know something of my subject. Taking the countries and states in alphabetical order, the first issue to attract attention is that of Angola, and although this, with the other Portuguese Colonies has come in for a deal of "slating," I can give my humble assurance that the 1894 issue was a necessity, and all the S.S.S.S. (shades of alliteration!) in the universe will not alter my opinion and conviction.

As to Angra, Horta, and Ponta Delgada, I think that Horta alone is entitled to a stamp all to itself, but nevertheless, I am of opinion that the overweening pride of the Portuguese in their possessions was alone responsible for the two other issues.

The same can be said of the French Colonial issue of 1893. Jealous of the British, as the Gallic nation are, they seek to astonish the world with the number of their dependencies, and I have yet to be convinced that a wealthy nation like the French relies upon the sale of 1 centime stamps for replenishing its exchequer.

The numberless surcharges we have been inflicted with I ascribe to carelessness, coupled with the duplicity of postmasters. These latter gentry are not impeccable, and oftentimes purposely delay writing for fresh supplies of a certain stamp, so that they can surcharge some other value,—being "a case of emergency."

Apart from the Annam, and Tonquin, and Martinique provisionals, very few French colonial surcharges are worth collecting.

The Argentine Republic has been commendably chary of resorting

to speculative issues for exchequer purposes, but the Columbus pair, issued in 1892, are, avowedly, a purely philatelic emission.

None the less, they are far more "collectable"—that odious term!—than many other centenary stamps.

Some carping critics declare that the Belgian "Antwerp" issue was unnecessary. Granted; but unnecessary from a philatelic standpoint only.

To the good Antwerpens they were as necessary as the Jubilee Card of this country, and had a great deal more purpose in their issue.

The Indian state of Bhopal has done a lot to discourage philatelists in the collection of this class of stamp. It is difficult to believe that any of the issues from 1881 onwards were an actual necessity.

The State of Bhor has been content since 1879 with six stamps only.

The British East African Co's stamps should be discouraged by the government.

They are a speculative issue to a great extent, and the word "company" has a disconcerting effect on young collectors. However, having in view the rapid growth of the territory, it is possible that a rational issue will soon be in use.

The 1888 provisionals of British Honduras, "Crown C.A." are purely speculative, but Colonial specialists generally include them in their albums.

Having in view the very primitive set of stamps previously in vogue for British North Borneo, it might appear to a casual critic that the 1893 issue was an actual necessity. If, however, the expensive nature of the present series is taken into consideration, it will be speedily seen that for a scanty settlement like this, the stamps are unnecessary.

Being handsome and cheap, they are nevertheless collected.

Bulgaria's "Prince Boris" issue are a speculative lot, and should not be countenanced.

For an opulent colony like Ceylon, the flood of surcharges issued 1885-92, is rather suspicious, but Ceylon is a British Colony, and therefore not to be slighted!

The Chinese Locals, with the single exception of Shanghai, are not worthy of a place in a respectable album, and the same may be said of the "War" stamps of Ecuador.

The different French celebration postcards are of no philatelic value.

The French surcharges for Vathy, Cavelle, Dédéagh, and Port-Lagos are quite unnecessary, and nothing will be lost by omitting them from your album.

The Greece "Olympian" issue is partly a commemorative series and partly speculative. Judging by the time they were on sale, I am rather inclined to place them in the latter category only.

I will not touch upon the notorious "Seebeck" stamps, merely to state that the only manner in which they can be inserted in a decent collection is intact, on the original envelope.

For the benefit of the uninitiated, I may say that the "Seebeck" series comprise the stamps from 1889 down, of Honduras, Salvador, and Nicaragua; latterly Costa Rica has been added to the list.

The Silver Wedding stamps of Japan, as well as the "War" issue, are of the same nature as the Argentine centenary stamps. Unnecessary to our eyes, they are, nevertheless, legitimate and proper postal issues, and are to be treated as such.

