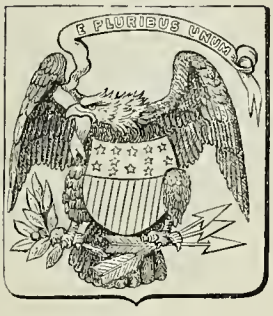


SAPPHIRE

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THE

AMERICAN JOURNAL

OF

PHILATELY.

A History of Postage Stamps.

BEING A RESUME OF THE DESCRIPTIONS OF ALL KNOWN STAMPS AND THEIR VARIETIES.

For the Beginner and the Amateur.

BY OVERY TAYLOR.

Continued from page 181, Vol. IX.

ENVELOPES.

The first series of stamped envelopes was issued on the 15th April, 1857. The design consists of the profile of King George V. to left, in solid oval, in oval engine turned border, inscribed above the portrait, HANOVER, and below EIN GUTER (1) GROSCHEN; the portrait and the figure—which, on a small oval disk, intersects the value—are in white relief; the lettering is sunken; the usual microscopic inscription, EIN GUTER (OR EIN, ZWEI, OR DREI SILBER) GROSCHEN POST COUVERT, printed in green ink, crosses the left upper corner in which the stamp is struck; the values and colors are the same as those of the adhesive set, viz.:—



1 guter-groschen	green.	1 silber-groschen	rose.
2 silber "	blue.	3 " "	yellow.

Entire original envelopes of this series are scarce, but all the values have been reprinted on bluish tinted paper. A specimen of the 1 g.gr. was discovered by M. Moens, struck in *rose*, with the diagonal inscription reading thus: EIN PROBE POST COUVERT (postage envelope proof), instead of the usual inscription. This proof envelope was probably an experiment.

The second series—issued on the 1st October, 1858, a few months in advance of the corresponding adhesives—differs from the first in the value, and in the possession of two circular disks in the border, one on

either side of the profile instead of the single oval disk at foot; said disks in the second series being in white relief, with the numeral of value sunk in the centre. Of this series three editions appeared, all with green diagonal inscriptions.

(1).—1st October, 1858; stamp in left upper corner.

1 groschen	dark rose.	2 groschen	sky blue.
3 "	chrome-yellow.		

(2).—20th November, 1861; stamp right upper corner.

1 groschen,	rose.	2 groschen	blue.
3 "	stone.		

(3).—May, 1863; stamp in left upper corner.

1 groschen	rose.	2 groschen	blue.
3 "	stone.		

It will be seen that the first and third editions are substantially the same, the only difference being in the shade; hence the difficulty in distinguishing with certainty between them is excessive, whilst the necessity for collecting both is questionable. The appearance of the third edition, however, was neither due to whim nor accident. It was in compliance with a suggestion of the Prussian post-office that the second edition, with stamp to right, was issued; but the Hanoverians had become so accustomed to the envelopes with stamp to left, that they loudly objected to the innovation, protesting that the stamp in its new position stood in the way of the address. Such is the force of habit. We, on our side, should probably be equally dissatisfied were our post-office to take to issuing envelopes with the stamps to left. However, the Hanoverians got their way. The stamp-to-right envelopes were withdrawn, and the third series, above catalogued, was issued.

Originals of the first two editions are getting comparatively scarce; the members of the third are, however, easily to be had, and reprints of the first two are likewise plentiful.

Town of Hanover.

Envelopes of no less than four different types in all were issued for the local service of the town of Hanover. The two first were not discovered until long after their suppression, and original impressions are of considerable rarity. The earliest of these local envelopes takes precedence of all the adhesives issued for the general service of the realm in right of age, it having been issued on the 15th May, 1849; whilst the first adhesive stamp, the 1 g.gr. blue, did not see the light until December of the following year. This is far from being the only instance of a stamp or envelope for local postage being issued prior to the regular introduction of stamps. In this case the local envelope, or cover, requires all the importance derivable from priority of date to render it interesting, for it is simply a sheet of white paper

folded thrice lengthwise, and then thrice crosswise, so as to form an oblong to receive the address, and on this oblong, above the space intended for the address, is struck in gothic characters the inscription BESTELLGELD-FREI (post free). On that part which forms the back when the cover is folded into envelope shape, is an inscription in German, printed in black, to the effect that "by the use of these covers, provided on the face with the stamp *Bestellgeldfrei*, letters are forwarded free of postage to the persons to whom they are addressed within the capital town of Hanover, the suburb of Hanover (exclusive of the forest-houses in the Eilenreid), in the suburb of Glocksee, and in the parish of Linden; these covers will be sold by the Royal Hanover Post-office at 3 g.gr. the dozen."

The second local cover shows a rather more ambitious design, the front bearing a wood-engraved vignette, consisting of a post-horn, half hidden in a foliate ornament, at each corner. The corner ornaments are connected together by faint lines which form a rectangle, each line being broken in the centre by the word BESTELLGELD-FREI in gothic characters. A small handstruck stamp, like a post mark, in the lower left corner, contains the same word surrounding a post-horn, and itself enclosed in a single-line circle. The reverse side of the cover also bears an ornamental device on the portion marked for the flap, and on the lower part is an inscription similar to that on the first cover, with the exception that the price is raised to four g.gr. per dozen. The cover is of bright yellow paper, the vignette and inscriptions are in black, and the handstruck stamp in blue.

These covers were issued in sheets, upon which two varieties are found side by side; in one of the designs the ornamental corners are all dissimilar; in the other that of the left lower corner is similar to that of the upper right corner. The former variety was reprinted in 1870.

On the 1st of November, 1858, the ornamented covers were replaced by a buff-colored envelope bearing a circular embossed stamp in green, struck on the left upper corner. The stamp contains a trefoil leaf in the centre, with post-horn below, and inscription BESTELLGELD-FREI in half-circle above, within a single-line circle; the whole in relief on a plain ground. At the back, on the upper flap, is the inscription, in green, SOLD AT THE HANOVER POST-OFFICE IN PACKETS OF TEN FOR 5 GROSCHEN. On the lower flap is another inscription in green, similar to that on the covers, but more concise:—POSTAGE FREE FOR THE CAPITAL TOWN OF HANOVER THE SUBURB OF HANOVER, &c., &c.—a notice which, by the way, clearly contradicts a statement quoted in the second volume of *The Stamp-Collector's Magazine*, to the effect that these envelopes were in use throughout the realm of Hanover. I have not been able to trace any explanation of the appearance of the trefoil on this local envelope; does it form part of the arms of the

town? The question is one that deserves a reply; and at the same time the heraldic significance of the horse which figures on the succeeding type merits investigation.

The trefoil envelope is rather rare, but reprints are plentiful; and some years ago a number of them made their appearance cut square and gummed at the back, although the originals were certainly never adhesives.

On the 20th of November, 1861 (date of issue of the second edition of the second series of envelopes with profile), the trefoil stamp struck in left upper corner gave place to another circular stamp, this time with galloping horse in relief in centre, struck, according to the newly adopted rule, in the right upper corner. In this design the post-horn does not figure, but the inscription, BESTELLGELD-FREI, is maintained, and the letter-press on the flaps is the same as in the preceding type.

In May, 1863, a second edition appeared, with the stamp struck to left, which was reprinted in 1870. It has been asserted by M. Moens, on the faith of official documents, that a supply of this type, impressed in *left* upper corner, was issued on the 1st October, 1861, and was consequently in use for the six weeks which elapsed between that date and the known emission with stamp to right. Neither Dr. Magnus nor "A Parisian Collector" have, however, been able to trace this stamp, and its emission seems doubtful, inasmuch as at the asserted date of issue the decision had presumably been arrived at to cease impressing the stamp in the left corner.

The Hanóverian stamps all became obsolete on the 1st October, 1866, when they were superseded by the Prussian stamps.

Another Swindle Exposed.

"I want to sell this stamp what will you give for it?"
"What do you want,"
"I dont know, what will you give."
"Where did you get it?"
"A boy gave it to me to sell,"
"What is his name?'
"I don't know,"
"Do you mean to tell me that a stranger gave you a label which if genuine would be worth from $10 to $25 to sell for him? That is not at all likely. Tell him to come for his letter if he wants it."

The above conversation took place in the store of J. W. Scott & Co., in the early part of last week; the occasion of it was a boy trying

to sell what purported to be a hitherto unheard of local, on the original letter. The plan to swindle our publishers was well laid, but the scoundrel reckoned without his host, and made a fatal mistake in sending a boy to transact business which required great confidence, persons who make a living by obtaining money under false pretences, are usually men of good address in fact this branch of stealing requires more skill than any other.

That our readers may see the skill and ingenuity with which this swindle was concocted we give the letter entire.

J. G. Dudley & Co.

Gents,

We will see that 100 bales more E. E. Batts are shipped to you upon the ground that you name, we supposed the quantity was all that you was entitled to. It may be three weeks before you get them as our old contract has been completed.

Yours Truly

J. M. Beebe & Co.

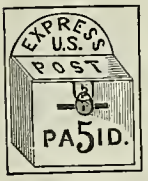
Boston Aug. 31-47.

This was written on one side of a double sheet of paper and folded to cover the writing in the usual way. The other side was addressed

Messrs J. G. Dudley & Co,

New York.

In the upper right corner was a figure 5, in red ink and about the centre of the left end a circular handstamp U. S. EXPRESS MAIL BOSTON MASS. AUG. 31, which is red. It was creased when it had been enclosed and folded away by the receivers. So far all was correct for the letter is undoubtedly authentic. In fact no one in his senses would attempt to forge a letter when he could get a genuine one to answer his purpose equally well, so instead of forging a letter, to make a counterfeit stamp look genuine he tried the clever expedient of devising a bogus stamp to fit a genuine letter a description of the stamp is unnecessary as we have had it engraved, as a monument to the rascality of its inventor, unfortunately we have been unable to find out his name to hand down to posterity along with it.



The stamp is printed on red-glazed paper and was stuck on the lower left corner of the envelope it was artfully broken in half where the folding of the letter in filing away would be likely to damage it, but here as in every other detail of the fraud little things were overlooked, the b oken edge being quite fresh. The label was cancelled with the word PAID, and also with a pen and ink cross. We should exceed our present limits if we were to give all the points which conclusively prove to an expert its fraudulent character.

Shortly after the boy had left the store he returned with a well dressed man of about twentyfive years of age. He was at once recognized by the clerk as a person who had visited the store several times within the last few months.. He demanded the letter on which he had fraudulently

endeavored to obtain money but was told that he could not have it at that time as it would be required to use in evidence against him. He then left the store, and succeeded in eluding the clerk who was sent to find out his residence. We are in hopes that he will be caught before our readers see this in which case they will hear more about him.

Stamps viewed from an historical stand-point.

Read before the "Société Française de Timbrologie," by M. de Bosredon

TRANSLATED BY WILLARD K. FREEMAN.

(*Continued from page* 187, Vol. IX.)

A treaty signed in London July 13th, 1863, between France, Great Britain, Russia and Denmark, had established the principles of the reunion of the Ionian Islands to the Hellenic kingdom. A second treaty, on the 14th of November 1863, concluded by the five great powers, ratified the vote of the legislative assembly of the United States of the Ionian Islands in this respect, and England consented to relinquish its protectorship, that the treaties of 1815 had given it. A third convention, March 29th 1864, regulated the execution of the preceding stipulations and consummated the annexation of the Islands to Greece. In course, the stamps with the legend IONIKON KPATOE were replaced by those of the kingdom of Greece.

In the same year 1864, was essayed (?) the foundation of the Empire of Mexico. The eagle type of stamps (1864) and afterwards others with the effigy of Maximilian (1866) replaced the republican stamps, head of the curate Hidalgo. These however, reappeared in 1867, with the Juarez (1) government, and even before the empire had definitely succeeded under Maximilian, provisional stamps were emitted in the province of Guadalajara, a witness to the struggle that ended in the triumph of the Juarez power. Another example of the historical value of stamps, in cases where money is wanting.

The year 1864, also saw the insurrection of Poland, which was crushed after a struggle of several months. The kingdom lost its distinct existence and an ukase of the 1st (13) February 1865, suppressed the Envelopes and only adhesive of Poland, and replaced them with the stamps and envelopes of Russia.

Grave events took place in 1868 in the north and south of Europe, and their imprint is found on the then current series of postage stamps.

After the battle of Sadowa Prussia annexed to itself several states that had, until that time remained independent and established with those that existed at this side of the Mein, the North-German-Con-

(1) Even In 1864, the Juarez government had issued postage stamps bearing the effigy of Hidalgo, for the provinceof Monterey, which seemed to protest against the enthronement of the Emperor Maximilian.

federation. New stamps were emitted January 1st 1868, and were employed in all the states comprising the confederation. The individual stamps of these states were recalled from circulation, and so, those of the kingdoms of Prussia, Hanover and Saxony; of the Grand-duchies of Oldenburg, Mecklenburg—Schwerin, and Mecklenburg—Strelitz; of the duchies of Brunswick, and Schleswig-Holstein; and, lastly those of the free—cities of Bremen, Hamburg (2) and Lubeck and the city of Bergedorf, disappeared. However, the envelopes of several of these states (Prussia, Saxony, Brunswick, Oldenburg, Mecklenburg,—Strelitz), remained in use, but were surcharged with an adhesive of the confederation a curious token of this period of transition. The Confederation rebought, besides, from the prince of Tours and Taxis, the privilege of hereditary grand-master of the German postal bureau, that his house had possessed since the 16th century, and the stamps of the office of Turn and Taxis also disappeared.

However, it is to be observed, that if the states comprising the confederation, did loose their self-government in matters that concerned external relations; if they could no longer have distinctive postage-stamps; they possessed their rights of sovereignty especially in whatever related to the collection of their respective taxes. In this way, several retained or created fiscal stamps;—(the kingdom of Saxony, the Grand-duchies of Mecklenburg–Schwerin, Oldenburg and Hesse, the duchy of Brunswick, the principalities of Saxe-Cobourg-Gotha, Schaumburg-Lippe, and Schwarzburg-Sondershausen, and the free-city of Bremen.

In the course of the same year (1861) burst forth in the United States the war of the "secession," that continued until 1865. The separated States formed a Confederation that emitted special stamps to which must be added the local stamps issued by several of the cities within these states. To the war of the "secession" belongs also a number of series of fiscal stamps emitted by the United States for the purpose of collecting new taxes, also many curious proprietary stamps furnished by the numerous ateliers of the states, that represented a "trade-mark" of particular fabrics as well as the government tax.

In 1862 Moldavia and Wallachia, which had since 1859, elected the same prince, in order to manifest their wishes for the Union of the two principalities in one state, obtained from the Porte, the consecration of this measure. The united principalities took the name of Roumania. The stamps previously emitted for Moldavia, were replaced (January 1st 1862) by others very closely resembling them, and were current through-

(2) Note also the local stamps at Hamburg, issued in 1868. This stamp bore the legend *Stadtpostbrief Hamburg*, which preserved its local character, but above was the inscription. *Norrddeutscher-Pastbe-Zirk*; moreover, the type was the same as the stamps of the Confederation.

out Roumania. These were replaced, in turn, in January 1865 by other stamps bearing the effigy of the prince Alexander—John I (Couza) and the legend *Posta Romana.* In 1866, Prince Couza was overthrown by a popular movement, and abdicated the dignity of the Hospodar ; after a brief interreign, the prince Charles of Hohenzollern was called to govern the two principalities. New stamps with the effigy of the prince of Hohenzollern appeared, to bear testimony to this event. It is worthy of remark that these stamps were issued prior to the month of August 1866, and before the election of the prince had been confirmed by the Sultan, (October 1866), an evident sign of the tendencies of the Danubian Principalities to free themselves from the sovereignty of the Porte.

The year 1864 revived the question of Schleswig-Holstein. King Frederick VII. having declared the union of Schleswig to Denmark, the diet of Frankfort threatened him with a federal execution. In the meantime the king died, and the duke Christian of Glucksbourg, succeeded him under the name of Christian IX, by virtue of a treaty signed in London the 9th of May 1852, and guaranteed by the great powers of Europe ; but the German states of a secondary order, that had not participated in the treaty of 1852, recognized as duke of Schleswig—Holstein, the duke of Augustenbourg who assumed the title of Frederick VIII. Christian IX. having confirmed the union of Schleswig to Denmark the diet invaded Holstein, Prussia and Austria interfered, occupied the duchies and a greater part of the kingdom, took possession of the fortresses of Duppel and Fredericia, and forced the king of Denmark to declare peace and renounce Lauenbourg to Schleswig and to Holstein. Prussia and Austria divided the care of these territories by the convention of Gastein, which was soon the means of bringing them into a terrible conflict.

All these changes have left traces upon the stamps of the Duchies. In 1864, special stamps were emitted in Holstein, the first of which were invested with the Danish denomination and so withdrawn. These early stamps (March 1864), were imitations of those of Denmark ; this resemblance seemed without doubt, scarcely in keeping with the political projects ; for there were prepared for Schleswig first, (March 1864), and for Holstein afterwards, (June 1864), new stamps. The pretensions of the duke of Augustenbourg not being recognized by Prussia and Austria, they only inscribed upon the stamps a simple legend, bearing the name of each duchy. At last, when the provinces were occupied by the German armies, they issued (March 1865), stamps analogous to the preceding ones, but common to the two Duchies, with the legend *Schleswig-Holstein.* We do not think that any ducal money was struck during this period ; the stamps of 1864, like those of 1850, remaining then, as the sole numismatic monument.

Newly Issued Stamps.

SPANISH WEST INDIES.—The ever faithful Isle is one of the first to inaugurate the new year with a new set of postage stamps. The design as will be seen by our engraving, is the same as that used for the Philippine Islands, ULTRAMAR, and the date being instituted for the name.



The colors and values, are as follow :

12½ cents de peseta green,
25 " " violet,
50 " " ultramarine,
1 peseta black,

BOLIVIA.—Through the kindness of Mr. Coster, who we believe has the only set in the city, we are enabled to present our readers with a cut of the new stamps for this country.



For convenience of reference we recapitulate the colors.

5 centavos ultramarine, 20 centavos green,
10 " orange, 50 " carmine,

BAVARIA.—The new set of stamps for this kingdom, came duly to hand. The design is the same as that employed for those mark stamp issued in 1874.



The colors, and values are.

3 pfennige green, 20 pfennige blue,
5 " purple, 25 " brown,
10 " rose, 50 " grey,
2 marks, orange, same type as one mark, 1874.

ST. THOMAS AND PRINCE ISLANDS.—By some unaccountable accident the color of the new 40 reis stamp was quoted in our last number as being violet, it should have been *blue*.

JAPAN.—Our expectations concerning the high values of this country, were promptly realized, the new stamps coming over before our subscribers saw our last issue.

The new colors are :

10 sen blue, 20 sen rose, 30 sen violet.

FINLAND.—Now that all the values of the new set have been issued, we recapitulate the values and colors.



2 penni grey, 10 penni violet,
5 " orange, 20 " blue,
8 " green, 32 " rose.

UNITED STATES.—The Post Office Department will manufacture stamped envelopes of a new design, in the Exhibition buildings during the time it remains open, they are to be of unsurpassed excellence of design and execution.

This is a move in the right direction, and we hope it will be successfully carried out.

NEW SOUTH WALES.—This colony is the first in Australia, to issue postal cards. The stamp is the same as the current penny adhesive, in the centre is the British arms. The inscription reads POST CARD. *The address only to be written* on this side. *To*. It is enclosed in a very pretty border, and is printed in pink, on thin white card.

ANTIOQUIA.—A new set of stamps purporting to come from this state have lately found there way to this market. The general appearance of the set is decidedly bad, but they may be genuine for all that, as we have letters due us from the capital, we hope to be able to settle the question in our next.

The colors, values and designs are:

1	centavo	black on green, arms.
2½	"	blue, arms.
5	"	green, head liberty to left.
10	"	violet, portrait to right.

Revenue Stamp Department.

EDITED BY W. L. BROWN.

United States. Another formerly unknown proprietary stamp to be added to the list of those that have been brought from their hiding places by indefatigable collectors. The somewhat common Morehead (of Magnetic Plaster fame) is the one now presented with a mate. A better description cannot be given, than by stating that if we were to enlarge the one cent stamp, and substitute the proper inscriptions and value, we would have a correct delineation. Around the portrait we read "Morehead's Neurodyne," and at left and right respectively, "The Great Neuralgic and Pain Antidote." Numerals of value in small circles. It being on plain white paper with no fibres, indidates its being an old issue.

4 cents, Black.

To *match* the solitary addition to the medicine stamps, we have a new one to note for the match stamps. It may be called the New Year's card of Byam, Carlton & Co., being dated January 1, 1876. In general appearance it is the same as the current one cent buff wrapper of this celebrated firm, somewhat enlarged, the heads facing to the left, (i. e. of the stamp), the advertisement at the left in white letters on ground of very fine lines, &c., &c., the whole being a beautiful steel engraving, which its predecessor was not.

1 cent Black on buff paper.

Venezuela. There has been much discussion concerning the

"Escuelas" stamps of Venezuela. They have been called postage stamps, essays, college stamps (like Eastman's, for instance) &c., but their full history is now known. They are in short, revenue stamps, the receipts from their sale, going solely to the support of the public schools, hence the word "Escuelas"—schools. They were first put in use Jan. 1, 1871, in accordance with a decree dated June 27th, 1870. The stamps are the ordinary rectangle in shape and size, and bear the profile of Bolivar the Liberator, in an oval band containing "Escuelas," and value in words. They are lithographed in color upon white paper and unperforated, all of the stamps both cancelled and uncancelled are surcharged with what, at first appears to be merely an irregular line, but on close inspection, turns out to be two lines close together, and consisting of the inscription "Decreto de 27, de Junio 1870" many times repeated.

1, 2, 3, 4, 5, centavos, yellow.
1, 2, 3, 5, reales, rose-lilac.
7, 9, 15, 20, 30, reales, green.

Ceylon. For Convenience sake, we shall divide the revenue stamps into four classes, according to their inscriptions.

§ 1. Receipt. § 2. Stamp Duty.
§ 3. Foreign Bill. § 4. Warehouse Warrant.

§ 1. Receipt Stamps.

It is a well known fact that some of the postage stamps of Ceylon, in their natural condition have undergone a use as revenue stamps. Without going into details concerning them, we content ourselves with mentioning those that have been *surcharged* for the purpose of acting as such. Two only, have come to our notice, whether more exist it is impossible to tell at present, these two are the ½ d. violet, and 1 d. blue, issue of 1857, surcharged in black, with "Draft, Receipt, Order."

½ d. Violet.
1 " Blue.

These may be called provisional stamps. To use an Hibernianism, the first revenue stamps were postage stamps. The second series were the above, and the third the following, especially designed re stamps.

Profile of Queen Victoria to left in circle, a sort of garter surrounds which bears inscription "Ceylon, Receipt, Draft or Order," and value in letters, repeated, colored impression on white paper. Perforated. Large rectangle.

One penny lilac.

1872. Profile (a little different) of same personage to left in oval band inscribed "Ceylon, Receipt," and value repeated, colored impression on white paper, Perforated. Size a little larger than preceding.

Five cents. Violet.

§ 2. Stamp Duty.

There are two issues of these stamps, alike in design, differing only in color, and both issued during 1872.

Same profile as on the 5 cents Receipt stamps, in different shaped frames for each value. For the values in cents, the stamp is a vertical rectangle, and has "Ceylon" at top, value at bottom, and "stamp Duty" around centre. For the values in rupees the stamp is a horizontal rectangle, having "Ceylon stamp Duty," at top, and value at bottom, colored impression on white paper, Perforated.

1st. Issue. Color, lilac.	2d Issue Various colors.
5 cents	5 cents, Blue,
10 "	10 " Rose,
15 "	15 " Violet,
20 "	20 " Green,
25 "	25 " Slate-green,
50 "	50 " Red-brown,
1 Rupee.	1 Rupee, Mauve,
2 Rupees.	2 Rupees slate-green,
5 "	5 " Blue,
10 "	10 " Solferino.

The Gazette des Timbres gives a 50 cent blue and 5 rupees brown, but having never seen them nor heard of them anywhere else, we do not place much reliance upon the report.

§ Foreign Bill.

Issued some time during the latter part of 1874. It would be well to make a point here by observing that the size of these stamps, and those of Antigua and the latest issues of Straits Settlements are e same, and the general design is the same. Very long vertical rectangle. Same profile as on the Stamp Duty set, to left in circle inscribed with the value in letters, in color on white ground. "Ceylon" at top, "Foreign Bill" at bottom, in white letters on colored ground. The space above centre is surcharged with "First of Exchange," "Second of Exchange" &c., the color of the surcharge is on some values a deeper shade than the color of the stamp, on others an entirely different color. Colored impression white paper perforated.

First of Exchange.

5	cents,	Green	Surcharge,	mauve,
10	"	"	"	deep green,
15	"	Blue,	"	violet,
30	"	Bistre,	"	deep bistre,
40	"	Mauve,	"	" mauve,
45	"	Lilac,	"	" lilac
60	"	Brick-red,	"	mauve,
75	"	Blue,	"	deep blue,

1 Rupee	20 "	Lilac,	" "	lilac,
1 "	50 "	Green,	" "	green,
2 Rupees	25 "	Rose,	" "	rose,
3 "	" "	Orange	" "	orange,

§ Warehouse Warrant.

Same general design as the Stamp Duty series. Inscription "Ceylon Warehouse Warrant," colored impression on white paper. Perforated.

1 shilling. Red-brown.

We describe the above stamp on the authority of the *Gazettes des Timbres*, we know nothing more than that about it.

British Guiana. As far as known there are two sets or series of revenues in this out of the way domain of Great Briain, viz;

Summary Jurisdiction.

Inland Revenue.

The first series supposed to have been issued in 1866. Figure of Justice with the motto "Fiat Justitia," and value in letters all in large oval band inscribed "Summary Jurisdiction—British Guaina." Numerals of value in small circles in four corners, colored impression on white paper. Perforated. Stamps all of same design, known values.

12 cents,	Orange,	60 cents,	Blue,
16 "	Green,	72 "	Vermillion,
24 "	Black,	96 "	Lilac,
f48 "	Deep-lilac,		

O the second series there appear to be all the values, perforated and unperforated, but as the latter are never seen cancelled, there is good reason for thinking them proof impressions palm tree in oval band containing value in letters. At the sides and at top and bottom, "British Guina—Inland Revenue. "Numerals of value in corners. Colored impression on white paper. Perforated (at least).

1 Dollar,	Black,	9 Dollars,	Yellow,
2 Dollars	Red-brown,	10 "	Violet,
3 "	Brown,	12 "	Orange,
4 "	Green,	16 "	Blue,
5 "	Grey,	20 "	Carmine,
6 "	Bistre,	30 "	Green,
7 "	Lilac,	40 "	Rose-lilac.
8 "	Ultramarine,		

Antigua. The stamps for this island are not many, but they form a very pleasing set when in fine condition. Date of emission unknown. Long verticle rectangle of same size as the ordinary Foreign Bill stamps of Great Britain. Profile of Queen Victoria to left in circle of Greek pattern. "Antigua," at top of stamp, "Stamp Duty" at bot-

tom, in white letters on colored ground. The spaces above and below the centre are surcharged with value in letters, in color upon ground of geometric lathe work. Colored impression on white paper, Perforated.

Surcharge—Deep Blue,
1, 2, 3, 4, 6 pence Blue,
Surcharge—Orange,
1, 2, 3, 4, 5 shillings. Blue.

Reviews of Philatelic Publications.

The Post Card Album.—New York, J. W. Scott & Co., 75-77 Nassau street.

We now have albums for Postage stamps, Revenue stamps, and Postal cards, the latter publication which completes the series being just issued. Ample room appears to have been provided for all cards, the list being unusually complete. In mounting, the cards are attached to the guards by means of narrow slips of gummed paper, so that both sides can be examined with equal facility, the pages between serving to turn them over without handling, and also to prevent the cards from rubbing together. The accessions to the work of the author are first class. The printing being of unusual excellence, and the paper superfine, by the way the representation of the Guatemala postal card on the title-page offers a convenient and appropriate place for the owner to write his name and address. The binding is very neat and strong the cover being adorned with a *fac simile* of the beautiful Newfoundland card stamped in gold.

The First Steps in Art of William Mulready, the Designer of the Postage Stamp.

ALL the household work was done earlier that day than usual, the steps whitened, the knives cleaned, the frugal dinner served, the dishes washed and tastefully arranged, to the glory of Sarah Jane's pattern of a kitchen, and Sarah, in clean apron and cap, congratulated herself on a long, quiet afternoon, to be devoted to hemming and darning, and all the countless odds-and-ends of a thoroughly busy housewife; she was sure she would enjoy herself, free from interruption, for it was too late now for those "little plagues of artists to come banging at the door, pulling the bell, and muddying the steps"; for Sarah's master, himself a sculptor and Royal Academician, was in the habit of giving sage advice and valuable counsel to youthful aspirants in art, and consequently causing the only drawback to Sarah's otherwise easy place; and indeed, it must be confessed that the litter made by these young students, who never by any chance rubbed their shoes on the mat, and who always walked into the mud with characteristic carelessness, was enough to make Sarah denominate them "little plagues."

But there was no fear of any of them coming now; it was long past their time. The kettle was filled and on the fire, the work-box was open, and the stockings were undergoing the process of examination —cunning, indeed, must have been the hole or tear that escaped Sarah's keen sight; a fracture at last rewarded her patient scrutiny, so threading a needle, and gloving her hand in the foot of the ailing hose she began to darn; hardly had the bright steel disappeared in the fabric, when a ring came to the bell—a loud ring, a peal, in fact; one of those rings that obliges the operator to pull the handle out to its full stretch. Now, if there is one thing more disagreeable than another, it is a ring of this sort; for, independent of the danger of spoiling the spring, the bobbing of the bell, and the prolonged clamor, are especially annoying to a quiet mind.

"Whoever can that be? Why can't they come at decent time? Pretty steps I shall have now! Whoever pulled the bell like that will not be particular about their shoes!" So said Sarah as she proceeded to open the door; but what words shall express her dismay, when, standing on the steps, with folio under his arm, and a roll of drawing-paper in his outstretched hand, appeared a "plague," quite a new one, after the usual time, too, and, yes, the muddiest of shoes, it was altogether too much for Sarah; and, contrary to her custom, she decided, without informing her master, on sending the "chap" off. "How dare you come making a dirt and noise here? Be off with you? Do you hear? Don't stand there, but go, when I tell you." The boy stood quite still; he was not afraid, neither was he impudent, but seemed as he did not quite understand her, which enraged Sarah the more, and there is no doubt she would have given him what she termed the length of her tongue, but, suddenly, footsteps were heard in the passage, and she silently made way for her master. "What is it, my little man?" "Sure, I want you to get me into the Academy, if you please, sir, ?" "Time enough for that but let me see what you can

Come in," and in he walked, without appearing conscious of Sarah's annihilating look. "Ah," said her master, after a glance at the contents of the folio, "plenty of time for the Academy; *try again*; now go back to your home, make another drawing of this figure, and come to me in a month." The little student gathered up his works, and bowing with native grace to the kind gentleman, promised to attend to his instructions, and left the house once more to Sarah.

That day month the sturdy ring came again; Sarah received the little fellow rather more graciously, and ushered him into her master's presence. "Oh," said he, bestowing more attention on the drawing, and marking the boys anxious face, "this is much better: but you must *try again*! See if you can make a better drawing than this.

Students in art must not mind work." "It's not the work that will frighten me, sir," said the lad, and away he trudged, to return in a week, this time. "This is, indeed, an advance," said the surprised Academician: you must come into my studio and work there. By-the-way, you have, not yet told me your name; what is it?" "William Mulready, sir." "Then, William Mulready, attend to me; always strive as you have done lately, and your name will be an honored one, indeed; but mind, never leave off *trying again.*"

All the artistic world knows how true these words of Banks, the sculptor, have proved.

William Mulready was admitted a student at the Royal Academy at fourteen years of age, and became an Academician at thirty. He was born in Ireland in 1786, and died in 1863. He was noted as a painter of figure-subjects.

Clippings.

SAMOA ISLANDS.—In the event of his most gracious majesty Malietoa, king of the Samoa Islands, bestowing postal facilities on his people, we may know what to expect in the way of stamps from the following description of his seal: "It is about twice the circumference of a twenty-dollar gold-piece, bordered with a crown on top, surmounted by cross, by the side of which two cocoanut trees shake their stately branches. Below the crown is something in the shape of a Freemason's apron, with a star representing the islands, and a Bible open beneath the star. In a serpentine form below these are the words, *O lau afioga o lou Malamalama lea* (O Lord, thy word is my light). Finally, within the border, beneath all, is inscribed, "Malietoa I." The national seal is the size of the King's seal. Within the upper double border are the native words, *O Paimua ma le malo o Samoa* (the Parliament and people of Samoa(. A crown is beneath, surmounted by a cross, which is just above a sort of parallelogram containing a bird hatching its young, a cross, an anchor, and a palm tree. On the sides of the parallelogram are two natives, one robed in his nakedness, except the lava-lava, signifying the past, and the other dressed in American costume, as if delivering a stump speech, signifying the future. Below these, in serpentine form, is the Latin quotation, *Omnia ad Dei gloria* (all praise to God). The figures 1873, with stars on either side, finish the work. The seals are imposing in appearance, and are reputed to have tickled immensely the native fancy."

Answers to Correspondents.

F. H. B.—Philadelphia. *The Coin Collector's Journal* is devoted entirely to numismatic matters, it is published by J. W. Scott & Co.

The Plimpton Envelopes.

By C. H. C.

(*Continued from* Vol. IX. *page* 171.)

In my previous papers under this heading, I have chronicled the Plimpton Envelopes as they appeared or were discovered month by month. Consequently the information has been somewhat scattered, and it is with a view to presenting a complete list in a compact form that the present supplementary article is written.

The Types issued by the Plimpton Manufacturing Co. will be found described in the last volume of the JOURNAL, as follows :

One Cent,	TYPE A.	page 108.	Seven Cents,		page 110.
	" B.	" 108.	Ten Cents,	TYPE A.	" 121.
Two Cents	" A.	" 109.		" B.	" 121.
	" B.	" 109.	Twelve Cents,		" 111.
	" C.	" 109.	Fifteen Cents,		" 111.
Three Cents,	" A.	" 110.	Twenty-four Cents,		" 111.
	" B.	" 110.	Thirty Cents,		" 111.
Five Cents,		" 105.	Ninety Cents,		" 112.
Six Cents,		" 110.			

MINOR VARIETIES.

One Cent. TYPE A.	*Var.* 1.	Lobe of ear visible.
	" 2.	Lobe of ear not visible.
Two Cents. TYPE B.	*Var.* 1.	The inside of the o of POSTAGE is defined by a single line.
	" 2.	The centre of the o is filled by the engine turned pattern which forms the frame.
Five Cents. *Var.* 1.		The only point of difference is in the formation of the figures 5. In *Var.* 1, they are short and thick, in *Var.* 2, they are a trifle longer and thinner.
" 2.		

SIZES.

Note Size,	(No. 1.)	Extra Letter Size,	(No. 5.)
Ordinary Letter Size,	(No. 2.)	do. Ungummed,	(No. 6.)
Full Letter Size,	(No. 3.)	Official	(No. 7.)
do. Ungummed flaps for circulars,	(No. 4.)	Extra Official,	(No. 8.)
		Wrappers,	(No. 9.)
Commercial Size,	(No. 4½.)		

PAPER.

The following are the qualities and colors as distinguished by the P. O. Department, together with the designations more generally applied by collectors.

First Quality.	"White."	
	"Amber," corresponding with	"Lemon" or "Straw."
Second Quality.	"Cream," " "	"Salmon" or "Flesh."
	"Fawn" " "	"Chocolate."
Third Quality.	"Blue,"	
	"Dark Buff," " "	"Orange" or "Gold."
Manila.	"Light Buff," (for wrappers.)	

The "Fawn" and "Blue" are peculiar to the Plimpton Envelopes, having never previously been used by the U. S. Government. When Mr. Reay had the contract "Amber" paper of the "Third Quality" was used, but I cannot find that it was ever employed by the Plimpton Co. The "Cream" paper varies greatly in shade, sometimes closely approaching the "Fawn."

KNIVES.

With the exception of "Full Letter," only one knife (i.e. shape of envelope) exists for each size. In "Full Letter", however, three knives are known, the difference being in the flap, which from being quite pointed at first, has now become decidedly rounded, after having passed through an intermediate state.

The Manager of the Plimpton Works, says, that these differences are liable to occur whenever a knife happens to get broken, and result from the notion of the maker of the new pattern.

LIST.

Mr. Freeman's list of U. S. Envelopes (up to the issue of October, 1870) published in the JOURNAL a few years ago, ended with Reference Number 322. I therefore take 500 for my starting point, leaving the intermediate numbers for use in chronicling discoveries made since Mr. Freeman's list appeared.

In the column of "Remarks," the abbreviations "ob." and "cur." stand for "obsolete" and "current" respectively.

The following signs are also used:

* To indicate "*var.* 1" of the type referred to.
† To indicate "*var.*" 2.
‡ To indicate both varieties.
? Probably exists, but has not yet come under my notice.

Reference Number.	Size.	Denomination.	Die.	Color of Paper.	Remarks.
500.	Note.	3c.	A.	White.	ob.
501.		3c.	B.	"	cur.
502.	Ord.Let.	1c.	A.*	White.	ob.
503.		1c.	A.*	Amber.	ob.
504.		1c.	B.	White.	cur.
505.		1c.	B.	Amber.	cur.
506.		2c.	A.	White.	ob.
507.		2c.	A.	Amber.	ob.
508.		2c.	B.*	White.	ob.
509.		2c.	B.‡	Amber.	ob.
510.		2c. brown.	C.	White.	ob.
511.		2c. brown.	C.	Amber.	ob.
512.		2c. red.	C.	White	cur.
513.		2c. red.	C.	Amber.	cur.
514.		3c.	A.	White.	ob.
515.		3c.	A.	Amber.	ob.
516.		3c.	A.	Cream?	ob.
517.		3c.	B.	White.	cur.
518.		3c.	B.	Amber.	cur.
519.		3c.	B.	Cream.	cur.
520.		3c.	B.	Blue.	cur.
521.	Full Let.	3c.	A.	White.	ob.
522.		3c.	A.	Amber.	ob.
523.		3c.	A.	Cream.	ob.
524.		3c.	B.	White.	cur.
525.		3c.	B.	Amber.	cur.
526.		3c.	B.	Cream.	cur.
527.		3c.	B.	Blue.	cur.
528.		5c.	*	White.	cur.
529.		5c.	*	Amber.	cur.
530.		5c.	*	Blue.	cur.
531.		6c.	—	White.	ob.
532.		6c.	—	Amber.	ob.
533.		6c.	—	Cream?	ob.
534.		7c.	—	Amber.	ob.
535.		10c.	A.	White.	ob.
536.	Full Let.	10c.	A.	Amber.	ob.
537.		10c.	B.	White.	ob.
538.		10c.	B.	Amber.	ob.
539.	Fl. L.	1c.	A.†	Gold.	ob.
540.	Ungd.	1c.	B.	Gold.	cur.
541.		2c.	A.	Gold ?	ob.
542.		2c.	B.†	Gold.	ob.
543.	Com'l.	2c. red.	C.	Fawn.	ob.
544.		2c. red.	C.	Cream.	cur.
545.		3c.	B.	White.	cur.
546.		3c.	B.	Amber.	cur.
547.		3c.	B.	Cream.	cur.
548.		3c.	B.	Fawn.	ob.
549.		3c.	B.	Blue.	cur.
550.		5c.	†	White.	cur.
551.		5c.	†	Amber.	cur.
552.		5c.	*	Blue.	cur.
553.		6c.	—	White.	cur.
554.		6c.	—	Amber.	cur.
555.		6c.	—	Cream.	cur.
556.		6c.	—	Blue.	cur.
557.		10c	B.	White.	ur.
558.		10c.	B.	Amber.	cur.
559.	Ex.Let.	3c.	A.	White.	ob.
560.		3c.	A.	Amber.	ob.
561.		3c.	A.	Cream.	ob.
562.		3c.	B.	White.	cur.
563.		3c.	B.	Amber.	cur.
564.		3c.	B.	Cream.	cur.
565.		3c.	B	Blue.	cur.
566.		6c.	—	White.	cur.
567.		6c.	—	Amber.	cur.
568.		6c.	—	Cream.	ob.
569.	Ex.Let.	1c.	A.*	Gold.	ob.
570.	Ungd.	1c.	B.	Gold.	cur
571.		2c.	A.	Gold?	ob.
572.		2c.	B.†	Gold	ob.
573.	Official.	3c.	A.	Cream.	ob.

Reference Number.	Size	Denomination.	Die	Color of Paper.	Remarks.
574.	Official.	3c.	B.	Cream.	cur.
575.		5c.	—	Cream.	cur.
576.		6c.	—	White.	cur.
577.		6c.	—	Amber.	cur.
578.		6c.	—	Cream.	cur.
579.		10c.	B.	White.	cur.
580.		10c.	B.	Amber.	cur.
581.		12c.	—	White.	ob.
582.		12c.	—	Amber.	ob.
583.		12c.	—	Cream	ob.
584.		15c.	—	White.	ob.
585.		15c.	—	Amber.	ob.
586.		15c.	—	Cream.	ob.
587.		24c.	—	White.	ob.
588.		24c.	—	Amber.	ob.
589.		24c.	—	Cream.	ob.
590.		30c.	—	White.	ob.
591.		30c.	—	Amber.	ob.
592.		30c.	—	Cream.	ob.
593.		90c.	—	White.	ob.
594.		90c.	—	Amber.	ob.
595.	Official.	90c.	—	Cream.	ob.
596.	Ex.Off'l.	6c.	—	White.	cur.
597.		6c.	—	Amber.	ob.
598.		12c.	—	White.	ob.
599.		12c.	—	Amber.	ob.
600.		15c.	—	White.	cur.
601.		15c.	—	Amber.	ob.
602.		24c.	—	White.	ob.
603.		24c.	—	Amber.	ob.
604.		30c.	—	White.	cur.
605.		30c.	—	Amber.	ob.
606.		90c.	—	White.	cur.
607.		90c.	—	Amber.	ob.
608.	Wrap'r	1c.	A†	Manila.	ob.
609.		1c.	B.	Manila.	cur.
610.		2c.	A.	Manila.	ob.
611.		2c.	B.‡	Manila.	ob.
612.		2c. red.	C.	Manila.	ob.
613.		2c. brown.	C.	Manila.	cur.

Revenue Stamp Department.

Edited by W. L. BROWN.

UNITED STATES.—When the second issue of United States revenues was in use, a part of this issue consisted of the set of six values of the proprietary, and this set was considered complete, but it seems a higher value was prepared, but not put in circulation, owing to the small demand for so high a value. But lately it has been put in use, and now appears to be a portion of the new proprietary. Only a few have been seen. This is the

10 cents green on pink tinted paper. The six cents of the new issue is now out. Design similar to the lower denominations.

6 Cents ultramarine on green paper.

STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.—At least the following classes of stamps are known (according to their inscriptions:)

§ 1. Receipt.
§ 2. Revenue Stamps.
§ 3. Foreign Bill.
§ 4. Marine Policies.
§ 5. Judicial Stamp.

The first class,

§ 1. Receipt.