My remarks on Borneo apply similarly to Labuan.

The stamps of Liberia are a philatelic puzzle. No one would deny the "freed" blacks an orthodox series of postage stamps, but the present issue is combining the useful with the speculative, particularly

the showy labels described as registration, official, unpaid, and so on. The "avo" issue of Macau is unnecessary, and the same can be said of the present issue of Mexico, which is an eyesore to any intellegent being. The "numeral" issue which preceeded it, was infinitely superior to these monstrosities of the new Aztecs.

Now we come to Montenegro, and I may as well say that the 1874 series only, is worth collecting. The unpaid, &c., abortions are worthless, philatelically speaking.

The Morocco Fez issues are unnecessary--this applies to the various series.

The Mozambique issue, 1894, is another philatelic abomination, and the same can be said of the Obock, and Djibouti emissions, which are not worth the paper used in their manufacture.

The Oil Rivers, and Nijer Coast Protectorates, have been responsible for a deal of surcharging business. I am able to say that the present series is a philatelic issue. The unsurcharged English stamps are used by the natives and colonists, in preference to those foisted upon us credulous philatelists.

The Columbus Stamp of Paraguay was unnecessary.

The Don Henry and St. Anthony issues of Portugal were for exchequer purposes rather than postal.

I do not consider San Merino worthy of a postal outfit, and it is high time some one put a stop to the farce. The present issues of Sarawak, and the 1892 issue of Seychelles are unnecessary.

Notwithstanding what some persons say, I do not consider that Siam has ever had recourse to philatelic speculation for exchequer purposes, and the same of the various Straits Settlements issues, although the surcharges of Johore, Perak, Sunjei, Ujong and Selangor are bewildering, and not altogether worthy the attention sometimes paid them.

The Suriname provisional of 1892 is a speculative issue, as also are the last Natal provisionals ("Queen's Head"), and the Transvaal surcharges of 1895, the "postal-fiscal" sixpenny, and the oblong commemoration stamp. The two latter are worthless.

The United States Columbus issue is to be regarded more as a sort of universal advertisement for the inevitable Yankee than a speculation, although the demand for the stamps soon put the authorities "on the scent," and the time at first specified was extended, for obvious reasons.

I have now briefly dwelt on the more dubious postal emissions of the world, and trust my remarks may be of assistance to someone.

A few philatelic monthlies will keep you *en courant* with the times, and now-a-days, it is essential that collectors should be up to date in every sense of the word.

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## For the Young Collector.

BY ONE WHO APPRECIATES HIM.

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JUST at the moment, nothing is exciting more interest in the Philatelic world than the "Young Collector"; and the burning question—How is he to be treated?—runs a good second in the race for popularity. It must primarily be understood that the title refers not only to the school-boy, who still form the majority of the stamp-collecting population of this and other countries, but also to that scarcely inferior (as regards numbers) class of "just commencing" adults. The amount of consideration the subject has received is *not* out of due proportion to its importance, as some wisecracs would have us believe; of that I am perfectly assured. I have neither the time nor the inclination to quote here the varying opinions and decisions of verbose authorities. It is sufficient to say that as usual, much has been said, and as little done. In the States however the matter has certainly received more attention than it has done on this side; certain philatelists have even



formed a syndicate to forward the movement by the publication of a journal devoted solely to the interests of our young friends; it is interesting to hear that this enterprise will foster the historical, geographical, biographical, and similar instincts fondly supposed to be aroused in school-boy minds by a course of stamp-collecting. Personally I consider these extremely doubtful attractions to Philately, still it is manifestly unfair to condemn the scheme on these grounds alone, and I therefore hasten to add that no doubt the scheme will result in permanent and undoubted benefit to the cause.