Comprises but two stamps. The first is really provisional being one of the receipt stamps of India, surcharged with the requisite value. Large rectangle. Profile of Queen Victoria to left, in circle, "Government of India" at top, "Receipt, Bill, or Draft" at bottom, "One Anna," at each side. Colored impression on pink tinted paper. Perforated. This stamp is surcharged at top with a crown, at bottom with value in words.

Three cents lilac, surcharge carmine.

In the same year (1867), the proper dies were prepared and a specially designed stamp appeared. Same size as preceding. Profile of Queen to left in arched frame. "Straits Settlements," in curved label above. "Receipt," at left, "Stamp" at right, and value below in words. Colored impression on white paper Perforated.

Three cents. Lilac.

§ 2. Revenue Stamp.

Issued in 1874. Long vertical rectangle. Profile of Queen to left in circle inscribed "Straits Settlements." "Revenue" at top, "Stamp" at bottom in white letters on colored ground. Space above centre occupied with value in figures, that below with it in letters, and all surcharged in color differing from that of the stamp. Colored impression on white paper. Perforated.

Carmine, surcharge black.

5, 10, 15, 20, 25, 30, 50 & 60 cents.

Blue, surcharge black.

1 & 2 dollars.

The revenue stamp catalogue of J. W. Scott & Co., gives these additional values:

40, 70, 80 & 90 cents.

Reasoning from analogy, we should presume they exist, but they need confirmation.

§ 3. Foreign Bill.

Date of emission unknown. Same size as and general design similar to the preceding set. "Foreign Bill," occupies the place of "Revenue Stamp." Rectangular frames above and below centre surcharged with value in different color from that of the stamp. Colored impression, on pink tinted paper. Perforated.

9 cents.
18 "
50 "
9 dollars

} Lilac, surcharge red.

This latter value I have only seen surcharged "specimen," but, doubt not it exists, and probably many others in the set.

§ 4. Marine Policies.

Date unknown. Long horizontal rectangle. Profile of Queen to left in circle inscribed "Straits Settlements." At top "Marine Policies" in white letters on colored ground. The remainder of the stamp is a ground work of very fine checkers, and the value is surcharged on the left of the centre in letters, and on the right in figures.

8 cents,
12 "
16 "
24 "
10 Dollars. } Blue, surcharge mauve.

§ 5 Judicial Stamp.

Of this issue I can give no better description than that the stamps of it bear inscription "Judicial Stamp," and that at least two values are known.

10 and 25c. Violet and bistre.

HOLLAND.—In Moen's Catalogue, we find the following description and list of revenue stamps for the Netherlands. "Jan. 1870. Arms in color, in a circle, long rectangle (i. e. vertically), color upon white, (inscription Plakzegel').

15, 25, 50, 75 cents.

1, 1¼, 1½, 1¾, 2 florins, all gray and blue.

In our own experience we know nothing of the above stamps, they would answer well to the account we gave in the December number of the Journal, of the Surinam issue, leaving out the surcharge "Suriname." But we have seen one value of a set that undoubtedly does belong to Holland. It differs in only two respects from the above mentioned Surinam, in the absence of the surcharged name, and the expression of value. It is,

5 Gl. Blue and Brown.

MAURITIUS.—One more value should be added to our list of December.

§3. Internal Revenue.

3 Shillings.—Bistre, surcharge mauve.

MEXICO.—Towards the close of the year 1874, the government of Mexico, adopted adhesive revenue stamps. A list of them was published in J. W. Scott & Co.'s Revenue Stamp Catalogue, but as the *colors* given there are not entirely correct, and as there is a new series out for this year, we think it advisable to give a good description, with correct colors, values &c.

Issue of 1874—1875.

Series A.—Large vertical rectangle ($1\frac{25}{32}$ x $1\frac{3}{8}$). The stamp is

divided into two unequal compartments, the upper and larger one, containing portrait of Hidalgo in circle with motto, "Independencia y Libertad." In curved labels, above "Estados Unidos Mexicanos." The lower compartment is occupied by a frame or *cartouche* with ground of waved lines. In this frame, at the time of cancellation, is indented the name of the town or city where it is used. Between the two compartments, at left and right respectively are the dates "1874," and "1875." At each side we read "Para documentos y libros," at top "Renta del Timbre," and at bottom the value in letters. Also numerals of value in circles in upper corners. All of the same design Colored impression on white paper. Perforated.

1	Centavo.	Brown.	50	Centavos.	Red-brown.
3	Centavos.	Violet.	1	Peso.	Blue.
5	"	Red.	5	"	Lake.
10	"	Green.	10	"	Black.
25	"	Orange.			

A 2 Pesos violet has been reported but it does *not exist.*

Series B.—Size 2 $\frac{3}{8}$ x 1 $\frac{13}{16}$ inches. Same general design as above. The centre contains however, profile of Jose M. Morelos, to right. The inscription is "Para Confederacion Federal." Colored impression on white paper. Unperforated.

1	Centavo.	Carmine.	1	Peso.	Green.
5	Centavos.	Black.	5	Pesos.	Blue.
25	"	Maroon.			

Issue of 1876.

Series A.—Stamps of quite small size, not much larger than the ordinary postage stamp. (1$\frac{1}{4}$ x $\frac{7}{8}$ inches). Same profile of Morelos to right in oval. This oval occupies the greater part of an inner rectangle, the upper corners of which have the date "1876." Below the oval is "E. Unidos Mexicanos." At each side of stamp "Para documentos y libros." At top "Renta del Timbre," and value in letters, also numerals of value in small ovals. The space at bottom is left blank for same purpose as described above Colored impression on white paper. Perforated. Only one value have we met thus far.

5 Centavos. Brown.

Series B.—Yet to be heard from.

A History of Postage Stamps.

BEING A RESUME OF THE DESCRIPTIONS OF ALL KNOWN STAMPS AND THEIR VARIETIES.

For the Beginner and the Amateur.

BY OVERY TAYLOR.

Continued from page 181, Vol. IX.

HELIGOLAND.

Red is the Strand,
White is the sand,
Green is the band,—
These are the colors of Heligoland.

And red, white, and green, are the colors of the stamps of the little "rabbit-warren" off the German coast, which though an English possession, contains probably not a single English inhabitant, except the governor. Its stamps bear the profile of the Queen, but are fabricated at Berlin, and their denominations are expressed in the Hamburg currency.



Heligoland, or Holy Land, is a sandy patch about a mile long, and never more than half that distance broad. There are about 390 houses on the high ground, and 78 fishermen's huts in the lower part. There are 2000 people on the island, and "no end" of rabbits. The Heligolanders, besides postal communication and other proofs of high civilization, can boast of a "national" debt of £5000, and until a few years back, of a number of highly popular gambling "hells," which were summarily suppressed by the governor.

The exportation of fish brings in about £10,000 a year, and yields a livelihood to the fishermen, whilst the people in the high town derive their means of subsistence from the visitors, of whom there are a great many from Hamburg and its environs.

The island became a British possession in 1807. A short time ago it was reported that Prince Bismarck had his eye on it, and that the government intended to cede it to Germany for a consideration, the negotiations, however, if any were really opened, dropped through, and at present there is no reason to doubt but that the stamps which form the subject of the present paper will long remain current.

The series as originally issued consisted of four values,—½ sch., 1 sch., 2 sch., and 6 schilling. The design is the same for all, but in the printing the changes were ingeniously rung on the traditionary colors,—red, white and green,—as follows:—

Colored Lettering on White Ground.

½ schilling, central oval, green; spandrels, rose; border and lettering green.

1 schilling, central oval, rose; spandrels, green; border and lettering rose.

White Lettering on Colored Ground.

2 schilling, centre and spandrels, green; ground of frame and corner figures, rose.

6 schilling centre and spandrels, rose; ground of frame and corner figures, green.

The issue took place on the 15th April, 1867. All four values were rouletted. The type is printed in two operations, one for each color, there being separate dies for the border and the centre; and the first supply was rouletted. The green employed was a rich chrome-green, and the rose might, perhaps with more accuracy, be termed carmine. The profile of the Queen is in relief, and some attempt seems to have been made to impart an appearance of maturity to its lineaments.

In 1869 the ½ sch. made its appearance perforated and printed in a delicate light-green of an emerald tint. In 1871 the 1 sch. was likewise issued perforated.

In July, 1873, two new values were issued, these were of the same general type as the first set, but the angles being left blank detracted considerably from their appearance.



¼ schilling, head on green disk; red frame; white letters.

1½ " , head on red disk; green frame; white letters.

For some unexplained reason the color of the ¼s. was changed in December, and a new value issued.

¼ schilling, head on red disk; green frame white letters.

¾ schilling, head on red disk; green frame above and below, red frame at sides white lettering. All these were issued perforated.



The adoption of the new German coinage in the island was made the excuse for issuing an entirely new set of stamps which made their appearance in March, 1875. The original design and colors were retained but the inscriptions were contained in oval, instead of square frames. In an artistic point of view, they are about equal to the second set, and appear to be the work of the same engraver. The only noteworthy feature of the set consists in the values being given in two different currencies, (English and German,) and the peculiar ideas of arithmetic which appear to be entertained by the postal authorities.

Colored Letters on White Ground,

1 farthing,	1 pfennig,	green disk;	frame	red.
2 "	2 "	red, "	"	green.
3 "	5 "	green, "	"	red.
1½ pence	10 "	red, "	"	green.

White Letters on Colored Ground.

3 pence, 25 pfennig, green disk; red frame.
6 " 50 ", red " ; green "

ENVELOPE STAMPS.

Of the solitary envelope which accompanied the last set of adhesives there is but little to say. The stamp is of the same design as the adhesive of like value, but is only printed in one color on plain white paper.

1½ pence 10 pfennig, rose.

POST CARDS.

The first post card, was issued in 1873. It is an unstamped badly printed brown card, with the arms of England in centre. HELIGOLAND POST-OFFICE, at each side, below POST CARD, POST–KARTE. To (an) At the right side is a square marked off containing the words "Affix Stamp Zum Aufkleb der Freimarke," below are four lines, and with " in " between: the whole is enclosed with a rule border; black on brown card. Next year, we find a new variety, in which some improvements were made. The border was left off, six lines given for the address, and the printing much neater; black on pale orange.

The German Empire, having abandoned unstamped for stamped cards with the 1875 issue. Heligoland must needs follow suit, accordingly we find a new card accompanying the adhesives, and of the same design, but printed in one color. The inscription, which is in black reads. HELIGOLAND POST-OFFICE, POST-CARD, POST-KARTE. To (AN) IN. four lines, are provided for the address.

3 Farthings, 5 pfennige green stamp; black inscription; pale buff card.

Stamps viewed from an historical stand-point.

Read before the "Société Française de Timbrologie," by M. de Bosredon

TRANSLATED BY WILLARD K. FREEMAN.

In Italy, the war of 1866, effected a counter blow upon the existing postage stamps. Those of the kingdom of Italy, replaced those of Austria in Venetia, and moreover the Italian government, in order to care for the interests of the people, emitted fiscal stamps bearing the value of both the Austrian and Italian money. (Decree of October 20th, 1866, fixing the suppression of the Austrian stamps from the 1st of the following November). At last, the necessity of providing for the cost of the war, obliged the Italian government to augment its taxes by means of its stamps, which occasioned modifications in those in use;—proportional, dimensional, legislative, passport, control, and registration stamps. In September 1868, Spain became the theatre of a brisk revolution, which overthrew the Queen Isabella II. The stamps bearing the engraved head of the Queen remained in circulation, but

by virtue of the decision of the revolutionary assembly of Madrid, (September 30th), they were struck (in Madrid) with the surcharge, *Habilitado por la Junta revolucionaria*, which characterized the interreign. In several other provinces and in the colonies, an analogous mark was used : *Habilitado por la Nacion.* In 1870, the surcharged stamps were replaced by a new emission, which portrayed the symbolical figure of Spain. November 16th, 1870, the duke of Aoste, second son of Victor Emanuel, was elected king of Spain, by the Cortes, and took the name of Amadeus I. When the stamps then in use were exhausted, they issued (October 1st, 1872), a new series with the effigy of Amadeus for the Continent, and the same effigy on the arms of Spain, bearing above all the cross of Savoy, for the colonies. But the duke of Aoste abdicated before long; the Republic was proclaimed and a civil war broke out. Don Carlos, appealed, as representative of the male succession of Phillip V to his lawful rights, occupied several of the northern provinces, took the title of Charles VII. and organized a government which, to the present time has struck no money, but has issued several postage stamps (1874). On the other hand, the shield of Savoy disappeared from the stamp emitted by the republican dictatorship. New stamps specially prepared for the collection of war taxes (*Impruesto de guerra*) appeared to witness the dissensions of which Spain, is now the theatre (January, 1874).

So the interreign, the ephemeral enthroning of the dynasty of Savoy, the republican government and the competition of the Carlist branch, are successively represented by the series of Spanish stamps, while waiting for the reign of young Alphonso XII. to take place.

In 1870, still greater events occurred, war was declared between France and the North-German confederation, to which the states of Southern Germany soon joined; the Empire was overthrown the 4th of September. The stamps bearing the effigy of Napoleon III. remained in circulation for a while in spite of the warning of the new government to discontinue their use after November 1st; they were obliged even, to continue their temporary *fabrication*, and certain specimens with the imperial effigy, differing from past stamps of the same value, in the tint of the paper used, belong really to the republican government and constitute a distinct series. The national government however created with all possible haste, a new issue of stamps, the type of the Republic. The provisional factory at Bordeaux emitted lithographed stamps; while in Paris, use was made of the plates that were employed for the issue of 1849-51. The first mentioned postals, were put into service October 15th, 1874. At the same time, the siege of Paris, called into use the *Dépêches-réponses*, (September 9th 1870) and the *cartes par ballon monte.* On their side, the Germans emitted for the correspondence of soldiers with their families,

officially franked cards and envelopes, called *Feldpost Brief* (1) *and Feldpost corrsepondenz karte.* The occupation of Alsace and Lorraine involved, by the end of August, or early in September, the creation of special stamps, by which Prussia intimated in advance, her intentions to disunite these two provinces. January 18th, 1871, the king of Prussia was proclaimed Emperor of Germany, and new stamps bearing the arms of the Empire replaced those of the confederation, (15th December, 1871). Of all the German states, Austria, Bavaria, and Wurtemburg only, retained their own particular stamps; the grandduchy of Baden affirmed its adhesion to the supremacy of Prussia, by abandoning its own stamps and adopting those of the Empire of Germany. At last, in 1874 and 1875, the uniform monetary system adopted by the empire, closed the difference that had existed between the northern and southern states, and a new issue, of which the *mark* of the Empire is uniformly employed, carries the unity of Germany, one step farther.

It is to be noted, concerning France, the suppression of the journal stamps in consequence of the abolition of such duties, (September 5th, 1870); of the telegraph stamps (April 1871), of which a large number of sheets fell into the enemy's or private hands; the substitution in the fiscal stamps of new types from those of the effigy of the Emperor or the imperial escutcheon; the execution of new postage stamps for the colonies (1872), with the type of the republic. Further, the obligation to pay the war indemnity, place the French government under the necessity of repairing its existing taxes, and these financial measures were transferred either by changes that correspond to augmented duties (proportional stamps), or by new fiscals, (receipt, bill, bill-of-lading, copies-of-summons, match, chicory, candle, and other stamps).

It only remains to mention:

In 1868, the creation of stamps for the united colonies of British North America, under the name of *Dominion* of Canada, and the suppression in consequence of the new organization, of those of Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and British Columbia. In 1868 and 1871, special stamps were issued for the kingdom of Hungary and the *military confines* by consequence of the newly established political administration attending the compromise of 1867, between Austria and Hungary.

In 1870, the suppression of the stamps of the pontifical states, owing to the occupation of Rome by the Italian government.

This summary review will suffice, we trust, to confirm what was stated at the outset, of the historical value of stamps. The amateur can study them in their relation to art, as many of the vignettes offer, by the happy composition of the design and the perfection of the en-

(1) The envelopes *Feldpost Brief* had already been employed by Prussia during the campaign of 1866.

graving, the most perfect models. The administrator can draw from this ingenious application of paper-money to the collection of duties and taxes, precious information in relation to the financial organizations of different countries. But seen from a truly scientific standpoint, stamps furnish, before all other official instruments, generally issued by states and circulated by virtue of the authority and under the guarantee of public rights, authentic historical documents and proofs.

Newly Issued Stamps.

NEW SOUTH WALES.—At last the large square shilling stamp of this colony is to be superseded, by one of De la Rue's stereotyped styles. Queen's head to left, (if they would only turn her round it would be something), NEW SOUTH WALES above, ONE SHILLING below in curved lines, POSTAGE at each side. The color will most probably remain the same.

PORTUGAL, AZORES, MADEIRA.—Three new values have lately been issued by Portugal, for home and colonial use. The design is the same as the current set, of which we annex an engraving.



The colors and values are:

15 reis brown, 150 reis blue, 300 reis violet.

The colors being the same as the 20, 120 and 240 reis, we think it probable that they are intended to replace these values, which would leave the set (especially if the 80 was superseded) more symetrical.

HOLLAND.—Has issued a pair of stamped envelopes, printed from the same die as the adhesives.

The colors and values, are:

5 cents pale blue, 12½ cents pearl grey.

BAVARIA.—Unfortunately through relying on outside statements we made an error in chronicling the colors of these stamps last month.



Adhesives.—The colors are:

3 pfennig yellowish green, 20 pfennig ultramarine.
5 " bluish green, 25 " bistre.
10 " red, 50 " red.
2 marks orange, same type as old one mark.

Unpaid letter stamps.—Same as regular adhesives, surcharged in red, VOM EMPFANZER ZAHLBAR.

3 pf. grey, 5 pf. grey, 10 pf. grey,

Design same as the adhesives with post-horns in place of numerals in upper circles.

Post Cards.— 3 pfennig yellowish green, on buff.
5 " bluish green, "
Reply Card.— 5 " †5 pfennig bluish green on grey.
Wrapper.—3 pfennig yellowish green, on bluish paper.
Envelope.—10 " carmine.

JAPAN.—We have only a news band to chronicle, from here this month, hope to do better next issue. The stamp is oval, printed in red, value 2 5rin mons, ($\frac{1}{4}$ cent.)

BELGIUM.—The color of the international post card is to be changed from black to green. Amateurs who wish to complete their collections of cards, must look out unless they wish to have to pay high prices for some varieties, as constant changes are being made. Newspaper bands bearing stamps of 1c. 2c, and 5c. value same design and colors as adhesives, are in course of preparation.

BAHAMAS.—The penny stamp is now printed in vermilion.



MEXICO.—"Porto de Mer" stamps of the value of 2c. 60c. and 75c. have just turned up. We lately sent money to Vera Cruz, for these stamps, and had it returned with the information that they had never been seen there.

FRANCE.—It was reported that the new stamps would be ready by the 20th January. They have not, however, made their appearance, and it is doubtful whether they will do so for some time yet, as I observe it stated in a French daily paper that an accident happened to the die whilst it was being tempered. A new card has been issued, differing only in its inscriptions from its predecessor The legend is that which appeared last October in the *Journal Official*, when a copy of the front of the card was given for the benefit of printers, and the public generally, to whom the right of printing the cards themselves was then accorded. The inscriptions simply indicate that the rate for France is 15 centimes, and that for the countries with which the exchange of cards is authorized it is either 15c. or 20c. according to destination. In other words, a card from Boulogne to Paris, for instance, costs 15 centimes ; and the card may be sent for *the same price* to St. Petersburg or Cairo ! Outside the border is the date of the impression, *Novembre*, 1875. The last edition of the old cards bears the date 7-75 in the same place. *A. S. & Co., Circular.*

Correspondence.

New York, De'r. 16, 1875.

EDITOR "AMERICAN JOURNAL OF PHILATELY."
Dear Sir.

There are two very rare ("Reay") United States Envelopes, that I have never seen mentioned in any list.

The first, is the ordinary 3c. stamp an *official* sized envelope, on white paper. The only one I quoted in my last article,—"The Stamped Envelopes and Wrappers of the, United States," was on *salmon* paper. It now appears, that several boxes were printed on *white*, and issued to the public.

The second novelty, is the same 3c. stamp, "Reay" die, printed in *brown* ink (same shade as the 10c. of the issue), struck on *white* envelopes, size $3\frac{1}{4}$ x $5\frac{1}{2}$. These are decidedly unique, the writer having only met with two or three copies and being himself the fortunate possessor of one, and this information is not given from hearsay. It will be remembered that the previous issue contained the 3c. stamped envelopes, also printed in *brown* ink, so the fact that some of the "Reay" issue were emitted in that color, is not suprising.

Yours Faithfully,

Willard K. Freeman.

Clippings.

The Paris Correspondent of *Appleton's Journal* speaking of the new stamps being prepared for France, gets off the following:

A small but significant fact: M. Leon Say, the Minister of Finance, has suppressed the female figure representing the French Republic on the postage-stamps and coinage of France. The competition for the new designs for the postage-stamps closed yesterday. Among the drawings submitted were several very amusing caricatures. One joker sent in an admirably-drawn figure of *Punch*, and another a very elaborate drawing representing M. Thiers in the garb of a Roman emperor. This new issue of stamps will occasion fresh worries and expense to the ardent devotees of that passion dignified by the name of *Philately* and otherwise known as postage-stamp-collecting. Does any one know the symptoms and varieties of this mania: how valuable a complete set of the stamps used in the government departments of the United States are; how there is a stamp used in the isle of Reunion whose value in Paris to a collector is one hundred francs (twenty dollars); how there is a regular exchange carried on once a week at the corner of the Champs-Elysees and the Rue de Marigny, etc., etc.? And can any one suggest a remedy for this fever which is at once exhausting and expensive? We pause for a reply.

It would appear that our old friend Dr. Blackie, has been posting the *Banner* from the following:—

Philately.—This comparatively new science or scientific pastime has a number of votaries in Nashville at present. The term is new and is applied to the collection of postage and revenue stamps of the

various nations and issues of the world. The large number of existing varieties gives both an uncertainty and a mild excitement to the pursuit. Two or three ladies are numbered among the collectors.