Another item from across the "pond" bearing upon the same subject, is that two of the principal stamp firms there, to wit, The Scott Stamp and Coin Co. and The C. H. Mechel Co., have combined to define what is to be considered a collectable variety from a beginner's point of view, and I understand also that it is their intention to jointly compile and publish catalogues and albums based on the same principles. This sounds more promising,—hard-headed business-like men with a trade to maintain will be more likely to fill the bill than the above-mentioned enthusiasts.

I am not at present aware to what degree of simplicity these publications are limited, but it has been more than hinted that all such distinctions as those involved in the consideration of papers, perfs. and watermarks, etc., will be neglected entirely. This however I must refuse to credit for by such drastic treatment all qualification to the title of *scientific* Philately would be lost, and before us would stand the unclotted and unadorned stamp-collecting of some thirty odd years ago. \*

Possibly I am mistaken, but it appears to me a very simple matter to restrict the mania for collecting within suitable bounds, and yet retain a just claim to Philately as a Science. The plan indicated briefly below I have followed successfully for some years, in fact ever since minutiae began to increase and multiply, when, without boasting, I may claim to have foreseen the present situation, and so attempted to guard against it.

(To be continued.)

## Society Reports, &c.

**CAMBRIAN STAMP EXCHANGE CLUB.**—The December packets were despatched on the 3rd of that month. As stated in my report for October this club sends out *two* packets monthly, and the "A" packet of December contained 31 members, who contributed sheets to the value of about £120; and the December "B" packet contained 33 members, who contributed sheets to the value of £105, and both packets contain some very rare stamps. The increase of membership since the November packet was despatched is eleven, which shows what success the club is meeting with.

There are a few more vacancies for reliable collectors, from whom the secretary would be pleased to hear.

Rules may be had post free from the secretary on application:—  
Mr. Charles Ford, 8, Malvern Terrace, Swansea.

**THE BRITISH COLONIAL STAMP EXCHANGE CLUB.**—Established October, 1895. Number of members to date, 40.

The November packets were duly despatched on November 25th, and the sheets still retain the high standard of excellence already obtained, the stamps being of a really good, desirable class. Section I, a packet for British and British Colonial stamps only, net value £103. Section II, a packet for general collectors, net value £35. Sales average about 25 p. c. of total amount sent in. I have a few vacancies for really earnest collectors, best reference given and required. Full information, rules, &c., post free from the secretary, Mr. C. J. M. Lehner, Eaton Chambers, 50, Buckingham Palace Road, London, S.W. *Please note new address.*

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The replies will be dealt with as quickly as possible, and we hope to be able to forward the prizes so as to arrive on the morning of the 25th.

More Books to be given away!

to the senders of the six best and most sensible replies to the question:

WHY DO YOU COLLECT STAMPS?

All replies must reach me on or before Wednesday, January 6th, 1897.

IMPORTANT.

As this column is intended only for our young readers, no one is entitled to compete for any prizes offered whose age exceeds 17 years. My decision as to the winners must be regarded as absolutely final, and I cannot enter into any correspondence whatever about the competitions.

All communications to Editor: Philatelic Times, Miller's Dale, Buxton. Mark your letters "Y.P.C." in top corner.

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JANUARY, 1897.

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# THE PHILATELIC TIMES.

No. 8.

JANUARY 1897.

Vol. 1.

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## Mems. of the Month.

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**RATES:**—Four words 1d. Four insertions at price of three. Replies can be sent to our office upon an extra payment of 3d.

**COLLECTORS.** I give stamps, &c. in exchange for books, curios, &c.—Wilorca, office of this paper, Miller's Dale, Buxton.

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**ALBUMS.** On sale, cheap. Senf's 6th edition, cost 16/- a year ago. Had about 1,500 stamps hinge-mounted, otherwise perfect. Also, latest edition of Stafford Smith's "Permanent," cost 15/- a month ago. Offers requested for one or both. Will accept approved stamps to value per Bright's Catalogue. Further particulars, address H. BAGSHAWE, Millers Dale, Buxton.