CANADA.—The 5c. slate has just been issued, reduced in size to correspond with the other values of the set. This is as we expected the old die prepared in 1868, was only used while a new one was in preparation.

Answers to Correspondents,

F. E. P.—Philadelphia, we are sorry that we are unable to spare space for your letter as we heartily concur in your remarks. *The Philatelist's* article on the trial, can be accounted for on two hypotheses, first the hatred felt by the publishers for the people of this country hence their delight in poking fun at the ignorance of the judge, and second in the fact that the case was reported for it by Smith's friend S. A. Taylor, which accounts for the peculiar construction put upon the case and convenient forgetfulness in regard to the closing scene. Unfortunate that the Continental Magazines are without confidential friends in this country; very.

A. P. Boston.—We noticed M. de Bosredon's, left handed complaint at the publication of his article in our pages. We are inclined to think however that he simply wished to call the attention of his friends, to the fact that we considered his article worth reprinting. It reminds us of a letter a somewhat celebrated English author wrote to the *London Times*, complaining of a biographical sketch of him which had been published in an American paper. This was evidently intended as a delicate hint to English papers to do the same, for he must have known that if he had not noticed it no one in England would ever have seen or heard of it. It is a pity clever men should be so conceited.

J. B. St. Louis.—Unfortunately the *Stamp Collectors Magazine*, has been discontinued so if your ideas of Philatelic Journalism has been modeled by that excellent paper, you must give up the thought of subscribing to the other paper you mention. A. Smith's circular, is perfect as far as it goes, you had better content yourself with that and the JOURNAL.

Philatelist Detroit.—The newly issued post card album, will meet your wants exactly ; Mr. Coster's celebrated collection is contained in one.

Stampist, Salem.—You can purchase nearly any post card, that has ever been issued from our publishers.

Advice to those about to Collect.

BY THE REV. E. BRISCO EAREE.

It requires a long apprenticeship to philately before a man can give *good* advice to those about to collect; and I feel somewhat diffident in putting myself forward as an instructor of beginners, seeing that it was not until 1862 that I joined the ranks of the philatelic army. I am aware that there are very many amongst us whose connection with our favorite pursuit dates considerably further back than this; but as I have taken very great interest in all things in any way bearing on the subject, I venture to give my experience for whatever it may be worth.

And first of all, as to

The Beginner

himself. He must be patient and persevering, else he will soon get tired of collecting. He must not be afraid of a little trouble, else he will never *know* anything about philately. His stamps and album must never be touched, except with clean hands, otherwise they will soon become soiled and dingy. He must be without prejudice, yet not too ready to copy any idea unless he sees that it is really a good one. And he must be suspicious of "great bargains." The dealers know as well as he does (and better) the proper market value of all stamps, so that the tempting bait of a "great bargain' generally means a "great swindle." I can assure the reader that I have paid pretty dearly for the experience which prompts this last piece of advice; and my forgery-book now contains many "stamps" which, at the expenditure of much schoolboy cash, once figured proudly amongst the genuine ones in my collection.

Now, when the beginner has got a handful of stamps, his first thought generally is

THE ALBUM.

In the great majority of cases, our first album is a present, so that we cannot be said to choose it ourselves. But I think the beginner cannot too soon accustom himself to do things properly,—and therefore should suggest that he *begin* with a blank album; i. e. one without ready-drawn spaces for the stamps. I do not deny that an album with the spaces for the stamps ready drawn and numbered, &c., is a great help to the beginner; There are many different sorts of albums, and it is no easy task to say which is the best. My own albums were made by Moens, of Brussels; they are made of a thick grey paper; one side only being used for the stamps, the other side covered with tissue-paper fastened at the edges only. By this means, the stamps do not touch each other, and the tissue-paper prevents their being too much

flattened. The leaves are fastened in by brass screws, passing through two eyelet-holes in the margin (which is jointed, and has tape beneath the paper) so that, in a few minutes, a leaf can be removed, or placed in a different part of the book. In mounting the stamps, I measure the spaces I intend to allow for the stamps, and put a faint-dot where a stamp comes, so that all the stamps can be truly placed, without the *modus operandi* being seen. Another amateur, whose collection I have seen, arranges his stamps on loose sheets, which are to be bound when complete;—the sheets being, meanwhile, kept in a sort of cabinet or box. His sheets are folios, and the stamps are mounted on them *lengthwise*, so that the books, when bound, will look like gigantic Lallier's albums. My own sheets are square. Before choosing his album, the beginner ought to see that the paper of which it is composed does not readily stain. If a spot of gum happens to touch my sheets, it leaves a mark which is very hard to take out. This is a great defect, and arises, I fancy, from the paper being altogether unsurfaced; so that I should recommend a slightly surfaced paper to be chosen.

MOUNTING.

It is my firm opinion that there is only *one* way of mounting stamps which is likely to give entire satisfaction. Unfortunately, it is a little troublesome, and therefore has not yet become universal. I will endeavor to explain it as clearly as possible. The stamp is hinged, by a piece of tissue paper, on to a piece of white foreign letter-paper (or other thin white paper), somewhat less than the stamp in size. Three tiny dots of gum are put at the back of this piece of paper, which is then placed in position in the album. The advantage of this plan of mounting is, that the stamp, being hinged, can readily be turned up for inspection of the watermark and other peculiarities; and the date of issue and any other things worthy of notice can be written on the white paper to which it is hinged. Then again the stamp is very easily moved when mounted in this manner, which is no small advantage. I do not hinge the stamp directly on to the white paper (which I will call the *back*, for the sake of clearness), because the paper is too thick. I do not use tissue-paper entirely for the back, because we cannot write on tissue-paper. Therefore I use both :—tissue-paper for the hinge, and foreign letter-paper for the back.

And now I will try to explain my *modus operandi* on the large scale. I cut the tissue-paper into strips of about ¼in. wide, and any length. Then I get my stamps; and (after removing any paper from the backs of them, mending them with tissue-paper, if torn, &c., &c.,) I draw the gum-brush across the top of the stamps at the back, taking care not to gum more than an eighth of an inch in width. I then gum the stamps side-by-side along the edge of the strip of tissue-paper; and when I

have thus filled up one edge, I proceed to fill the other edge in the same manner; for this width of tissue-paper serves for two *hinges*. When the gum is dry, I cut the tissue-paper in two, along the whole length, which leaves two strings of stamps, attached to each other by a very narrow strip of tissue-paper. Then I separate the stamps by cutting through the tissue-paper, which must be done a little obliquely, so that none of the tissue-paper may be seen when it is folded down to form the hinge. Then, taking my thin white paper for the backs, I cut it into strips a little narrower than the depth of the stamps, and gum the stamps on to the strips by their-tissue paper hinges. Then I cut the strip under each stamp slightly obliquely, so that it is not visible below the edges of the stamp. By thus doing a number at once, a large quantity can be mounted in a very short time. Now I got this method from Senor de Ysasi, so I don't pretend that it is my own idea. I used to mount my stamps by a large tissue-paper hinge only, but I found that the perforation, date of issue, watermark, &c., could not be written on the tissue-paper, because it always blotted.

GUM AND BRUSH.

I generally use the best gum-arabic, dissolved in cold water. Before the water is upon it, it should be examined, and all impurities removed, together with all very dark lumps of gum. The gum, as you buy it, should be as nearly white as it is possible to get it. Some people use the starch with which photographers mount their pictures, but I have never tried this. I have seen the dissolved india-rubber used, but the color is too dark. If the gum gets sour, there is only one thing to be done, and that is, to throw it away; as it will be sure to injure the colors of the stamps, if it is allowed to become sour. The brush should be small and soft. Let me try to impress it upon the reader that he cannot use too little gum; and the less he uses, the nicer his stamps will look. With regard to the fact that sour gum will change the colour of many stamps, I would point out that most of the *bleuté* stamps owe their peculiarity to sour gum. I know that this is the case, because I have succeeded in altogether removing the *bleuté* appearance by means of liquid ammonia, which neutralizes the acid in the gum.

CHOICE OF SPECIMENS.

This, I suppose, may be considered debatable ground. Of course I recommend my own practice; which is, to choose a very dark, a very light, and a medium shade of every stamp. Those who content themselves with one shade lose many interesting varieties. Let us take any common stamp,—say the 20 c. France, blue, imperforate. Now I see in my collection a very pale sky-blue copy, another of a medium shade of dull blue, and a rich dark indigo, approaching almost to black. I

should be very sorry to have to take out any of the three. However, I leave this matter to the individual taste of beginners, reminding them that, sooner or later, they will be sure to come across two or three shades of every attainable stamp; and therefore I would decidedly advise that, in mounting, there should invariably be left spaces for at least two shades of every stamp Torn, or very much obliterated stamps, do not look well, and had better not be put into the album at all. I never put in any damaged ones myself, unless they happen to be extremely rare; but a stamp that is torn can often be patched up with a little piece of tissue-paper.

REMOVING BACKS OF STAMPS.

I have tried many ways of removing the pieces of paper from the backs of stamps. Sometimes I have steamed them; but this very frequently spoils them, so I cannot recommend it. The simplest way is to float the stamp, face upwards, in a glass of cold water, and then, if you are careful, the face need not be wetted at all. If the face *must* be wetted, then be careful not to rub the face whilst it is wet, and it will not take much harm. Of course there are some stamps (present issue for Russia, for instance) which will not stand the water at all; and with these the utmost care must be used to avoid wetting the face. The original gum should be always carefully preserved. In some cases, as in 1st issue for Portugal, it is about the *only* difference between the originals and the reprints.

TRIMMING STAMPS.

This should always be avoided as much as possible. If the top edge of an unperforated stamp happens to be very crookedly cut, then a judicious application of the scissors is advantageous, but of course, in case of perforations, these must never be cut off. When I began collecting, I spoilt hundreds of stamps by trimming them, making both perforated and unperforated alike! In unperforated stamps, the wildest possible margin should be preserved.

EXAMINING WATERMARKS.

Very often the watermark on a stamp is not at all easy to see; but by looking alternately at the back of the stamp, and then *through* it, the watermark can generally be made out. Occasionally, the gum is so thick as to hide it entirely. Then, if the centre of the back be slightly moistened, and gently scraped with a knife, it will become visible. I should only recommend this plan when the watermark cannot be seen otherwise.

COUNTING PERFORATIONS.

There is a little instrument (invented, I believe, by Dr. Magnus)

which deserves mention. Take a visiting-card, and gum in the centre of it a strip of black paper about ¼ in. in depth, an exactly 2 centimetres in length. When a stamp is laid upon the black paper the denticulations can be very easily counted. As I write for the beginner, I would remind him that it is not the *whole* of the perforations in a stamp which are counted, but merely those included in a space of two centimetres. I know that there is some confusion in the minds of beginners as to this two-centimetre guage, so this explanation may not be thrown away.

ENVELOPES.

These are rather a bother. Let me recommend the beginner to accept none but entire specimens. My own feeling on the subject is so strong that I would not give threepence per dozen for the rarest cut envelopes. It must be remembered that half of the obsolete cut envelopes are reprints, and are cut so as to remove the witnesses against their originality in the shape of pattern, size, gum, &c. I keep my envelopes in boxes, in a dry place, and wait patiently for the system for mounting them,—Used and unused envelopes must not be placed together, else the unused ones will be soiled;—this applies to post cards also; and, in a less degree, to adhesives kept loose. Damp must be carefully guarded against, otherwise the flaps will stick down, and the envelopes be spoilt.

LOOSE ADHESIVES.

Until these are mounted, I find it the best plan to keep them in envelopes labelled with the name of the country, and put away in cigar-boxes. By this means they are kept clean, and they can soon be found when wanted. This method also keeps them flat, which is a desideratum. Stamps kept quite loose always curl up at the edges, especially unused ones, but they cannot do so, when put away carefully in envelopes.

FORGERIES.

These are the *bete-noire* of the beginner, who must make up his mind to be swindled now and then. Dr. Magnus's essay on the various modes of printing stamps, will be found very useful as an aid to the detection of forgeries for the beginner will please remember that almost all forgeries are lithographs, whereas comparatively very few genuine stamps are printed in this manner,—and Dr. Magnus's essay shows very clearly how the three methods of *taille-douce*, *epargne*, and lithograph printing are to be distinguished from each other. With regard to the purchase of stamps:—let this be only from well-known dealers, who have a character to lose, and who will never sell a forgery knowingly.

REPRINTS.

I think the dealers are not sufficiently candid on this point, because some of the most respectable ones have offered me reprints without naming them as such. The less the tyro has to do with reprints the better,—though Reunion, Bergedorf (1st issue), and some few others, may be accepted in default of the originals. My own plan is to accept the reprints *as* such, and to leave space for the originals, trusting that they may turn up some day.

ESSAYS AND PROOFS.

The beginner must use his own judgment as to his acceptance or non-acceptance of these. For my own part I care very little about them, and retain very few. At best their value is but dubious, and if any come into my hands I generally get rid of them. It is simply disgusting to see the lists of very doubtful essays, offered at a preposterous price, in any amount of different colors; and I fancy that many of the so-called "proofs" are merely proofs of the dishonesty of some petty under-officials. I have said that the beginner should be without prejudice; so, if I write more on this subject, the reader will think that I should apply that piece of advice to myself.

ARRANGEMENT OF SPECIMENS.

I think the countries should be arranged on the alphabetico-geographical plan, which seems to me to be much the best. For instance, take Europe, and arrange all the European countries and States in alphabetical order; then take Asia, and so on. And in regard to the stamps themselves, let them be arranged beginning with the earliest issue, and let each issue be arranged according to face value, beginning at the latest value. I think this plan will be found satisfactory in the end. At any rate, whatever system of arrangement be chosen, let the whole album be arranged upon that system, so as to secure uniformity.

CONCLUSION.

I hope, in conclusion, that the beginner will not be alarmed at the wide extent of his future studies, for he will find them grow upon him by degrees. I firmly believe that stamp collecting is most useful in many ways; for it improves most marvellously one's knowledge of contemporary history, of geography, of political changes, of the coinages of the various countries, and even in some slight measure, of languages. Some time ago, for instance, I was enabled to construct a table of most of the Chinese and Japanese numerals, entirely by a study of the stamps. And from the stamps alone the presence or absence of the decimal system of coinage, the dates of the sovereigns since 1840 or so and many other useful facts can easily be gathered. I am sure

that the money expended on albums and catalogues, &c., cannot be said to be wasted; and there are few hobbies which are so entirely devoid of evil, so entirely harmless, as our especial pursuit. If these few remarks of mine have decided anyone to begin a collection, my object in writing them will be quite attained: but by the way of final warning, I would remind all beginners (and this is really a piece of good advice) that they will never do much good in this or any other pursuit, unless they possess those two very necessary virtues Patience and Perseverance.

The Plimpton Envelopes.

By C. H. C.

For the Beginner and the Amateur.

For the benefit of collectors, who do not recognize the various sizes and shapes of envelopes, a

LIST

is herewith appended, prepared solely with reference to the several dies and the colors of paper on which they are found.

1c.	Die	A.	White.	2c. (Red.)	Die.	C.	White.
1c.	"	A.	Amber.	2c. (Red.)	"	C.	Amber.
1c.	"	A.	Gold.	2c. (Red.)	"	C.	Cream.
1c.	"	A.	Manila.	2c. (Red.)	"	C.	Fawn.
1c.	"	B.	White.	2c.	"		Manila.
1c.	"	B.	Amber.	3c.	"	A.	White.
1c.	"	B.	Gold.	3c.	"	A.	Amber.
1c.	"	B.	Manila.	3c.	"	A.	Cream.
2c. (Brown.)	"	A.	White.	3c.	"	B.	White.
2c. (Brown.)	"	A.	Amber.	3c.	"	B.	Amber.
2c. (Brown.)	"	A.	Gold?	3c.	"	B.	Cream.
2c. (Brown.)	"	A.	Manila.	3c.	"	B.	Fawn.
2c. (Brown.)	"	B.	White.	3c.	"	B.	Blue.
2c. (Brown.)	"	B.	Amber.	5c.			White.
2c. (Brown.)	"	B.	Gold.	5c.			Amber.
2c. (Brown.)	"	B.	Manila.	5c.			Cream.
2c. (Brown.)	"	C.	White.	5c.			Blue.
2c. (Brown.)	"	C.	Amber.	6c.			White.
2c. (Brown.)	"	C.	Manila.	6c.			Amber.

6c.		Cream	15c.	Amber.
6c.		Blue.	15c.	Cream.
7c.		Amber.	24c.	White.
10c.	Die A.	White.	24c.	Amber.
10c.	" A.	Amber.	24c.	Cream.
10c.	" B.	White.	30c.	White.
10c.	" B.	Amber.	30c.	Amber.
12c.		White.	30c.	Cream.
12c.		Amber.	90c.	White.
12c.		Cream.	90c.	Amber.
15c.		White.	90c.	Cream.

In my last paper the printer made the usual installment of errors, which I proceed to correct:—

575—5c. should have a *to indicate *var.* 1.
608—1c. " " * instead of †.
612—2c. " read Brown.
613—2c. " read Red.

In regard to Type A. of the 3c. envelopes, some recent developments have come to light which show that the Type in question, after a short existence in its *primitive* form, was "*retouched*," thus making two varieties.

The Type in its *original or primitive state* has only been discovered within the past month, and as the only cut copies have been seen it is impossible to give sizes &c. Hence I do not make any additions (by stars and daggers * †) to my list, but it must be remembered that all the "3c Die. A." therein given are envelopes impressed with that die in its "*retouched*" state; inasmuch as when I wrote that list the die in its *primitive* state was unknown to me.

The difference between the two stages of the die are very minute. In the primitive state the centre of the o of POSTAGE and the bowl of the G of the same word are both defined by a single line forming inner circles; but when the die was retouched the spaces were filled up by the engine turned pattern which composes the frame This engine pattern also shows some difference after the E of POSTAGE. In the primitive condition of the die the space after that letter is filled by diagonally crossed lines (four running each way), totally different from the continuation of the pattern under the figure 3; whereas, the retouched die shows the same *general* pattern preserved above and below the figure, though the design has not been well carried out so that two prominent spaces something like this—( )—are noticeable above the figure near the letter E

Next month I hope to b ing the Plimpton Envelopes to a close, by a few remarks on the War and P. O. Department issues.

A History of Postage Stamps.

BEING A RESUME OF THE DESCRIPTIONS OF ALL KNOWN STAMPS AND THEIR VARIETIES.

BY OVERY TAYLOR.

Continued from page 26, Vol. X.

HOLLAND.



The Dutch stamps, though far more numerous than those of Heligoland, present an equally clean record and consequently offer no difficulty whatever to the student. The first series was issued on the 1st January, 1852. It consisted of three values—5 c. blue, 10 c. lake red, 15 c. orange,—which are all very common. The design is simple, but well engraved. The stamps are below the average in size, and are water-marked with a post-horn. The only generally accepted variety is the 5 c. dark blue, which contrasts very decidedly with the ordinary light blue stamp. Mention, however, has been made of a jet-black 5 c. of which a postmarked copy has been seen. This cannot have been other than a specimen of the well-known proof in that color. M. Moens catalogues dark and light shades of the two other values, but these distinctions are rather fine.



The first series held on the even tenor of its way, without any change whatever, for rather more than twelve years, when the adoption of the system of perforation was made the occasion for the issue of a fresh type. The second series consisted of the same three values as its predecessor. The 10 cents appeared on the 12th of May, 1864; the other two denominations some months afterwards. The type is even more simple than that of the first. No attempt whatever is made at ornament, beyond the sketching of an almost imperceptible pattern on the oval frame. The colors differ only in shade from those of the corresponding values in the first issue, and collectors who have a partiality for color varieties may distinguish (as Moens does) a 5 c. blue and dark blue, a 10 c. red and bright red, and 15 c. orange-yellow and orange.



A third series was issued in 1867, consisting of six values, namely, the original three, and three higher denominations,—20 c. 25 c. and 50 c. The design is a more embellished one than that of the former types. The king's profile, which is very well engraved is turned to the left; a rather heavy border runs up the sides; and the name of the country—NEDERLAND—figures above the portrait. The colors are well chosen, and help to render the series an

effective one, viewed as a whole. Blue is again allotted to the 5 c. but this time it is bright ultramarine; the 10 c. appears in red and carmine-rose; whilst the 15 c. takes a reddish brown hue, approaching to "burnt sienna." Of the new values the 20 c. is a rich dark green, the 25 c. violet, and the 50c. gold.

In 1868 the advent of newspaper stamps was inaugurated by the



issue of the 1 c. black and 2 c. yellow, of the annexed type. The latter is still in use, but the 1 c. changed its coat in the following year, and appeared in a light, delicate green. In 1869, the 1½c. rose was issued, and in 1870 the ½ c. lilac-brown, and 2½c. mauve made their *début*.

Three different sizes of perforation were indifferently used for the 1867 series, but only one for the newspaper stamps. All the values of 1867 type, and also all the newspaper stamps, exist unperforated, and specimens are sufficiently numerous to admit of their being quoted at comparatively low figures in the leading continental catalogue; but no price is entered for obliterated copies, and it is permissible to conjecture that the unperforated issue was never even intended for sale to the public; they, therefore, cannot rank as "oversights," and are entitled to a very low rank as varieties manufactured only for the benefit of collectors. The 1 c. carmine-rose on bluish paper is, however, a genuine variety, and as it was issued in 1871, its currency was of short duration; it is, consequently, rather rarer than the ordinary stamps.



1872 the current series was brought out. It excited much admiration from its delicacy of execution, and is sufficiently well known to render description superfluous. It is merely necessary to observe that it comprises a stamp of which the facial value slightly



exceeds one dollar, and it may not be inappropriate here to remark that the Dutch cent is, roundly speaking, worth two French centimes.

UNPAID LETTER STAMPS.



Two unpaid letter-stamps of the annexed type made their appearance in 1870:

5 cent. Brown on orange.
10 " Violet on blue.

These stamps are perforated, but unperforated copies are known to exist.

POST CARDS.

The Dutch, though they have no stamped envelopes, possess those more generally useful innovations—post cards. In 1871 a stampless card was issued, but was soon followed by a card bearing an impressed 2½c. stamp, consisting of the central device of the newspaper type—arms in a circle, name above, and value below—in the upper right corner. Both cards are of a pale buff color, and the stamp, the ornamental frame, and the four-lined legend in the lower margin, are in lilac. In 1872, a second card was issued differing from its predecessor in the absence of the marginal legend and in the color of the impression, which is a reddish lilac. Of this latter type a "reply-paid" card was issued, consisting of two leaves folded like a sheet of paper, with the inscriptions for the "reply" half printed on third page. Shortly after the stamp on the card was made to conform in design to the new set of adhesives. These were printed in pale blue on buff cards both single and double. A kind of "post card" has been issued by a private society of commissionaires at Rotterdam, but it has really nothing whatever to do with any postal service.

ESSAYS AND PROOFS.

The name of the Dutch essays and proofs is legion. There are 700 varieties of one of the essay types, and proofs in all the colors of the rainbow of the adopted designs. Their value to a beginner, is *nil*, nor can they be of much interest to a collector, seeing that they merely prove the speculative tendencies of the engravers or printers.

Newly Issued Stamps.

GUATEMALA.—We are informed by an old correspondent that the official stamps noted by us, as in preparation a year ago, will shortly be in use; the series will consist of nine sets of five values each, the design will be the national arms, except in the case of those used by the Post Office Department, where the portrait of the president Don J. Rufino Barrios, will be displayed. This set will be accompanied by stamped envelopes of the same values as the adhesives. The shape of the stamps is the long rectangle, the same as employed for the unpaid series of Peru, and as they are the work of one of our bank note companies, and each stamp of a series is to be a different color, will doubtless be an elegant addition to our albums. We hope to be able to give engravings and a correct list in our next.

Every American will be pleased to see this new set of stamps, as it proves to him that there are other countries governed by the same class

of men who rule our own; "misery loves company." It is to be hoped that the Guatemala post office will condescend to supply collectors with cancelled specimens at face value and earn the everlasting gratitude of the stamp collecting fraternity.

DUTCH INDIES.—One of the values announced for this colony has come to hand, the design is the same as the others of the series—2½c. orange, another value 2c. chocolate is announced, and it is reported that the 15 and 25c. will be withdrawn from circulation.

INDIA.—We are informed that two new values 6 a bistre and 12 a. chocolate will shortly be issued for this colony. Perhaps as her Britannic majesty is about adding "Empress of India," to her other titles the worn out name of East India may be replaced by Indian Empire.

PERSIA.—Every few years we hear something about postage stamps being in use for this country and although we once received a few from outside and what we considered reliable sources, we have never been able to obtain authentic information concerning them. M. Moens chronicles the following values, and states that a new set are in preparation;

1 shaki black, 2 shaki ultramarine, 4 shaki vermilion, 8 shaki, green.

We will endeavor to get something definite to lay before our readers.

LUXEMBURG —Is to have two new post cards 10 c. for Belgium and 12½ for international use.

EGYPT.—Is about issuing post cards.

SIERRA LEONE.—The postal affairs of this colony are evidently administered by a wide awake official, as is proved by the issue of a half-penny stamp; the color of the new comer is pale brown, and as the design is pretty there will undoubtedly be an eager demand for it from collectors.

RUSSIA.—Two more Russian envelope stamps of the modified type are now before us, 5 k. dark violet, 20 k. dark blue.

VICTORIA.—Has lately issued a new penny stamp. The design is diademed head of Victoria to left in oval frame inscribed VICTORIA above, ONE PENNY below, 1d in circles in lower corners, circular ornaments above; color green.

CANADA.—The 10 c. stamp has lately been issued of a very bright carnation color, making a very decided variety.

TURKEY.—The new set of stamps for this country will be very similar to the present issue, the principal difference consisting in the surcharge and colors, if those now in use can be said to have any regular color. The new set will have the value surcharged over the crescent and star with the value in Arabic figures and Roman letters. The colors and values are as follow:

¼ piastre	mauve.	2 piastres	cinnamon.
½ "	pale green.	5 "	ultramarine.
1¼ "	flesh rose.		

Revenue Stamp Department.

Edited by W. L. BROWN.

UNITED STATES.—For some months we have known of many changes to be made among the proprietary stamps, but preferred to wait until satisfactory evidence, i. e., eyesight should convince us of their existence and correct colors. The following undoubtedly exist.

FRANKLIN MATCHES.

Above the word "Matches" is inserted the name "E. K. Smith." Color remains the same. 1c. blue.

F. ZAIS & Co.

This firm, formerly with the above firm, and now a separate concern, have a stamp for their own use. Three quarter face to right in circle. "F. Z. CO.," in monogram at each side. In curved labels above "U. S. Inter. Rev." and value. "One cent," below "F. Zais & Co." "Matches." Numerals of value in upper corners. 1c. black.

Dr. J. W. POLAND.

This stamp commonly known as "Poland's White Pine Compound," is now printed in green, and *perforated* in a rectangle. 4c. Green.

FAHNESTOCK'S VERMIFUGE.

In place of "Pittsburgh," read "J. E. Schwartz & Co.," and for "Pennsylvania," read "Pittsburgh." 1 c. maroon.

SWIFT AND COURTNEY.

Below the above address on the stamp, is "& Beecher Co.," in a similarly curved label. In the lower corners are "Wilmn." and "Del." in curved bands instead of straight ones. Color the same. 1 c. blue.

L. G. HUNT.

In this the firm's name has been altered to "Griggs & Goodwill." 1 c. black.

CROOK'S WINE OF TAR.

In place of "Oliver Crook & Co.," we find "N. Smith & Co." Otherwise no change. 4 c. black.

A. GOLDBACK.

This is the old stamp with the Co. left off 1 c. green.

KIRBY & SONS.

Evidently succeeded "B. J. & Co.," in business, as they now have their plate with the new name in place of Greenleaf & Co. The old surcharge being left off. 1c. green.

THE RICHARDSON MATCH CO.

Succeed D. M. Richardson in business as shown by the new plate. Colors same as before.

1c. black, 3 c. blue.

GREAT BRITAIN.—There are certain prominent nations, whose revenue stamps are somewhat difficult to understand, owing either to their vast number, complexity of surcharge, or other reasons. Such countries, are Italy, Spain and Great Britain. There is no one, probably, who possesses either a complete collection of or complete information concerning those of Great Britain, but there are perhaps a few issues or series that we may be able to throw a little light upon, and that is what we will try to do with that division of British revenues known as

Foreign Bill.

The first three issues are of the same design, with some exceptional particulars, and will therefore be described under one heading. Long vertical rectangle, ($2\frac{5}{16}$x$1\frac{7}{8}$). Profile of Queen Victoria to left, in oval band inscribed "Bill of Exchange. Drawn out of the United Kingdom," in white letters upon colored ground. Or it might more properly be said that the letters are in the color of the paper upon colored ground. In a frame at top "Foreign," at bottom "Bill," in white letters upon ground of diagonal colored lines, which, it is a curious fact, run to the *right* in all values below one pound, and to the *left* in all values above, space above centre occupied by the value in letters and that below by the same in figures and letters, in those denominations below one shilling. Those higher have it in letters below, in figures and letters above. Ground work of waved lines &c., colored impression on tinted paper. Perforated.

First Issue.

Moens gives date of this as 1855, but it must have been earlier as we have one cancelled Oct. 27th 1854. These stamps are found upon both green and lilac tinted paper. But the most noticeable peculiarity is the difference in type of the values in pounds, between those of this issue and those of the succeeding issues. In the second and third issues the value below is in *two* lines or more and of course in small letters, while in the first issue it is in *one* line of large letters ($\frac{1}{4}$ inch), for the values without fractions (one and two pounds), for the intermediate values (one pound ten shillings &c.,) the value in shillings is run right across the value in pounds. The entire stamp including the values is in one color, violet, for this issue.

Twenty-five values.

1 penny, 2, 3, 4, 6, 8, and 9 pence.
1 shilling, 1s.8d. 2s. 2s.6d.

3s. 3s.4d., (?), 4s., 5s., 6s.8d.
7s.6d., 10 and 15s. shilings.
1 pound, £1.10., £2. £2.5s.
£2.10s., (?), and £5 (?). The three values indicated with a (?) are the only ones we are not *certain* exist, though we have no doubt they do exist.

Second Issue.

Date unknown. It must have been within two or three years after the first, as we have one stamp cancelled March 5th 1857. This issue is also found on green and pink tinted paper. The principal difference between this issue and the first is the variety in type of the higher values, mentioned above, and the color of the *values* which is a bright red. Same values as in the first issue.

Third Issue.

This differs from the preceeding in the color only which is now *nearly* red. The color of the values is still a bright red. Only found on pink tinted paper. Same values.

Fourth Issue.

About 1871,—We have now an entirely new type, and two of them. One for the values in pence, the other for the higher ones.

First Type.

Small verticle rectangle ($1\frac{3}{16}$x$\frac{11}{16}$). Different profile of Queen to left in oval. In frame at top "Foreign," at bottom "Bill" in white letters upon solid colored ground. The value is placed in widely separated letters upon the edge of the oval. White ground. Colored impression on white paper. Perforated. Color, lilac.

1 penny, 2, 3, 4 (?) 6, 8,? and 9 pence.

Second Type.

Sub-type A.—Same size as first type. Same profile in rectangle which also contains the value in letters. "Foreign Bill" at top and bottomrespectively. Groundwork of fine lines. Colored impression in pink tinted paper. Perforated. Color violet.

1 shilling, 2, 3, 4, 5, 10 and 15 shillings.

Sub-type B. About the same as the above, the Queen's head, however, being in an octagon.

£1, £1. 10s., £2, £2. 10s., £5.

Fifth Issue.

Also about 1871. There are no values in pence for this issue, or if there are, they are those of the fourth issue unchanged. In fact the stamps of this issue can hardly be termed a separate issue, since it is only the higher values of the fourth issue with color changed to *green*.

1 shilling, 2, 3, 4, 5, 10 and 15 shillings £1, £1. 10s., £2. £2. 10s., £5.

URUGUAY.—This republic has had, so far as we know, two issues of

revenues, one series quite well known to collectors, the other making its first appearance last year.

First Issue.

1871.—To thoroughly describe the stamps of this issue would be almost impossible, seeing they are beautiful steel engravings from the *atelier* of the American Bank Note Co. Suffice it to say then that there are two types, the second being, however, the first enlarged, with a slight change of ornamenture. Both types then contain the arms of Uruguay, in an oval band inscribed "Timbre Nacional," and value in letters. At top "Republica Oriental," at bottom "del Uruguay." Numerals of value in circles in corners and just below centre. Colored impression on white paper. Perforated.

Type A. size $1\frac{3}{16}$x1.

20	centesimos.	Black.
50	"	Vermilion.
80	"	Green.
$1\frac{20}{100}$	"	Blue.

Type B. Size $1\frac{15}{16}$x$1\frac{1}{8}$.

2	pesos.	Orange.
3	"	Lilac.

2nd Issue.

Feb. 1st 1875.—The least said about the beauty of this issue, the better. Comparisons between them and the first issue would simply be —odious. In size the ordinary rectangle. Numerals of value in a circle inscribed "Timbre Nacional" and value in letters, occupy the centre. At top and bottom respectively, labels "Republica Oriental del Uruguay." The ground work is composed of the above inscription repeated many times. A rising sun and branches of laurel embellish the circle. Colored impression on white paper. Perforated.

10	centesimos.		Brown.	6	pesos	75 c.	Blue.
25	"		Black.	6	"	75 "	Red.
50	"		Red.	7	"	50 "	Brown.
75	"		Bistre.	8	"		Red.
1	Peso.		Ultramarine.	10	"		Green.
1	"	50 c.	Gray.	12	"		Rose.
1	"	75 "	Orange.	12	"		Blue.
2	Pesos.		Claret.	15	"		Yellow.
2	"	50 c.	Blue.	18	"	75 c.	Carmine.
3	"		Bistre.	20	"		Green.
3	"	50 c.	Green.	22	"	50 c.	Violet.
3	"	75 "	Violet.	25	"		"
4	"		Green.	30	"		Carmine.
4	"	50 c.	"	37	"	50 c.	Yellow.
4	"	75 "	Violet.	45	"		Green.
5	"		Lilac.				

Our Postal System.

NOTES OF OUR EARLY POSTAL HISTORY, BY JAMES REES.

"The Post Office is not properly a mercantile project. The government advances the expenses of establishing the different offices, and of buying or hiring the necessary horses or carriages, and is repaid with large profit by the duties upon what is carried."—Smith's "Wealth of Nations."

In the earlier period of our Colonial history communication between the parts of the country was a rare and a difficult undertaking. Individuals at a distance, having little inclination and less opportunity for such intercourse, were naturally satisfied with their limited means of communicating one with another.

Expresses and regular messengers were employed by the Colonists, and horses were kept in constant readiness, to start on a moment's notice, with letters or packets for the government as well as individuals. There was no established postal system but that which the exigencies of the times created. The post riders, or rather government messengers, ran frequent risks. Captain Hutchinson started July 4, 1665, sent by the government of Massachusetts, with letters constituting him commissioner to treat with the Narragansetts. The letter system failed to conciliate the tribe, as they had openly declared for Philip; and here we have to reverse Bulwer's popular expression that "the pen is mightier than the sword."

The Colonial forces marched into their country, and compelled them to sign a treaty. We have trusted too often to the pen for a settlement of difficulties. General Jackson found it necessary to use threats to enforce our claims on France. We therefore incline to the opinion that "the sword is mightier than the pen."

In 1676, however, the Colonial Court established a post office in Boston, appointing John Heyward postmaster. Heyward followed the system as established in England, and placed posts and made routes to the extent of the commercial interest of the State. This gave general satisfaction to those who were interested in this mode of communicating with men connected with them in trade, as also to others who had friends and relations scattered throughout what was then a thinly-populated State.

In the year 1700, Colonel J. Hamilton, of New Jersey, and son of Governor Andrew Hamilton, first devised the post-office scheme for British America, for which he obtained a patent and the profits accruing. Afterwards he sold it to the Crown, and a member of parliament was appointed for the whole, with a right to have his substitute reside in New York.

The first regular post-office established in the Colonies by Parliament was in 1710. That our readers may form some idea of the limited use of a post office at that period, it is only necessary to state the fact that in 1708 New York contained but one thousand houses. The great Trinity Church, so called then, was built in 1695. A library was established in 1700, and the post office, as above stated, in 1710. The post-horse system, such as was pursued in England, continued, nor was it until 1732 that the first stage route to Philadelphia, was established. Stages also departed for Boston, monthly, taking a fortnight on the route.

The following announcement is taken from the *Philadelphia Weekly Mercury*, dated November 30, 1752 .

"On Monday next the Northern Post sets out from New York, in order to perform his stage but once a fortnight during the winter quarter. The Southern Post changes also, which will cause this paper to come out on Tuesdays during that time. The colds which have infested the Northern Colonies have been also troublesome here; few families have escaped the same; several have been carried off by the cold, among whom was David Brentnall, in the seventy-seventh year of his age. He was the first man that had a brick house in the city of Philadelphia, and was much esteemed for his just and upright dealing. There goes a report here that the Lord Baltimore and his lady are arrived in Maryland, but the Southern Post being not yet come in, the said report wants confirmation."

The David Brentnall mentioned here built the first house made of brick in the city of Philadelphia. It was situated on Chestnut street, below Fourth (north side), and stood back from the street with a small garden in front. Letters between New York and Boston were, previous to the introduction of stages, conveyed on horseback. Madam Knight, in her journal, dated 1704, says that she was two weeks in riding with the postman as her guide, from Boston to New York. In most of the towns she saw Indians. In 1702, Mrs. Shippen, soon after her marriage, came from Boston to Philadelphia on horseback, bringing a baby on her lap. Even at a much later period the mode of traveling was still in a slow way, as may be seen by the following advertisement, which appeared in 1776:

"This is to give notice to the public that the stage wagons kept by John Burrowhill, in Elm street, in Philadelphia, and John Mersereax, at the Blazing Star, near New York, intend to perform the journey from Philadelphia to New York in two days; also to continue seven months, viz., from the 14th of April to the 14th of November; and the remaining five months of the year in three days. The wagons to be kept in good order, and good horses, with sober drivers. They purpose to set

off from Philadelphia on Mondays and Thursdays, punctually at sunrise, and to be in Prince-Town the same nights, and change passengers and return to New York and Philadelphia the following days. The passengers are desired to cross Poulass Hook to Prince-Town. ten shillings ; from thence to Philadelphia, ten shillings also ; ferriage free. Three pence each mile any distance between. Any gentlemen or ladies that want to go to Philadelphia can go in the stage and be home in five days, and be two nights and one day in Philadelphia, to do business or see the market days. JOHN MEVSEREAX.

JUNE, 1776. JOHN BURROWHILL.

Market days in Philadelphia at that period and long afterwards were great attractions to the country people, even apart from business. It was also customary to ring the bells of Christ Church on the evenings, previous to "market day," for the edification of the country people, who had learned to look upon them, or at least to hear their sound, as more or less identified with our independence.

New York, like Pennsylvania, has its primitive postal history. An independent post office was established in New York in 1775. It was suggested by William Goddard, the publisher of the Maryland Journal, and John Holt the printer, was appointed postmaster. The office was kept at Holt's printing office. There is one fact connected with this journal which tended greatly to strengthen the cause of freedom. The "Sons of Liberty," a popular association of Americans, were connected with this publication, and one of the first acts of its members was to send through this office threatening letters to the leading members of the Tory party. This association took the lead in political matters, and exercised a powerful influence over the masses.

The Western mail was carried from Albany once a week, in a valise, on the shoulder of a footman !

As late as 1810 there was only a weekly mail between Canandaigua and Genesee river, carried on horseback, and part of the time by a woman !

In 1730 notice was published to this effect : "Whosoever inclines to perform the foot post to Albany, this winter, is to make application to Richard Nichols, the postmaster."

The carrying of the mail between New York and Philadelphia, previous to the Revolution, was a very small matter; it was hardly an affair to be robbed. It was carried by a boy, who took the whole in saddle bags on horseback, three times a week. Next it was carried in a sulky ; next in coaches. What is it now ?

Pack horses were used for the purpose of conveying goods from Philadelphia to towns west, and business letters were not unfrequently trusted to the drivers. Pack horses afforded almost the sole means of transportation until about 1788, when the roads were made acces-

sible for wagons, and even then, when the first wagon made its appearance, at Carlisle, Pennsylvania, the "packers became greatly excited, and looked upon it as an improvement likely to ruin their trade."

In July, 1683, William Penn issued an order for the establishing of a post office, and Henry Waddy, of Tekonay (now written Tacony), authority to hold one, and to supply passengers with horses, from Philadelphia to New Castle or to the Falls. The rates of postage were as follows: "Letters from the Falls, 3d.; to Chester, 5d.; to New Castle, 7d; to Maryland 9.; and from Philadelphia to Chester, 2d.; to New Castle, 4d.; and to Maryland, 6d.;" The post went once a week, and was to be carefully published "on the meeting-house door, and other public places."

There being no other mode of public conveyance, except by horse, wagons and stages not being then established, the transporting of letters was of course, made by post horses. These were of the slow order, and conducted on that principle. It was not until 1756 that the first line of stages was established. The chief office was in Strawberry alley, at the sign of the "Death of the Fox." The stage, via Perth Amboy and Trenton, made its trip to New York in three days. John Butler was the proprietor, he having been set up in the business by the old Hunting Club to whom Butler had been huntsman and kennel-keeper. In the Weekly Mercury of March 8, 1759, we find the following quaint advertisement:

"PHILADELPHIA STAGE, WAGON, AND NEW YORK STAGE BOAT PERFORMS THEIR STAGES TWICE A WEEK.—John Butler, with his wagon, sets out on Mondays from his house, at the sign of the Death of the Fox, in Strawberry alley, and drives the same day to Trenton Ferry, when Francis Holman meets him, and proceeds; on Tuesday, to Brunswick, and the passengers and goods being shifted into the wagon of Isaac Fitzrandolph, he takes them to the New Blazing Star, to Jacob Fitzrandolph's the same day, where Ruben Fitzrandolph, with a boat well suited, will receive them, and take them to New York that night. John Butler, returning to Philadelphia, on Tuesday, with the passengers and goods delivered him by Francis Holman, will again set out for Trenton Ferry, on Thursday, and Francis Holman will carry his passengers and goods, with the same expedition as above to New York.

"MARCH 8, 1759."

The post office scheme of Colonel John Hamilton, alluded to, was well adapted to the wants of the Colonists. In 1717 a settled post was established, from Virginia to Maryland, which went through all the Northern Colonies, bringing and forwarding letters from Boston to Williamsburg, Virginia, in four weeks.

In 1727 the mail to Annapolis was opened, to go once a fortnight in summer, and once a month in winter, via New Castle, etc., to the Western Shore, and back to the Eastern Shore, managed by Mr. William Bradford, in Philadelphia, and William Parks, of Annapolis.

William Bradford established a press in Philadelphia, in 1687, the first fruit of which was a sheet almanac. It was entitled, "An Almanac for the year of the Christian Era, 1687; particularly respecting the meridian and latitude of Burlington, but may indifferently suit all places adjacent. By Wiliam Leeds, student in agriculture." Printed and sold by William Bradford, near Philadelphia.

A copy of this rare print is in the Philadelphia Library. William Bradford was then deputy postmaster; but, having proved negligent respecting his official accounts, was removed, and Benjamin Franklin was appointed in his stead. Colonel Spottswood was the Postmaster General, at whose instigation Bradford was removed.