50 South American, 1/-; 50 North American, 1/-; 50 West Indian, 1/-; 50 African, 1/-; 50 Australasian, 1/-.—No duplicates. Champion Stamp Company, Ilkeston. (C3.)

**CRESTS,** 50 varieties, regimental, etc., post free 7d. Wilorca, c/o Editor.

**COLLECTOR'S DUPLICATES.** 30 good varieties—no common, many unused post free 1/-.—Philato, c/o Editor.

**DEALERS' DIRECTORY.** The charge for this, "Name, Address and Speciality," is 4d. per insertion, or 3s. per annum. Collectors specializing in any country will find it pay them to announce the fact in our "Collectors' Directory," same terms as above. There is little doubt that by so doing they obtain the pick in bargains of the country in question.

**RARE DUPLICATES for Sale.**—HERDERSON, Eton Grove, Lewisham. [11

Wanted Nos. 1, 2, and 3, of the "Philatelic Times." Will give exchange to value of 1s. for three, if clean and perfect copies.—X. Y. Z., c/o Editor.

**WANTED,** Collectors to join Cambrian Stamp Exchange. Secretary:—Charles Ford, 8, Malvern Terrace, Swansea.

**STAMPS.** Japan One Yen (Catalogue value 6s.), Bhopal, Bogota, British South Africa, Chamba, Chili, Faridkot, Gambia, Gold Coast, Gwalior, Johore, Persia, Puntialla; fifty-two genuine varieties. 1s. 1d. Smith, Upper Park-rd., Kingston, Surrey.

**STAMPS.** British East Africa surcharged on Indian, obsolete, very scarce; Bogota, Beira, Canada eight cents, Cyprus, India one rupee, three Tunis, six Turkish, forty-five varieties, 1s. 1d.—Smith, Upper Park Road, Kingston, Surrey.

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# THE PHILATELIC TIMES.

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No. 8.

JANUARY 1897.

Vol. 1.

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to all the principal magazines. A very nice library of philatelic works has also been formed for the use of members.

The committee and hon. secretary are to be congratulated warmly on the result of their labours, more particularly as they have brought into being and fostered a stamp society which has not been solved into a means of trade for a certain clique of dealers, as has occurred so often in the history of Philately.

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When Mr. L. Upcott Gill, of "Bazaar" fame undertakes any enterprise, one may confidently affirm that it will be well carried out. Always a patron of Philately in its commercial sense through the medium of his journal, Mr. Gill's latest work has been to publish quite the finest work on scientific stamp-collecting we have yet seen. "Postage Stamps and their Collection," is by Mr. Oliver Frith, a member of the London, Bradford, and Leeds Societies. The book appears to contain everything necessary to a correct comprehension of our hobby, and should be in the hands of every collector, advanced as well as beginner.

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Most of our contemporaries have devoted more or less space to discussion on the Nova Scotia "find." So far we have left the matter unnoticed, not from any lack of interest, but simply that we could gather no authentic details about them, and it is against our principles to publish anything the truth of which we cannot absolutely vouch for. It was originally stated that the find consisted of 200,000 sets, but this ultimately was reduced to 200,000 *stamps*, which were divided in various proportions, and of which the 12½ cents. was in the smallest minority. Dealers report the only value that has gone off well was the 8½ cents., which most collectors lack; even this, however, can be procured at 7/6, a fall from its former value of £2 or more.

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## The Vade Mecum.

*A Column to Contain all knowledge necessary to young collectors.*

Conducted by PAUL MARRIOTT.