Now commenced a new and important era in the postal department of our country, bearing date 1737. It was at that period, however, a very unimportant matter, but, in time, has become a gigantic institution. We look back to that period, now, with more interest, for two reasons—one is, to contrast it with the present, and the other, because the name of Benjamin Franklin is identified with the first great move in our postal history. Franklin assumed the deputy postmastership in 1737. Perhaps there is no portion of our postal history more interesting than that which characterized its early dawn. It presents a sort of political and financial struggle between trade, commerce, and a government. Franklin, however, settled the question by making it both a national and commercial feature. It is also interesting to note the difference between the movements of the public mail, in those old Colonial days, when its bags, at most but a few pounds in weight, were almost universally carried on horseback, and in these times, when it is speeded in tons by steam!

It seems as if the government imagined printers and publishers of newspapers the most capable if not the most reliable persons to be intrusted with the postal department. Thus we have shown that Holt, Bradford and Franklin were, without solicitation, appointed postmasters. Holt, however, established an independent office, but the people sustained him, we presume, because he was a printer and a publisher. It has frequently struck us that the press has never until lately, been properly regarded in the light of public benefactors, and should, in consequence be rewarded by the government. Those members, who, of late, have won for themselves high positions, owe it altogether to the press over which they had control. They made themselves heard in councils, and their theories of government and rule became the subject of Congressional discussions until many of them had been practically carried out. Perhaps there was not another

man in the Colonies better adapted for the postmastership than Franklin. He had been up to that period an active business man. He was a printer, editor, compositor, publisher, bookseller, stationer, and author—in fact, a modern Faust in the first, and a Matthew Carey in them all.

In 1738 Henry Pratt was made riding postmaster for all the stages between Philadelphia and Newport, Virginia, "to set out at the beginning of each month, and to return in twenty-four days. To him all merchants, etc., may confide their letters and other business, he having given security to the Postmaster General."

In 1744 it was announced that the "Northern post begins his fortnight stages, on Tuesday next, for the winter season."

In 1745 John Dalley, surveyor of the State, says that he "has just made a survey of the road from Trenton to Amboy, and has set up marks at every two miles to guide the traveler!"

In 1775 there was scarcely little improvement on this route. On this road, over which Franklin, the runaway apprentice, trudged in the rain in 1723, had, as late as 1775, a stake set up every two miles, to keep the traveler from going astray!

In 1763, on the death of the Postmaster General for America, Benjamin Franklin and Colonel William Hunter of Virginia, by a joint commission from the English Postmaster General, were appointed to succeed him.

In 1753 the delivery of letters by the penny post was first begun, and at the same time letters were regularly advertised. Letters from all the neighboring counties were sent to Philadelphia, and lay there until called for.

Franklin started a mail from Philadelphia, to run three times a week in summer to New York and Boston, and once a week in winter. To get an answer from Boston a Philadelphian had been obliged to wait six weeks. Franklin reduced the time to three.

The rate across the ocean was fixed at one shilling. Over a hundred years ago this price was established.

In 1774 Benjamin Franklin was very summarily dismissed from the office of postmaster. The letter from the Postmaster General stated simply, "That the King had found it necessary to dismiss him from the office of Deputy Postmaster General of America."

REASON.—The history of Franklin in connection with the events preceding the act of July 4, 1776, was of such a character as to render him obnoxious to a crowned head. The Colonies were in a state of incipient revolution.

Among the first acts of the first American Congress was to make Benjamin Franklin Postmaster General. Eighteen months had passed since his dismissal, when he found himself reinstated in office, with

higher rank and augmented authority. Nay, more, he was Postmaster General under a new ruling power—a power that was uprising, like glorious sun, from the mists and gloom of a long, dreary night of wrong and oppression. It was now the dawn of freedom—freedom to the white: and it was left to Abraham Lincoln, and the glorious people of the North, to give freedom to the blacks, eighty-eight years afterwards, a class who were held in bondage by men who had actually fought for their own freedom, and yet riveted chains of slavery on men entitled to the same results of that glorious event. That our government was to blame in permitting this curse to continue, until it caused a rebellion, there cannot be a doubt; but, when conciliatory measures failed to remove the evil, and the South determined to resist all attempts to suppress the extension of slavery, to suit their ideas and notions, of "negro property" slavery went down when rebellion rose. This curse will never more desecrate freedom's fair land, or demoralize one of the most delightful sections of our beloved country.

We shall close this long and, perhaps not very interesting article by furnishing some accounts of the early facilities of the Colonial post offices.

The locality of the Colonial post office is a matter of doubt, but, as nearly all the public departments were located in private houses, the presumption is that the post office under Bradford was at his printing office, as it subsequently was under Franklin, at his residence, corner of Second and Race streets. The first located building used for actual postal business was on the east side of Water street, below Market, the same house which had before been the residence of the Chief Justice. In 1791 the post office was at No. 7 South Front street on the east side. Robert Patton P. M. In 1793 it was removed to No. 36 same street, then the very centre of the trade und commerce of the city.

The past history of Philadelphia shows that the post office was but a minor consideration on the part of the historian, who attempted to speak of its institutions. Even those whose business it was to furnish statistics and local facts invariably overlooked the post office. A glance back through the vista of time presents to the mind's eye a panoramic view of the buildings which were used for postal purposes; and a more motley architectural picture scarcely ever presented itself to sight. From the time Benjamin Franklin had his office in a portion of his printing establishment to the present, we cannot find the department ever blessed with even a decent building for postal purposes, until the one now occupied for that special service was erected. So deficient, however, is this building, that it will soon give way for one which, for extent and grandeur, both in its design and facilities for the vast increase of the business, will not 'have its equal in the

world. The ground occupied for this building measures nearly two-thirds of a square.

In 1771 Benjamin Franklin kept the post office accounts, for three entire years, in a book which contained three quires of foolscap paper. This ancient document may be seen at the post office, at Washington, where it is carefully preserved in a glass case.

When the postal service of the Colonies began to assume a somewhat business form, other means to facilitate its operations were resorted to, and although some of these means were not immediately connected with the department, they were, nevertheless found to be highly advantageous to the community. As, for instance, letters arriving from beyond the sea were usually delivered on board the ship into the hands of persons to whom they were addressed. Families, expecting letters, would send messengers on board for the purpose of receiving them. Those that were not called for before the sailing of the vessel were taken to the "Coffee House," where everybody could make inquiry for them, thus showing that the post office did not seem to claim a right to distribute them as now. Persons, from adjacent settlements, called at the "Coffee House," and carried away not only their own letters, but all those belonging to their neighborhood. These were called "neighborly posts." As the trade of the Colonies extended, the system of letter delivery began to vary, and thus the "neighborly system" resolved itself into that of the "post rider."

We may be induced to say something more of the postal department; for, dry and uninteresting as the subject may at first sight appear, still it possesses far more interest than people are aware. It is not a mere commercial affair, but one that connects itself with the interest of every man, woman, and child in the country, whose business and sympathies are alike linked to its operations. There is not a country, or a spot of ground on the habitable globe where civilization, with its handmaid intellect treads, but is identified with this vast postal chain. Touch the wire at one end, and its vibration may tend to enlighten the land of the heathen. The wire has been touched for—

> From Greenland's icy mountains,
> From India's coral strand,
> Where Afric's sunny fountains
> Roll down their golden sand,
> From many an ancient river,
> From many a palmy plain,

come messages from our missionaries, who are endeavoring to extend the cause of Christianity, and which postal facility—the enterprize of civilized nations—affords.

A History of Postage Stamps.

BEING A RESUME OF THE DESCRIPTIONS OF ALL KNOWN STAMPS AND THEIR VARIETIES.

BY OVERY TAYLOR.

Continued from page 43.

HUNGARY.

ONLY a feeling of respect for Lord Strafford's brief but expressive motto, "Thorough," induces me to refer to the issues of this semi-independent country after the careful analysis to which they have so recently been subjected by "A Parisian Collector" in his interesting notes. I have only to refer to those notes to obtain the materials necessary for the description of the Hungarian stamps of which only a single series, properly so called, has hitherto been issued; but as the historical importance of postage stamps can never be overvalued, I need no excuse for drawing attention to the remarkable change in the Austrian political system which led to their emission. It will be in the memory of most of my readers that in 1848 a terrible insurrection, which was only put down after a bloody struggle, took place in Hungary. The Emperor of Russia sent an army to assist his Austrian ally, who would otherwise have been overborne, and the Austrian General Haynau made his name hateful by his severity to the conquered Hungarians. The aspirations of the Magyar people, however though crushed, could not be extinguished, and their smouldering discontent was a source of constant uneasiness to the Vienna cabinet. After the war of 1866, when Austria found herself excluded from the direction of Germany, and the empire appeared to be drifting into a state of disintegration, a different policy was inaugurated under the guidance of Count Beust. Conferences were held with the Hungarian leaders, and ultimately their demands for the recognition of Hungary as a separate state coupled with the revival of its distinctive institutions, and a separate administration, were granted. Hungary ceased to be an Austrian province, and became a kingdom. An Hungarian cabinet was formed, and, as a pledge and confirmation of the agreement, the Emperor of Austria was crowned King of Hungary at Pesth, in June, 1867, Among the many changes which followed this resurrection of a people came the establishment of a postal service, which bore fruit in the shape of a series of adhesive stamps in 1871; but as early as the 1st November, 1869, a post card for Hungary was issued, and a year before



that two journal-tax stamps—used for the same purpose as the square Austrian stamps, which have always been admitted into collections—made their appearance.

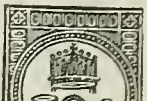


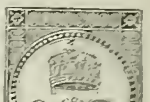
Taking, however, the adhesives first, the principal thing to note is the existence

of two series of the same type—one lithographed, the other engraved



The former, by reason of its brief currency is becoming rare. The difference in the appearance of the two is sufficient to ensure their being distinguished even by a tyro. Whilst the engraved type is remarkably





well done, and clearly printed in bright colors, the lithographed is blurred, dull, and comparatively indistinct.

The colors and values are as follows :—

LITHOGRAPHED.

2 kreuzers		dull orange.	10 kreuzers		blue.
3	"	light and dull green.	15	"	light brown.
5	"	red.	25	"	light and dark mauve

ENGRAVED.

2 kreuzers		rich orange.	10 kreuzers		blue.
3	"	green.	15	"	dark brown.
5	"	rose.	25	"	violet.

The set is accompanied by the usual Journal stamps and post card of the same design as the regular issue, with the exception of the corner ornaments which are left off.

Of the two journal stamps the one with mouth-piece of horn to right was first issued, and that with the mouth-piece of horn to left is now in use.

ENVELOPE STAMPS.

Shortly after the appearance of the adhesives, a post set of envelope of four values was issued viz., 1, 3, 5, 10 and 15 kreuzers, these were of the same design and lithographed. In 1874 the design was changed to conform to the new adhesives the values being 3, 5 and 10 kreuzers.

In 1874 these were supplanted by a new set having an envelope



bearing a numeral of value for the principal design with a crown above and post horn below. The engraving is very neat, and is shown to great advantage by the delicate tints employed. The set consists of only four values for letters.

2 (kreuzers)	violet.	5 (kreuzers)	red.
3 (")	green.	10 (")	blue.

Of the post cards, the first one, issued in 1869, might be taken for an Austrian ; the inscription is the same as on the first Austrian card —CORRESPONDENZ KARTE—and an impression from the die of the yellow 2 kr. Austrian adhesives figures in the upper right corner, but the arms are the Hungarian, and if any of my readers do not know them, they have only to put an Hungarian adhesive by the side of the

cards, and they will at once see if the shield is the same as that on the adhesive or not. The incongruity of an Hungarian card with German inscription being soon perceived, the first card was superseded by one inscribed LEVELEZESI LAP, which, however, differed in no other respect from its predecessor. Finally in 1870, a third card came out with the imprint of the 2 kr. Hungarian in the right upper corner, and the Hungarian inscription above given. Of this card two secondary varieties are known, and they complete the list of Hungarian issues.



ICELAND.

To the emission for this country it is only necessary to refer *pro forma*. It will suffice to give a list of thevalues and colors, and to reproduce the type.

2	skilling,	blue.
3	"	grey.
4	"	rose.
8	"	brown.
16	"	yellow.

OFFICIAL STAMPS.

(Same design, but different inscription).

4	skilling	green.
8	"	mauve.

IONIAN ISLANDS.

THE trio of Ionian stamps belongs to the early days of stamp-collecting. It is now several years since, on the cessation of the English protectorate, they were withdrawn from service, together with the English officials. All three values have now obtained a certain moderate degree of rarity, but the set will be found in all old collections. The colors are as follows:—



Orange	(1 obolus).
Blue	(2 oboli).
Carmine-red	(4 ").

The blue has a reversed figure 2 for watermark, supposed to have some reference to the value, and the red a figure 1, for which no explanation can be found; whilst the orange is destitute of watermark. This series of stamps will certainly give rise to no difference of opinion or exercise of judgment in circulation. M. Berger-Levrault, it is true, reported the existence of blue stamps which appeared to be without watermark, but his conjecture has never been confirmed, and not even M. Moens has succeeded in discovering a noteworthy variation of shade; hence this series does not boast of a single "variety" of perforation, color, or paper, and philatelists of all classes can accept it without difficulty in its entirety. The stamps have never been reprinted; not

improbably the dies were destroyed in 1864, when the occasion for their employment ceased; and I have never even seen it stated by whom they were engraved. The type is very simple but very carefully executed, and the fine border-pattern reminds one of the English penny. Of forgeries there are plenty, but all I have seen are coarse lithographs. which could not "hold a candle" to the genuine impressions.

Newly Issued Stamps.

CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.—Our boy readers will be pleased to hear of the addition of a half-penny stamp to the series used by this colony. The design is the same as the current set; color slate.

SHANGHAI.—The two low values chronicled by us some time since are now accompanied by three new values, making the set as follows:

1 candareen orange. 6 candareens green.
3 " rose. 9 " blue.
12 candareens brown.

Design same as last set.

GUATEMALA—is the first country on this side of the Atlantic to issue reply postal cards. The two cards are joined together at top and fold backwards one having the word REQUESTA in script letters just above the lower border.

FINLAND.—Two envelopes of the same design as the adhesives have just been issued. Colors and values—

20 pennia blue. 32 pennia rose.

GREAT BRITAIN.—The fourpence stamps have now come with colored letters in white corner.

PHILIPPINE ISLANDS.—We have just seen the 12 c. mauve of the type pictured (Alfonso) last year.

Revenue Stamp Department.

Edited by W. L. BROWN.

UNITED STATES.—Among the private proprietary, we find first the Alexander's match stamp had its color changed from orange to blue, and then the word "Alexanders" struck out, and "J. W. Eisenhart's" inserted, thus we have

Alexander's 1 cent, blue,
J. W. Eisenhart's 1 " "

The pink stamp of B. & N., (Brockett & Newton,) now reads "the Clark Match Co." Same color.

1 cent, pink.

The star stamp of "E. R. T." is now used by the firm of "Ives & Judd."

1 cent, green.

"Aetna Match Co.," has had "F. Mansfield & Co.," put on the stamp in place of "Ziseman, Griesheim & Co."

1 cent, blue.

"Griggs & Scott," have transferred their business to "G. W. H. Davis."

1 cent, black.

The "Orono Match Co.," is altered to "Allen & Powers."

1 cent, blue.

Among the medicine, McMunn's Elixir instead of "S. B. & D. Sands," reads "M. P. J. & H. M. Sands," the numeral "2" instead of "1," and "50 cents," instead of "25 cents."

2 cents, green.

BUENOS AYRES.—This far off country has just issued a set of revenues, of which only one value has thus far come to us. The stamp in shape is an upright rectangle, and in size $1\frac{1}{16}$x$\frac{3}{4}$ inches. In a circular band inscribed "Provincia de Buenos Aires," is a portrait of Rivadavia.

In label above is "1876;" in a curiously shaped frame below the value. Numerals of value in small circles in each corner. Colored impression on white paper. Perforated.

1 peso, lilac.

We understand that a series of them is to be issued to the value of $80, or about 2000 pesos.

GERMANY.—The revenue stamps of Germany may be properly divided into two eras, the first belonging to the North German Confederation, and the second to the German Empire.

North German Confederation. Issue of 1868. Horizontal rectangle. ($1\frac{1}{8}$ inches x$\frac{7}{8}$). Numeral or numerals of value with value in words in oval band inscribed "Nord Deutscher Wechsel Stempel" above, and "Groschen" below. Groundwork consists of "Nord D. Wechsel Stempel," repeated many times. Coats of arms in each corner. Colored impression on white paper. Value in black, stamp in lilac. Perforated.

Sixteen values.

Groschen.—1, $1\frac{1}{2}$, 3, $4\frac{1}{2}$, 6, $7\frac{1}{2}$, 9, 12, 15, $22\frac{1}{2}$, 30, 45, 60, 90, 150 & 300.

German Empire.—Issue of 1871.—Differs only in the color, and the substitution of "Deutschel Wechsel Stempel" for "Nord Deutschel Stempel." Color blue. This series of course supplanted the above, and were themselves removed to make way for those having the value in marks and fractions.

Same values.

Groschen.—1, 1½, 3, 4½, 6, 7½, 9, 12, 15, 22½, 30, 45, 60, 90, 150 & 300.

Issue of Jan. 1st 1875. Stamps of the same size as the preceding and have a similar appearance. Value in marks or fractions of marks, in oval band inscribed "Deutschel Wechsel Stempel," and the word "mark" repeated. Imperial arms in small circle below. Similar groundwork to first series. Colored impression on white paper. Value and arms in black, remainder of stamp in lilac. Perforated.

Sixteen Values.

Marks: 0.10, 0.15, 0.30, 0.45, 0.60, 0.75, 0.90, 1,20, 1.50, 2.25, 3.00, 4.50, 6, 9, 15, & 30. Besides the series we have been describing, there was issued in 1871, a set of two stamps only, used for premiums.

Issue of June 8th, 1871. Vertical rectangle, ($1\frac{3}{16}$x13-16 inches.) The design which is very plain, consists mainly of a long oval band inscribed "Reichs gesetz vom 8. Juin 1871. Stempel fur pramien anleihen." The centre is occupied by the value, for example, "5 Groschen oder 17½ Kreuzer." Colored impression on white paper. Value in black, stamp in color. Perforated. Two values.

5 Groschen or 17½ kreuzer. Green.
10 " " 35 " Orange.

SPAIN.—The receipt stamps of Spain are very interesting to consider, as a different one is issued every year, similar to the postal emissions. We propose to describe those we know of, from the present as far back as we can find them. The first therefore is the

Issue of 1865.

Small rectangle. Profile of Queen Isabella II. to left in circle. It is represented in color upon dark background. "Recibos" in curved label above, value in similar label below. Border of chains. Colored impression on colored paper. Unperforated.

50 cents. Blue on yellow paper.

Issue of 1866.

Long horizontal rectangle ($2\frac{1}{4}$x$\frac{15}{16}$ inches.) Profile of Queen (different) to left in circular band, inscribed above "Recibos," below with value and date. Border of foliage. Blank space at each side of centre. Colored impression on white paper. Unperforated.

5 cs. de es. Lilac.

Issue of 1867.

Small rectangle. Same profile as in stamp of 1865, to left in circle, in white on dark background. "Recibos" above in straight label, value below. Ornamented corners. Colored impression on white paper. Perforated.

5 (cinco) cent, de Eo. Lilac.

The next three years the stamps were of the same design, so they will be described under one heading.

Issues of 1868—1869—1870.

Small rectangle. Numerals of value in rectangle on ground of dots and lines. "Cincuenta" at left, "Milesimas" at right, "Recibos" at top, date at bottom, in white on diagonal lines of color. In corners "L. M. D. E" (Fifty milesimas de Escudo") in color on white. Colored impression on white paper. Perforated.

Issue of	1868.	50	Milesimas.	Lilac.
"	" 1869	50	"	"
"	" 1870.	50	"	"

From 1871 to 1875 they were all of the same design.

Issues of 1871—2—3—4—5.

Small rectangle, design *very* similar to above. Numerals of value on ground of lines only. Same numerals also in corners. "Doce cent." at left, "de Peseta" at right, "Recibos," at top, date at bottom, in white on solid ground. Colored impression on white paper. Perforated.

Issue of	1871.	12	cents.	Lilac.
"	" 1872.	12	"	Magenta.
"	" 1873.	12	"	Green.
"	" 1874.	12	"	Red.
"	" 1875.	12	"	Blue.

Issue of 1876.

This is an entirely new design, that is for the receipt stamps. Small rectangle. Arms of Spain the same as we saw during the reign of Isabella, and comprising those of Castile, Leon, Grenada and Bourbon, occupy almost the entire stamp. A narrow space at top bears "Recibos-1876," and value below.

12 cent de Peseta. Blue.

At the Centennial.

From our Philadelphia Correspondent.

As the time approaches for the opening of the great exhibition it reminds me of my engagement to keep your readers posted in regard to all that is doing in connection with philately at the great show. Philatelists are probably aware through the public press that the government intends to establish a post office here, this is to occupy a separate building and all the stamped envelopes used at the exhibition will be manufactured in the building. The stamp is of a novel design, somewhat similar to the Mulready envelope and will represent the different modes of conveying the mails from 1776 to 1876; a postal card will also be issued and most likely will be of the same design. The government is also

preparing to exhibit a complete set of stamped envelopes and I believe a collection of foreign stamps if it can be made presentable, but of this more in my next. J. W. Scott & Co's. case has arrived and is unpacked with the stamps partly arranged, but they are not sufficiently visible for me to give a synopsis at this date, so a list of the rarities it contains must be deferred to my next letter. The case is of solid black walnut with plate glass sides and stands about 15 feet high. It is so arranged that it can be inspected from three sides, and presents a space of about one hundred and twenty-five square feet, all closely covered with stamps, postal and revenue, foreign and American, many of which are very rare and not a few positively unique. I understand that its former owner refused one thousand dollars for seven stamps. The entire collection is marked for sale and doubtless will soon be sold, and the diligent labor of years be wasted to enrich other albums. I must conclude this short letter with a promise of a longer one next month, when more material will be on hand, at present the building is one gigantic heap of packing cases in various stages of opening ,and the floors a mass of busy workmen climbing like ants over and around the products of the world. July '76.

LIVE ANIMALS BY POST —The arrangements of the Post Office are in some respects inimical to private enterprise, and it was but the other day that a person residing at some distance from Dantzig, having been requested by the proprietor of a menagerie in that town to forward two hares to his address, found himself confronted by a postal regulation forbidding the transmission of live animals by post. It then occurred to him to chloroform the hares, carefully calculating the dose in order that they might remain in an insensible condition until delivered. But the train was late, the parcels were verified, and laid aside in the sorting room to be sent out next morning. Accordingly, a sorter entered the room at dawn, went through the letters and parcels, and missed "108, two hares." He looked for them high and low, but in vain. Their disappearance seemed inexplicable; the lock of the door was intact, the window barred, and the whole staff unanimously declared that parcel of game was there the night before. As thebewildered sorter again looked round the apartment, one of the hares shot by him, followed by the other, on the back of which the post office stamp at D—— was plainly visible; both darted out at the open door. This was too much for the nerves of the sorter, who almost fell to the ground in astonishment, and the thought of the spectral hares would long have embittered his lonely hours had not the proprietor of the menagerie called to inquire after the expected consignment, and explained the circumstances. It is needless to add that "108" and his companion have not been seen since there hurried exit from the Dantzic Post Office.—*Pall Mall Gazette.*

A History of Postage Stamps.

BEING A RESUME OF THE DESCRIPTIONS OF ALL KNOWN STAMPS AND THEIR VARIETIES.

BY OVERY TAYLOR.

Continued from page 43.

ITALY.

The last emission for Piedmont—or as it is generally, but, to my mind, erroneously termed, Sardinia—remained in use for some time after the assumption by Victor Emanuel of the title of King of Italy; but in the present paper it will I think be preferable to treat only of the stamps on which the change of title and extension of territory are indicated by the inscription. The first stamp answering to this description is a poor lithographic design, represented below—the 15 c. blue. This is inscribed FRANCO BOLLO POSTALE ITALIANO. It was issued on the 12th October, 1863, and, to judge from appearances, must have been in use a long while, although officially superseded in December of the same year by the series which bears the suggestive inscription POSTE ITALIANE. That series is still in use, and calls for only a brief notice During the ten years in which it has been current some slight accidental alterations in shade have taken place, but they



are hardly worth attention. The designs themselves appear to have suffered very little, if any, deterirvation from the continued wear and tear to which the dies have been subjected; though one value, it is true—the 15 c. —was damaged at the time it was surcharged, and the retouching of the die gave rise to two varieties which are not without interest. All the designs are in De La Rue's best style, and the series as a whole must be pronounced an effective one. As originally issued it stood as follows.—

5	centesimi,	greyish green.
10	"	buff
15	"	blue.
30	"	brown.
40	"	carmine.
60	"	lilac.
2	lire,	rosy red.

JOURNAL STAMP.

1	centesimo,	sea-green.

In 1864 the state of the postal finances called for an increase in the rate for internal correspondence, from 15 centesimi to 20 centesimi for for single-weight letters; and to provide a stamp for answering to the

advanced rate, the 15 c. was surcharged with a semicircular bar, obliterating the original inscription of value, and with numeral and letter in the corners. The opportunity was also taken advantage of to print this value in a darker shade—a kind of slate-blue. It was whilst the surcharging was in progress in London that an accident happened to the die, and the flaw thereby occasioned was concealed, pursuant to instructions from the Italian post-office, by the addition of four white dots in the oval frame—two on either side the portrait. These dots will be found, respectively, above and below the little ornament in the frame which separates the inscription in the upper from that in the lower half. From the original announcement of this addition in *The Stamp Collector's Magazine* for 1865 (p. 54), it would appear that the accident took place prior to the surcharging, and that copies of the 15 c. unsurcharged exists with the four dots ; but this is certainly not the case, for I have mymelf a surcharged specimen without the dots, and in all the catalogues the four-dot variety is figured as a 20 c. Later on, a second accident happened, and eight more dots were added, making twelve in all. The eight are scattered about in the frame-work, "two in the left-hand upper part of the stamp, between PO and after E, and on the right between AL and below the letter N ; in the left-hand lower part between the letters VI, and also the CI, and on the right between the EN and under the first I in CENTESIMI." In 1867 this provisional stamp finally gave way to the current 20 c. of which the type is special to that value. This stamp exists in two well-defined and admissible shades—very light and very dark blue. It is a clearly designed stamp, but can hardly be compared with the others for richness of ornament. The 10 c. has been issued in a very dark reddish yellow, and the 60 c. in bright lilac.

The 1 c. journal stamp—a gracefully executed stamp—was joined in 1865 by the 2 c., of which two tolerably clear shades exist—brown and dark brown.

UNPAID LETTER STAMPS.

The unpaid letter stamps are not necessarily used only for letters which, presumably through the sender's neglect, have not been prepaid. Prior to the Roman occupation, at any rate, they were apposed at the frontier post-office on letters from the Papal States, as for lack of a convention between the two countries, the Papal stamps only prepaid as far as the frontier. No doubt at present the "segna-tasse" stamps are used in some analogous manner, otherwise it is difficult to see what employment could be found for the high values, used specimens of which are, however, very common. The first "segna-tasse" stamp, issued in 1863, was a very mean looking affair, yet it remained current six years, and two varieties of it are collected—lemon and orange. In

1869 it was superseded by a carefully engraved but not over legible type (reproduced below), and in 1870 the current series came gradually into use, with the exception of the 10 c., which was not issued until the succeeding year, in order to give time for the exhaustion of the 1869 stock. The 1 c., 2 c., 5 c., 10 c., 30 c., 40 c., 50 c., and 60 c., have the numeral of value struck in carmine, and the frame buff. The 1 lira and 2 lire have the figure in brown and the frame in blue, one frame sufficing for the whole of the values in *centesimi*, and one for the two values in *lire*, as is plain by noticing that the 1 centesimo reads 1 CENTESIMI, and the 1 lira reads 1 LIRE. In 1875 stamps of the value of 5 and 10 lire were added to the set.







Following the example of other countries, in 1874 a set of eight official stamps were issued of the annexed design which were joined next year by two high values. They are all printed in lake. The values being as follows :—2, 5, 20, 30 centesimi.
1, 2, 5, 10, 50 and 100 lire.

A Check List of U. S. Tobacco Stamps.

BY Z.

This List is given for the benefit of amateurs, who having good collections, are acquainted with the designs of the stamps, but require a list by which to see the different surcharges, and the various colors of paper on which the stamps are printed.

CLASS 32 CENTS.

Black on White Paper.

½	oz. Rect.	Negro head between figures, 1 & 2.
1	" "	Liberty " within figure, 1.
2	" "	Female " " " 2.
4	" Ribbon.	Trapper.
6	" "	Blacksmith.
8	" "	Sailor.
16	" "	Farmer.
½	Pound,	Black, Negro and Cotton bale.
1	"	Black, Boys making Soap bubbles.

2	Pound	Black, Sailors talking.
3	"	Black, Overseer on horseback.
5	"	Black, Negroes working.
10	"	Brown, Indian.
20	"	Green, Girls with fruit.
21	"	Black, Mechanic.
22	"	
40	"	Black, Cooper working.
50	"	Green, Farmers at rest.
60	"	Black, Man and Horse,
100	"	Green, Old man cutting a stick.

RIBBON STAMPS.

½ oz. Plain oval. Head of Washington.
1 " "Place for cancellation," Female bust to right.
2 " " " " " to left.

CLASS 32 CENTS.

			Mottled Orange Paper.		
½	oz.	Washington.	"		
1	"	Female head to right.	"		
2	"	" " to left.	"		
4	"	Full face, old man.	"		
6	"	Boutwell.	"		
8	"	Faragut.	"		
16	"	Stanton.	"		
				Waving lines in Purple.	Plain Whit Paper.
½	Pound,	Steamship.	Network in red, orange, blue, green, purple,		
1	"	Ship and Sloop.			
2	"	Goddess of Liberty.			
3	"	Turk Smoking.			
5	"	Volunteer.			
			Waving lines in dif't colors.	Straight lines in colors.	
10	Pound,	Sailor.			
15	"	Eagle.			
20	"	Female with scales.			
21	"	" " sword.			
22	"	" " caduceus.			
40	"	Sherman.			
60	"	Grant.			

CLASS 32 CENTS.

VALUE OF STAMP ON FACE OF POUND STAMPS.

	Green and Black on		Surcharged June 6, 1872. Green & B'k on	
RIBBON STAMPS.	Violet.	Pink.	Violet.	Pink.
½ oz. Washington,				
1 " Female Head to right.				
2 " " " to left.				
4 " Full face, old man.				
6 " Boutwell.				
8 " Farragut.				
16 " Stanton.				
LARGE RECT. SIZE, 4¾x2¼ in.				
½ Pound, Alex, Hamilton,				
1 " Delano.				
2 " Steamboats.				
3 " Female.				
5 " Lincoln.				
SIZE, 6½x3¾ in.				
10 " Farmer.				
15 " Sailor.				
20 " Washington.				
21 " Richardson.				
22 " Grant.				
40 " Mechanic.				
60 " Mc. Culloch.				
60 " " " Act 1874.				

TAX 20 CENTS.

Value of Stamp omitted otherwise same design.

The ounce stamps are continued under the head of class 16 cents.

	Green and Black on			Surcharged March 3, 1875. Green and Black on		
	Violet	Pink.	Green.	Violet.	Pink.	Green.

TAX 24 CTS. Series, 1875.

	Black and Green on Green

CLASS 16 CENTS.

A. *Green on White paper.*

2 oz. Small Rectangle, Head in centre of figure 2.
4 " Ribbon Stamp, man smoking a pipe.
8 " " " An Indian.
16 " " " A Sailor.

B. *Green on White Paper.*

2 oz. "Place for Cancellation" within an oval, Female and blazing star
4 " " " " " Female bust each end.
8 " " " " " Army Officers and Liberty.
16 " Negro at work, Figure "16" occurs 3 times.

C. *Green on White Paper Mottled in Pink.*

2 oz. Words omitted from ovals, similar to last.
4 " Head of Lincoln.
8 " " " Harlan.
16 " Negro at work, similar to last, "16" occurs twice.

Same design as last.

					Surcharged June 6, 1872.			
	Black on Violet.	Black on Pink.	Green on	Green on Pink.	Black on Violet.	Black on Pink.	Green on Violet.	Green on Pink.
2 oz.								
4 "								
8 "								
16 "								

Surcharged June 6th, 1872.

8 oz. Same as "B." Green on white paper.
16 " " " "B." " " "
16 " " " "C." " " mottled paper.

Tax 20 *Cents. Black on Pink Paper.*

1 oz. Jackson.
2 " Farragut,
4 " Stanton.
8 " Thomas Benton.
16 " A. Lincoln.

Black on Green tinted Paper.

1 oz. Jackson.
2 " Farragut.
4 " Stanton.
8 " Tho's. Benton.
16 " A. Lincoln.

SERIES OF 1875.

Black on Green.

1 oz. Garfield.
2 " Orton.
4 " Douglass.
8 " Morrill.
16 " Statue of America.

TAX 24 CENTS.

Surcharged March 3, 1875.

1 oz. Jackson, Black on pink paper.
16 " Lincoln, " " "
1 " Garfield, Black on green paper.
2 " Orton, " " "
4 " Douglass, " " "
8 " Morrill, " " "
16 " Statue of America, Black on Green paper.

Series of 1875. No. 1.

Same design as last. Green on Green.

With addition of words "Issued Act. March 3rd, 1875," in fine type.
1 oz. Garfield.
2 " Orton.
4 " Douglass.
8 " Morrill.
16 " Statue of America,

Series of 1855. No. 2.

Green on Green.

1 oz. Taylor.
2 " Jefferson.
4 " Chase.
8 " Fillmore.
8 " " ("Without words Act March 3, '75")
16 " Statue of America, " " " "

CLASS 32 CENTS.

SNUFF.

The tobacco stamps of class 32 cents were likewise used for snuff when the change was made to 20 cents per pound on all grades of tobacco, by Act June 6, 1872, the tax on snuff remained the same, so far as we know there was but few special stamps made for snuff prior to the above time, after which however regular series were made and still continue. The special stamps known of the early issue are:

1 oz. Female head within a lage figure 1. Buff paper.
2 " A profile head, formed of ten profiles, 13 stars. Buff paper.
2 " " " " " U. S. Inter. Rev. Buff "
1 " Same as above. Violet paper.
2 " " " " 13 stars. Violet paper.
6 " Gen'l Taylor. Black and green on violet paper
6 " " " " " " pink paper.

Act June 6, 1872.

		Black on Pink.	Violet.	Green.
½ oz.	?			
1 "	Washington.			
2 "	John Hancock.			
4 "	Female seated.			
6 "	Taylor.			
8 "	Steam Ship.			
16 "	Steamboat.			
½ pound.	Eagle on shield.			
1 "	Female. Sheaf of wheat.			
2 "	" fasces.			
3 "	Washington.			
5 "	Sewing girls.			
10 "	Belknap.			
20 "	Boutwell.			

Series of 1875. *Black on Green.*

½ oz. Sherman.
1 " Dawes.
2 " Female seated.
4 " Boutwell.
6 " Sheridan.
8 " Rawlins.
16 " Cartter.

SNUFF.

½	pound,	Females,	Barrels and Boxes.
1	"	"	"
2	"	"	"
3	"	"	"
5	"	"	"
10	"	"	"
20	"	"	"

CLASS 32 CENTS.

Series 1875. No. 2.

½	oz.	Monroe.
1	"	Madison.
2	"	Female seated.
4	"	John Quincy Adams.
6	"	Thad. Stevens.
8	"	
16	"	Andrew Jackson.

EXPORT STAMPS.

1	Steamship in a storm,	Black on white paper.
2	Full face portrait of Peabody,	" " " "
3	" " " "	" " violet "
4	" " " "	" " orange mottled paper.
5	different " "	" "
6	Columbia, Act June 6, 1872,	" " violet paper.

WRAPPER STAMPS.

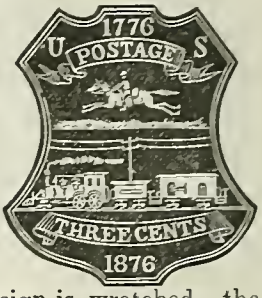
Black on thick Yellow Wrappers.

½	oz.	Head of a Negro,	size	2¾ by 1½ in.
2	"	" Sailor.		4 by 2½ in.
4	"	" Mechanic.		4½ by 3 in.

TIN FOIL STAMPS.

½	oz.	Eagle,	Blue	print,	Class 32 Cents.
1	"	Washington,	Gilt	"	" " "
1	"	"	"	"	Act June 6, 1872.
1	"	"	Blue	"	" " "
1	"	"	Gilt	"	The above words omitted,
1	"	"	Blue	"	in use March 1875.
1	"	B. Franklin,	Gilt	"	Series of 1875.
1	"	"	Blue	"	" "

Newly Issued Stamps



UNITED STATES—Nearly all our readers have been looking forward to the opening of the great Exhibition, that they might obtain one of the magnificent Centennial envelopes with which to adorn their albums. We are sorry to disappoint those of our subscribers who have not yet seen the original, but as faithful public journalists we are compelled to offer the annexed engraving cut by a boy who has been at the business two years as a faithful copy of the original, equal in every respect to its prototype. The design is wretched, the engraving poor, the stamping worse, and the color about as bad as could have been selected, and this is what has been heralded as a thing of beauty, a joy for ever, a sample of the artistic workmanship of the last quarter of the nineteenth century, and a monument of one hundred years of progress by "free America," but it is simply disgusting. We do not wish to ruin the man or we would give the name of the Boston engraver who cut the die.

It is embossed both in green and red on white envelopes.

We are informed that post cards will not be issued.

Another die of the 3c. Plimpton has just been discovered among some old letters addressed to our publishers. The head of Washington is very large, similar to the first die of the 10c. only one copy has been found.



HELIGOLAND.—It would appears that this little island finds issuing postage stamps the most profitable source of revenue at its command, as again we find new values added to the already large set. The principal design of the new comers is the arms of the island green red and white in place of the usual head of the Queen. The values and colors (referring to the frame only), are. 3 pfennige green, 20 pfennige carmine.

UNITED STATES OF COLUMBIA *Antioquia.*—The set of stamps for this state reported in the January JOURNAL as doubtful turns out to be authentic. We are sorry for it, for they are the worst looking set of stamps we have ever seen.

JAPAN.—We are indebted to Mr. Seebeck for the first sight of the new international stamp of this country. The design somewhat resembles the six sen.

5 sen, pale green.

SIERRA LEONE.—The two pence stamp is now printed in bright orange similar to the last shade of the ½p. Malta.

Mauritius.—The *rupee* having been adopted as the unit of currency in the island, we may expect a new set of stamps with values in the new money meanwhile we have the 9 pence surcharged in black, "HALF PENNY."

At the Centennial.

From our Philadelphia Correspondent.

The great exhibition is now open, and all can come and examine the magnificent display of the products of the globe, and admire the wonderful skill by which man has converted them to his use. All this and much more, our readers will be told by nearly every paper published in the United States, but the most interesting exhibit to collectors in the entire building, will most probably be passed over in silence by every other newspaper correspondent, and yet the small case of stamps exhibited by Messrs. J. W. Scott & Co., contains within itself as much information and food for reflection as the remainder of the exhibition. To those who examine and study them closely, the stamps displayed show the wonderful progress made by mankind in the last third of a century, they mark the progress of art, the foundation of dynasties, the rise and fall of empires, the advance of civilization and the planting of colonies throughout the world. How long will it be before the science of Philately receives the attention of the general public, which its study so richly repays?

Entering the building from the east, two minutes walk takes us to the case of J. W. Scott & Co., the official location of which is *P.* 73; all the pillars are numbered or lettered, by which means any desired object is easily found, or the attendants will point out the location of any letter and number. The prominent objects in the immediate vicinity are the model post office of the Yale Lock Co., nearly opposite J. B. Lippincott & Co's. and D. Appleton & Co's. exhibits to the left

The Albums shown unlike most goods exhibited, are precisely the same as those sold to the public, the stamps which illustrate their use, consist of a general assortment as complete as the space allowed by the commissioners would admit, and as the great body of collectors can never again have the opportunity of examining so many rare stamps together, I think I shall not be taking up too much of your valuable space, in pointing out some of the gems which are included in this magnificent collection.

Commencing at the front of the case we find the entire space occupied by the postage stamps of the United States. Among the locals noticeable for their excessive rarity, may be mentioned the big Boyds, making a good centerpiece to a full set of these interesting stamps;

the Washington City stamps are the most artistically designed of the series; Hall & Mills, plain, little, type set stamps have only their scarcity to recommend them, the Broadway P. O., gold on black; the Essex Letter Express; Graflin's Baltimore Despatch; Jones' City Express; Kidder's City Express in blue and green; the Staten Island, Overton's and many others. Next we come to the provisional stamps issued by the postmasters of different cities these are complete, but the various varieties of engraving are not exhibited except in the case of the 5 & 10, St. Louis, this reminds me to call particular attention to the 20c. St. Louis of which only four varieties have ever been found, and the New Haven envelope stamps of which only three genuine originals have turned up, the Brattleboro of which a fine copy is shown is too well known by photographs to call for special mention. Of the general issues and departmental stamps nothing need be said except that the $20.00 state is lacking. The envelopes are of course complete, many of the rarer ones being exhibited entire, as well as cut. The set of cut Plimpton makes a fine show and is I should fancy a kind of Chinese puzzle for collectors.

Turning to the right side we come to the foreign postage stamps, and amateurs will enjoy the feast spread out before them. The first rarities in order are the red and yellow Austrian Morenius stamps, very seldom met with even in the best collections. Bolivia makes a splendid show and this is probably the best set in the world, here we find two beautiful shades of the 5c violet, the 10c brown, two distinct types of the 100c blue, an uncatalogued 100c black, and the rare green. This set is well worth half an hour's study. The almost unique 12p. Canada is represented by a fine specimen. The Ceylon stamps are shown in great variety of shades. The stamps of the Confederate States make a fine show, most of the rare provisionals being exhibited; among the French will be found a beautiful copy of the 1fr vermilion, a stamp that has been getting rarer every year and is now nearly unattainable. The display of Mexican stamps is very fine, but is weak on Guadalajara. Among the Newfoundland is a magnificent specimen of the 1s. vermilion. New Caledonia is represented by an entire, original sheet and also a used copy. Of the stamps of New South Wales we find some very beautiful specimens, a 2p. Sydney is speciàlly noticeable for its delicate workmanship, and is probably one of the first impressions printed for use. Peru is well represented by fine copies and numerous shades, the yellow and red medio peso stamps being specially noticeable. In the Sandwich Islands we find the 2 & 13c figure in fancy border, and a very fine line of the plain figure set. Spain is of course complete, but this is not thought as much of now as formerly. The United States of Columbia is filled with very fine specimens. I find I have occupied so much

space already in only naming some of the prominent gems of the collection, that I must leave a description of the Revenues and postal cards to another letter.

July '76.

Reviews of Philatelic Publications.

The Postage Stamp Catalogue.—31st Edition, *New York*, J. W. SCOTT & Co.