### PART III.—PERFORATION.

HAVING now disposed of the historical aspect of perforation, we must confront at once its connection with scientific Philately, as now in vogue. In my last I stated that perforations with respect to stamp collecting are measured in the space of two centimetres only, and not (as most beginners imagine) the whole number of holes on any one side of a stamp. As this is a most important point I make no excuse for again referring to it. The "guage" used to measure perforations also requires a slight explanation, no doubt most of my readers possess one, but if not, this "accessory" must be at once procured. The one published by Mr. W. Brown, of Salisbury, and styled the "Ideal," is generally accepted as the best, or, if not the best, "as good as the best." The price, I believe is 6d. On examining a guage you will find rows of black dots arranged in the afore-mentioned space of two centimetres, and corresponding to the different sizes of perforation, generally from 7 to 17, which include also the half-measurements (12,  $12\frac{1}{2}$ , 13,  $13\frac{1}{2}$ , and so on). The method of application is extremely simple, merely place the edge of the specimen to be guaged on the dots till the dented edge exactly coincides with them, if this happens at the row numbered 12, you briefly describe your stamp as "perf. 12." All stamps, however, are not perforated the same guage on every side, so that it becomes necessary to measure them all; for instance, the top and bottom of a stamp will be perf. say 14, and the two sides something else, perhaps  $12\frac{1}{2}$ , this combination is expressed "perf. 14 x  $12\frac{1}{2}$ ." It is perhaps well to remark that it is becoming usual in such cases ("compound perfs." to use the correct term) to give the measurements top and bottom first, sides next. Although this appears a very minor

detail it is much better to follow such rules, as uniformity in recording is eminently desirable. Again, some stamps have a different perforation on every side. The rule in "mixed perms." is, top x bottom x left x right, as regards order.

Various are the schemes that have been devised to render the separation of odd stamps from a sheet as easy as possible. First on the long list is Archer's original invention, styled MACHINE PERFORATION, this needs little or no description as nine stamps out of ten are separated by this process. Philatelists' "varieties" are produced both by the size of the holes, and also by their distance apart. The French perforation known as "Susse" comes under this head. Possibly some of my readers may not know the derivation of this term. Susse Frères were a large firm of booksellers and stationers, in Paris, and being possessed of a perforating machine, they purchased stamps from the Post Office and having perforated them, sold them again to the public at a slight profit. In days when imperforate stamps were the rule, you may suppose they would be largely enquired for. Their gauge was 7 and is one of the largest ever used.

PIN PERFORATION is only slightly different to machine. In the latter, as everyone knows, the paper is cut clean away by the needles as they fall, but in the former they simply pierce the paper and leave a kind of "burr." The same effect would be produced by using a sewing machine without thread, in fact this was done by the wife of a Postmaster in Greece. The 1888 issue of Mexico were perforated in this manner, and also several of the early issues of the British Colonies, Barbados, Trinidad, &c. It is a most untidy and unsatisfactory method, and has consequently not been much employed.

ROULETTING includes all methods of division other than the two mentioned. It will be gathered from the name that this operation is performed by a small wheel furnished with cutting edges at intervals on its circumference; very few stamps are now issued in this condition, Chili being the most important exception. Beginners are often unable



to distinguish between imperforate and roulette, though really nothing could be simpler.

On examination of a stamp supposed to be rouletted, you will find alternate rough and smooth, i.e., clean-cut "hyphens," the smooth were cut by the machine, and the rough left intact till torn off by the user. In imperforate no such distinctions can be observed, being cut straight off by a pair of scissors.

The roulette by means of a spur wheel is now rarely used, the introduction of what is known as the "perforating rule" being more correct and also cheaper. A description of this must be deferred until next month.

(To be continued.)

## For the Young Collector.

BY ONE WHO APPRECIATES HIM.

(Continued from December Number.)

IN the first place I divide my study of Philately into the following main heads: 1st, Paper; 2nd, Watermark; 3rd, Type; 4th, Colour, or Shade; 5th, Perforation. These *must* all be considered, and it is only when they are again sub-divided, interchanged, or multiplied by each other, that weariness ensues. One grand principle to which I adhere, and which saves much unnecessary quibbling, is to only collect those varieties which represent a *distinct issue*. For instance, the 1867 issue of Austria, perf.  $9\frac{1}{2}$ , and the 1877 issue, perf., 12, of the same country are totally different, and did not appear conjointly; similarly some of the British colonies had issues perf.  $12\frac{1}{2}$  and 14, both of which must be collected by the generalist. With respect to watermarks, such distinctions as the CR and C.C., and the CR and C.A are two different issues and must not be considered in any way identical. To emphasize, however, the other side of the case, the later issues of Austria appear to have been perforated to all manner of gauges, and one complete set of, say the 1890 issue, is sufficient for any but the

specialist in that country. Again, referring to Austria, the three varieties of paper of the first issue seem to have been used indiscriminately, and a set, representative of each, will be the best method. With regard to colour, or more correctly, *shade*, the two extremes, light and dark, will satisfy most collectors. Considering colour at all, appears to the writer of doubtful utility in many cases, although, of course, such differences as brown-red, rose-red, orange-brown, &c., which, though similar to the uninitiated, are almost as different to the specialist in British stamps, as red from blue, and even more interesting.

I trust my few hints may be useful to some one or two collectors; if so I am amply repaid for my trouble. I shall be glad to answer any queries as to doubtful and uncertain points in this essay, if they are addressed in my name to the care of the Editor.

ED. WILSON.

## The Stamps of Heligoland.

By Dr. G. I. BRYANT.

### CHAPTER II.

1869.

### SECOND ISSUE.

THIS new series consists of the introduction of machine perforation only; as the whole of the postal and telegraph labels printed at Berlin had been treated to the needles; those for the "tight little island" of Heligoland were likewise "regaled." The gauge being  $14\frac{1}{2}$ , or to cut the matter finer,  $13\frac{1}{2} \times 14$ . The two lower values only were *officially* issued.

17.— $\frac{1}{2}$  schilling, green and rose, perforated, issued July 3rd, 1869.

18.—1 schilling, rose and green, perforated, issued July 3rd, 1869.

Note.—The records of the Postmaster, (Herr A. G.——), having been examined at our request (in 1886), no trace was found of any

other values than those mentioned as being delivered by the Berlin Printing Office, with a perforation; so in conjunction with all previous writers we are bound to regard all 2 and 6 schg. perforated labels as specimens of Herr Goldner's handiwork, and therefore as reprints. The rouletted stock no doubt was large enough to last up to 1873, when the rates were re-arranged.

### Forgeries and Reprints.

We have already described the forgeries which are perf. 13, and they are cancelled HELIGOLAND in block letters, rough and in black. The reprints differ as has already been detailed.

19.— $\frac{1}{2}$  sch., green and rose, perf.  $13\frac{1}{2} \times 14$ , reprint 1879-80.

20.—1 sch., rose and green, perf.  $13\frac{1}{2} \times 14$ , reprint 1879-80.

21.— $\frac{1}{2}$  sch., green and rose,  $13\frac{1}{2} \times 14\frac{1}{2}$ , reprint 1887 and 1892.

22.—1 sch., rose and green,  $13\frac{1}{2} \times 14\frac{1}{2}$ , reprint 1887 and 1892.

In conclusion we may add, that used perf. schillings are somewhat scarce. Very often they were cancelled by penstrokes—alas—too easily imitated! Be it finally remembered *that no 2 and 6 schillings were ever issued officially, with a machine perforation.*

1873.

### THIRD ISSUE.

New rates being established and brought into operation, and a uniform scale being formed, an unstamped card printed, new values of postage labels were required. The same designs were retained, the colours and borders only being re-arranged. Engraved en épargne, col. imp., on soft white wove, brownish gum. Rect. Perf.  $13\frac{1}{2} \times 14$ .

23.— $\frac{1}{4}$  sch., green oval, lettering red at sides, red above and below.

24.— $\frac{3}{4}$  sch., red oval, lettering red at sides, green above and below.

25.— $1\frac{1}{2}$  sch., red oval, lettering green at sides, green above and below.

Notes.—The inner frame angles are white in all the new values. The  $\frac{1}{4}$  sch. was issued for papers, the  $\frac{3}{4}$  sch. for affixing to plain post cards, and the  $1\frac{1}{2}$  sch. for letters; all for Germany. Thus the scarcity of these used is explained, more especially the  $\frac{3}{4}$  sch. It will be seen that the postage of German letters had been lowered  $\frac{1}{2}$  sch., and this meant of course a corresponding decrease in all other rates.

*(To be continued.)*

## Our Young Philatelists' Column.

Our recent "Distribution" Competition being so successful and so many requests having been made for us to arrange another, we have much pleasure in offering

### **MORE PRIZES**

for another "Distribution" Competition.

What you have to do is very simple. To every reader who sends me his name and address, I will forward, carriage paid, six specimen copies of the "Philatelic Times" for distribution amongst his friends who are not already regular readers, and who are stamp collectors. When the applicant has disposed of them,—of which not more than a single copy has been handed to one person.—let him post me a letter giving a full account of how he has distributed them, adding names and addresses of the recipients. On MARCH 10th all communications will be read, and to the senders of the twenty adjudged by us to be the most worthy of reward we shall give prizes of Philatelic works, &c.

### **IMPORTANT.**

As this column is intended only for our young readers, no one is entitled to compete for any prizes offered whose age exceeds 17 years. My decision as to the winners must be regarded as absolutely final, and I cannot enter into any correspondence whatever about the competitions.

All communications to Editor: Philatelic Times, Miller's Dale, Buxton. Mark your letters "Y.P.C." in top corner.

# The Stamp Mart.

1.—This represents a means for the sale or exchange of member's duplicates.

2.—All goods (which may include single stamps, sets, literature and accessories,) must reach us by the 16th of the month, together with a stamped, addressed envelope for their return. Unsold lots returned after three insertions.

3.—All stamps are fair "catalogue" prices unless otherwise described.

4.—Not more than three lots received from any person monthly.

5.—If goods are sold, 15 PER CENT (3/- the £1) will be deducted for our commission. No sales no pay.

6.—Purchasers must enclose stamped envelope for amounts under 2/6.

1.—Cape, triangular, 6d.	3/6
2.—Labuan 1c., 1893	1d.
3.—1c. & 2c. Postage Due U.S.A. pair	6d.
4.—Saxony, 3 pf., unused	2d.
5.—Straits, 5 cents, blue	2d.
6.—Turkey, 20 paras, rose	1d.
7.—Van Dieman's Id., 4d. orange } imperf.	8/6
8.—Odense, ½ and 1 onza	Offers.
9.—N. E. Railway New Stamps, } 3 varieties, scarce	3d.
10.—Nova Scotia, 12½ ct., black	2/9
11.—*British East Africa on 4 } annas "Co." stamp	3/6
12.—*British South Africa on 1d. } Cape 1896.	1/0
13.—*British South Africa on ½d. } Cape 1896.	1/6
14.—*British Central Africa "Ne- } groes," 6d. used.	3/6

38.—Victoria, 9d. rose, 1895	1/-
39.—*Perah, 2c. orange, 1895	6d.
40.—* " 1 to 10 cent Tiger's head	1/-
41.—*Zanzibar, ½ anna on Indian	6d.
42.—* " 1 " "	9d.
43.—* " 2 " "	1/6
44.—Belgian, 50c. unpaid	8d.
45.—Gt. Britain, 4½d. Govt. Parcels	1/6
46.— " 2d. blue, no lines	1/3
47.—Chine on 1p. French, used	6d.
48.—Queensland, 6d. solid ground	3d.
49.—Hawaii, 1c. green, 1883	2d.
50.— " 2c. violet, 1889	2d.
51.— " 5c. blue, 1864	1/6
52.— " 2c. rose, 1873-82	2d.
53.—*Luxembourg, 5c. green, 1895	2d.
54.—Collection of 2,000 different } unmounted	110/-

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