The thirtyfirst edition of the standard catalogue is now before us and except in the quality of the paper which is not quite as heavy as usual, is a great advance on any catalogue that has preceded it, new issues nd illustrations have swelled the book to sixtyfour pages which are well filled with descriptions and pictures of all new stamps issued up to date. The complete list of the Plimpton envelopes will be found very useful to most collectors, as they will now be able to find the comparative value of the different dies. We are glad to see the provisional Bolvias admitted to their proper place, and the few mistakes in the last edition corrected. We should advise all collectors to procure a copy immediately as the changes in prices will make up the cost in a very small purchase, while amateurs cannot invest their money to more profit than in making a collection of catalogues; we heard of some of the old editions changing hands lately at three dollars each.

Philatelist Albums for American and Foreign postage stamps, Sixth Edition, New York, J. W. SCOTT & Co.

This neat little album has now reached its sixth edition a sure evidence of its popularity with beginners. In the present edition the capacity of the pages has been increased by five spaces while the size of each square has been enlarged, thus remedying about the only fault of previous editions. The elegant type in which the names of the various countries are given over each page, together with the black border surrounding it, adds much to the appearance of the book. Spaces are provided for nearly seventeen hundred stamps and illustrations given of all. The dollar edition has spaces provided for U. S. Revenue stamps. The title page is ornamented with a picture of the Centennial stamp, making it a kind of a memento of our country's birthday. The binding is strong and handsome and the general appearance very attractive.

Revenue Stamp Department.

Edited by W. L. BROWN.

UNITED STATES.—By an oversight one of the new medicine stamps was omitted from last month's list, and so we place it first in this

month's number. It is that of Dr. Simmons, and contains in centre the inevitable portrait with inscription above "Dr. M. A. Simmons" and address, below "Family Medicines."

1 cent Black.

The design of the Mansfield and Higbee stamps is retained, but we find the name "S. Mansfield & Co.," instead of the above firm name:

1 cent, Blue.

Among the match stamps is an alteration that has been in use some months. The "John Loehr" is now "Joseph Loehr."

1 cent, Blue.

While so many match and medicine stamps have been issued during the past year, no new one among the playing card stamps has been brought to light since the advent of the Paper Fabrique Co., until now. And this is one of which the beauty of design and originality of conception can not be surpassed by any private proprietary stamp. Though the design is entirely different, yet it reminds one of the common three cent postage stamp, owing probably to the similarity of the shield like edges. In a spade shaped space in the centre is an upright hand holding in fan shape, a deck of cards. In the same space is the value in words "Five cents." Following the outlines of this same spade shaped figure are the inscriptions "Playing Card Manufacturers, U. S. Int. Rev." In scrolls at top of stamp "New York Consolidated Card Co." Numerals of value "5" in each lower corner.

5 cents, Black.

At the last moment, owing to the kindness of a correspondent we notice a new alteration. This is the "Ives" "match which is now "P. T. Ives."

1 c. Blue.

MONTSERRAT.—The Timbre Fiscal announces the emission of revenue stamps for this dependency of Great Britain, and describes one of them. Profile of Queen Victoria to left in garter inscribed "Montserrat Inland Revenue." Crown above, value below.

1 penny, Rose.

THE REVENUE STAMPS OF SWITZERLAND.—In the September number of the Timbre Fiscal an exhaustive monograph of the revenue stamps of Switzerland was commenced, and was finished in the January number. This article was by the celebrated amateur Ph. de B. and as probably no one could write a better one, we think an extractive list from it would be acceptable. We shall merely take the dates of issues, descriptions and lists of the stamps, discarding the comprehensive notes cand remarks. The author treats the cantons in an ethnographic order, as follows: *French cantons*: Fribourg, Geneve, the Valais, Vaud. (We retain the names as they are expressed on the stamps. *German antons.* Basel, (Bas e) Bern, Zurich.

Italian canton.—Ticino.—The following cantons use *stamped paper* but have no *adhesive* stamps. Lucerne, Saint Gall, Schwytz, Thurgovie, Unterwalden, Uri and Zug, while the following use no revenue stamps at all. Appenzell, Argovie, Glaris, Grisons, Neuchatel, Schaffouse, and Soleure. Instead of following the author's method of classification, we shall take the issues chronologically.

CANTON OF FRIBOURG.

Issue of May 28, 1862.

Description.—Design: in the centre, a shield with the arms of the canton, surrounded by laurels and surmounted by a rayed cross, in the frame or border the inscription, with the indication of the value. Ornament at top. *Inscription.* "Canton" de "Fribourg" at left, "Timbre de Dimensn," at right, value at bottom. Form: vertical rectangle ($\frac{13}{16}$ by 1 inch) Stamps typographic, embossed, printed in color upon white paper, unperforated and all of the same design.

Three values all Blue.

20 centimes.
50 "
1 Franc.

Issue of July 25, 1862.

Description.—Same type as the issue of May 28, 1862 save in the following particulars. "Fribourg" at top in place of the ornament, "Timbre de Commerce" at left in place of "Canton de Fribourg," at the right the indication of the sum for which the value of the stamp should be employed, in place of "Timbre de Dimensn."

A. 15 centimes. De 1 a 500 Fr. Red.
B. 15 centimes. De 1 a 500 Fr. Deep carmine.
C. All orange yellow.

15	centimes	De	1	a	500	Fr.
30	"	"	500	"	1000	"
50	"	"	1000	"	2000	"
75	"	"	2000	"	3000	"
1	Franc.	"	3000	"	4000	"
1	Fr. 25 cs.	"	4000	"	5000	"
1	" 50 "	"	5000	"	6000	"

Issue of June 1, 1865.

Description.—Design: in the centre, a shield with the arms of the canton, surrounded by branches of oak and olive, at the left the name of the canton, at the right the date of the law, all on engine-turned ground, the border bears the greater part of the inscription and the indication of the value.

Inscription.—At left of centre, "Canton de Fribourg," at right "Loi du 1 Juin 1865." At top of stamp "Bureau d'enregistrement ——(name of bureau). At bottom. "Actes sous seing privé."

At each end the value. Form : horizontal rectangle ($2\frac{7}{16}$ by $\frac{13}{16}$ inches). Stamps typographic, printed in black upon bluish paper with ground of ochre or very pale red brown. Perforated and unperforated.

5 centes, Black.

A.—Stamps unperforated.

Bulle, Farvagny, Fribourg, Morat, Rue, Surpierre.

B.—Stamps perforated.

Bulle, Chatel, Dondidier, Estavayer, Farvagnay, Fribourg, Morat, Mourret, Romont, Surpierre, Tavel, Villars—sur-Mont.

(*To be continued.*)

Clippings.

THE CENTENNIAL ENVELOPES.

The first of the new centennial stamped envelope made its appearance in this city yesterday. It enclosed a letter which had been deposited in the box at station A. Broadway, near Prince street, and not being recognized by the Superintendent as a legal stamp, it was taken to the General Post Office for information. These stamped envelopes are of the denomination of three cents and are issued and sold only at the Centennial Branch Post Office in Philadelphia. The department at Washington not having notified the postmasters throughout the country of their issue, they will probably give considerable trouble until they are known, and by that time they will be useless, as they are not good after the 10th of November. The design is a green escutcheon with a mail carrier on horseback, representing 1776, and an express train representing 1876. These dates are on the stamp, together with the words "Centennial, United States—three cents."—*Herald.*

Answers to Correspondents.

F. E. Chicago.—The list of Tobacco stamps is given in this number. Liquor and Beer stamps will follow in our next.

S. & L. San Francisco.—Thanks for the copy of the 5 s. Japan kindly sent us to describe.

F. E. C. St. Louis.—Your queries will be answered in the columns of the *Coin Collector's Journal.*

F. B. Boston.—Great Britain was the first country to use adhesive stamps, and the credit of inventing post-cards belongs to Austria.

A History of Postage Stamps.

BEING A RESUME OF THE DESCRIPTIONS OF ALL KNOWN STAMPS AND THEIR VARIETIES.

EUROPE.

BY OVERY TAYLOR.

Continued from page 67.

THE first series of the Lubeck stamps made its appearance on the 1st



January, 1859. The design is a neat one, but as the stamps are lithographed, the counterfeit manufacturers have been able to produce very effective and consequently, dangerous imitations. The forgeries are generally postmarked with three or four lightly struck bars, and as they have obtained an unusually wide acceptance I think I cannot do better than subjoin an extract from the *The Philatelist* of 1871, giving the distinctive points of the genuine stamps, that those of my readers who may already possess specimens of the first series, may be able to test them, and that those who do not may be on their guard. This is the more necessary, as all five values were produced from separate matrix-stones, and differ in various minor details from each other.

Two editions of this type are stated to exist,—one with a kind of watermark, or indentation, consisting of a number of small rosettes; the other without watermark. The latter was the first to appear ; the watermarked edition being issued in 1862. The existence of the rosette marks was discovered in 1866 by M. Moens, who states that they disappear when the gum at the back of the stamps is dissolved. I have never had the good fortune to meet with any gummed individuals of the dissolving-watermark set ; but the authority of M Moens, backed by that of M. Berger-Levrault, is a sufficient reason for its acceptance. My readers may, perhaps be able to discover copies among their own collections The low prices at which specimens are offered by their Belgian discoverer, proves that they are not rare. The colors are as follows:—

	1859. (*Plain backs.*)	1862. (*Flower pattern.*)
½ sch,	lilac.	lilac.
1 "	orange, yellow.	orange.
2 "	brown.	red-brown, dark brown.
2½ "	lake.	rose.
4 "	dark green.	bright, deep, and yellow-green.

Besides the above, there exists a curious anomaly, which is found in both sets—a 2 schg. brown, with the value in words, *two and a half*

schilling (ZWEI EIN HALB), on the lateral scrolls. The printing of the 2½ schg. in brown could be easily explained as a mere printer's error, but the contradiction between the figure and the inscription of value is curious, and can only have resulted from some strange oversight on the designer's part.

A new series was issued on the 1st of July, 1863, which forms a striking contrast in design, execution, and printing to its predecessor. It is modelled on the Prussian type of 1861, and the praise of a certain prim correctness can hardly be denied it. The arms are in white relief, and the lettering and figure of value sunken. The spelling of the name of the city is changed from LUBECK to LUEBECK, and the latter form is maintained in the subsequent emissions. The colors are bright, and so regular was the impression, that no color varieties are known. The five varieties are as follows :—



½ schg.,	green,	⎫	
1 "	vermilion,	⎪	
2 "	rose,	⎬	perforated.
2½ "	ultramarine,	⎪	
4 "	bistre,	⎭	

In the following year (May, 1864), the series was supplemented by the issue of another lithographed stamp—the 1¼ schilling brown. The design is finely drawn, and in its general disposition is copied from the engraved type, but the extremely wide border is an objectionable feature, and the absence of perforation—the division between the stamps being indicated by a simple colored line—is also a drawback, at least from a utilitarian point of view.

The list of adhesives winds up with the rather ornate, but not unpleasing, 1½ schilling lilac, issued in 1866. This stamp shows a modification of the 1863 design; the oval frame is enclosed in an octagon, which sets it off; and the corners are filled in with a light ground pattern.

ENVELOPES.

Only one series, properly so called, was issued; but it is subdivided into first emission,—stamp struck in left upper corner (1863), and second emission,—stamp struck in right upper corner (1865); and in 1866 the number of values was recruited by the addition of 1½ schg. The other values are those of the 1863 set. The 1¼ schg. is not represented The colors are almost identical with those of the corresponding adhesives; there is, however one rare shade, the lilac-blue 2½ schg. (to left), which was discovered after the suppression of the series. Secondary varieties also arise out of a difference in the microscopic inscription above the stamp in the second emission. All the values exist with the

word SCHILLING in this inscription written without a final E; and two of them, the 2 schg., and 4 schg., likewise have the word *with* the final E added; of the two denominations just named the variety showing the added letter is the commonest. The 1½ schg. differs from the adhesives only in the absence of the lace pattern outside the octagon, which, on the envelope, would have been unnecessary.

All the Lubeck stamps were withdrawn at the close of the year 1867, when the postal service was taken over by the Prussian government.

The American Tax Stamps of 1765.

In view of the important results which came from the attempt of the British government to enforce a Stamp Tax in the American Colonies in 1765, it is not a little surprising that philatelists have so long remained in ignorance as to the stamps which were to be the medium of this famous tax. Possessed as they are of so unique a historic interest,—the only stamps in the world which can claim to themselves an important share in the founding of a great and powerful nation,—it is fitting that, in this centennial year, an attempt at least should be made to tell their story.

The full text of the Stamp Act is given in the appendix to Lossing's History of the United States, pp. 541-548. The opening formula to each one of its first thirty-nine paragraphs is this: "For every skin or piece of vellum or parchment, or sheet or piece of paper, on which shall be engrossed, written or printed" [here follows the description of the document], "a stamp duty of" [here follows the amount of the tax]. Seventeen different amounts are named in these thirty-nine different taxes, as follows: 3d., 4d., 6d., 1s., 1s.6d., 2s., 2s.3d., 2s.6d., 3s., 4s, 5s., 10s., 20s., £2, £3, £4, £6. Stamps of these seventeen denominations were impressed in relief upon one of the lower corners of the parchments, after there had been affixed thereto (by a bit of tinfoil) a thin layer of pasteboard of the size of the die. It is certain that different colors of pasteboard were used on which to emboss the stamps, and that some of the latter differed in design; and it is not by any means unlikely that each value had a color and design of its own.

One of these stamps may be seen in the West Room of Independence Hall in Philadelphia, another is in the possession of Mr. Charles J. Hoadley, of Hartford, and a third (color, olive green, and value 2s. 6d., if my memory serves) has the place of honor in the collection of Mr. George B. Robertson, Controller of the Stamping Department, Somerset House, London. An inquiry addressed by me, in January last, to Mr. Benson J. Lossing, in regard to the original shilling

stamp from which was reproduced the cut on page 215 of his Hist. U. S., has elicited no response; and it is my belief that that cut does not correctly represent the shilling stamp sent out to America in 1765, but is only a rough copy of a British inland revenue stamp, in use at that or at a later period, inasmuch as the word "America" finds a place on all the stamps of that famous issue which have yet come to my notice. It is likely enough that there may still be extant a few specimens of these embossed parchment stamps of 1765, in addition to the three here named. Readers of history, however will remember that none of the "stamped paper" (as the embossed parchments were called) was used in America for the execution of legal writings, etc., and that whatever part of it escaped destruction at the hands of the angry colonists, who tarred and burned all they could seize upon was ordered back to England at the time when the obnoxious act was repealed. It would appear that at least a part of the parchments so returned were reissued in England, after the American stamps had been clipped off and the ordinary British inland revenue stamps had been impressed in place of them. Two bags full of these parchment clippings chanced to be preserved in Somerset House until as late as 1846, when Mr. George Bancroft, saw them there, as noted in his History U. S.; but they were destroyed, not long afterwards, in company with other accumulations of official rubbish.

The 40th section of the Stamp Act decrees a duty of a shilling on every pack of playing cards and of ten shillings on every pair of dice, sold or used in the colonies. The 41st section opens in these words: "And for and upon every paper called a *pamphlet*, and every newspaper containing public news or occurences, which shall be printed, dispersed and made public, within any of the said colonies and plantations, and for such advertisements as are hereinafter named, the respective duties following(that is to say):" Here follow specifications for stamp taxes of ½d., 1d. and 1s. on newspapers and pamphlets; of 2s. on advertisements; and of 2d. and 4d. on almanacs. Presumably, these eight stamps named in Secs. 40-41 were all surface-printed and in every way distinct from the seventeen embossed stamps named in the preceding sections. Sec. 42 provides for doubling the amount of duty in any of these 41 cases where any language other than the English is employed; and this proviso may perhaps account for the existence of other denominations of stamps in addition to the 25 especially named in the Act.

Investigations which the present writer was allowed to make, last winter, in Somerset House, by the courtesy of the British Board of Inland Revenue, proved, in fact, that there did exist three denominations of stamps for "newspapers" (½d., 1d. and 2d.) and as many more for "almanacs" (2d., 4d. and 8d.). They were engraved on copper,

each plate containing 25 stamps, and two plates (50 stamps) being printed on each sheet. It appears likely that eight plates were prepared for each of these six stamps (the plates being numbered from 1 to 8 and the stamps individually from 1 to 200), though the proof impressions or vouchers for only half as many are now extant. Each plate measured $12\frac{1}{2}$x$7\frac{1}{4}$ inches and contained three rows of stamps (9 in the top row, 8 in the others), and the size of the sheets is 15x22 inches. At the foot of each sheet is an inscription similar to the following:—

"Brought by Mr. Thomas Major Engraver Two Copper Plates for the Penny Duty on News Papers & Pamphlets, The One Number'd from 51 to 75 & the other from 76 to 100 Inclusive The Impression whereof are here on this Sheet Number'd, In Witness whereof we have hereunto set our Hands the 18th April 1765. By order of the Commissioners.

We do hereby Acknowledge to have this Day Rec'd back the abovementioned Copper Plates to be deposited among the other Plates & Dies, used in the Service of the Stamp Revenue, to be kept according to the Method & Usage of the Office. Witness our Hands the 18th April 765 J. B., G. C., W. J, W. A., F. M. I."

The initials represent the autograph signatures of the stamp officers, written with lead pencil, though the rest of the inscription is in ink. Of the *Half-Penny* issue, Plates 3 and 4 (containing stamps 1 to 100) were received May 21, and Plates 7 and 8 (stamps 151 to 200), May 10. Plates 7 and 8 (stamps 151 to 200), of the *One Penny*, and Plates 1 and 2 (stamps 1 to 50) of the *Two Pence* stamps were also acknowledged May 10. These ten plates of newspaper stamps, out of the 24 plates assumed to have been prepared, are the only ones whose existence is vouched for by proof sheets now extant. Of the 24 plates assumed to have been prepared for the almanac stamps, vouchers exist in Somerset House for the following 14: *Two Pence*, Plates 1 and 2 (Apr. 18), 5 and 6 (May 10), 7 and 8 (May 21), comprising stamps numbered 1 to 50, 101 to 150, and 151 to 200; *Four Pence*, Plates 1 and 2 (Apr. 18), 3 and 4 (May 24), 5 and 6 (May 10), comprising stamps numbered 1 to 150; *Eight Pence*, Plates 1 and 2 (May 24), comprising stamps numbered 1 to 50; From the Book of Vouchers for 1765, in which were bound the proof sheets of all the stamps prepared for use in any part of the British Empire, the specimens for "America" seem to have been rudely torn out, many years ago, and the twelve loose sheets just described have not thickness enough to fill or even half fill the vacancy. It seems not unlikely that some high officer of the government, in disgust at the miscarriage of the Stamp Act, decided to blot out of existence all specimens of these unprecedentedly costly stamps, and that a part of them only were rescued from his destructive wrath. The sheets that were thus lost, it is fair to suppose, contained proofs, of the 1s. stamps for playing cards, the 10s. stamps for dice, the 1s. stamps for newspapers and the 2s. stamps for advertisements, which were presumptively surface-printed from copper plates.

The newspaper stamps present quite a handsome appearance and are an inch by an inch-and-a-half in size. A crown supported by a crossed sword and sceptre is surrounded by the circular garter, "HONI-SOIT-QUI-MAL-Y-PENSE," resting on scroll work, above which is the word "AMERICA," while below the central circle is a label inscribed "HALF PENNY," "ONE PENNY," or "TWO PENCE," as the case may be. The almanac stamps are smaller and less attractive, and are five-eighths by seven-eighths of an inch in size. The crossed sword and sceptre support a small circle containing a six-pointed star in whose centre is the cross of St George. The circle is surmounted by a crown, above which is "AMERICA." On the left side of the stamp is "DVTY," on the right side is "PENCE," and below is "TWO," "FOUR" or "EIGHT," as the case may be. The six stamps are all of the same color, reddish brown, and are all numbered at the bottom. The variations in the engraving of the almanac stamps are much greater than in the others,—the 8d., appearing more "open" than the 2d., and 4d.

So much for the original and unapproachable specimen sheets of American Tax Stamps of 1765, which are now, as for a century past, filed away among the archives of Her Majesty's Board of Inland Revenue, in Somerset House, London. But, by a stretch of official good nature which one could hardly hope to meet with oftener than once in a hundred years, the writer of this article was granted the quite unprecedented privilege of taking photographic fac-similes of the sheets in question. An event so conducive to the success of the Philadelphia Centennial and to the progress of international good feeling, seems to him certainly worth recording. He must, however, add this final hint to those of his fellow countrymen who may propose to reside in London, before 1976. "And it is further agreed by the high contracting parties that no American shall either ask or receive from the officers at Somerset House any further favors in reference to these stamps, previous to the celebration of the second centennial of the Independence of the United States." June 1, 1876. * * *

Revenue Stamp Department.

Edited by W. L. BROWN.

THE REVENUE STAMPS OF SWITZERLAND.

(Continued.)

CANTON OF FRIBOURG.

Issue of August 1, 1867.

Description.—Same type exactly as the issue of July 25, 1862, of which this issue is a continuation. Nine values. Orange.

1 fr. 75 ct.	De	6000 à	7000 fr.	3 fr. 00 ct.	De	11000 fr.	12000 fr.
2 " 00 "	"	7000 "	8000 "	3 " 25 "	"	12000 "	13000 "
2 " 25 "	"	8000 "	9000 "	3 " 50 "	"	13000 "	14000 "
2 " 50 "	"	9000 "	10000 "	3 " 75 "	"	14000 "	15000 "
2 " 75 "	"	10000 "	11000 "				

Issue of November, 1870.

This issue comprises four series, the design of the four differing but slightly.

Series. A.

Description,—Design; in the centre, a shield with the arms of the canton, surmounted by a rayed cross, and surrounded by branches of oak and olive; at the left and right, the name of the Canton, in a curved line; the whole on engine turned ground; the border of the frame bears the inscription, the indication of the value and the sum corresponding.

Inscription.—At top of stamp "Visa en lieu de timbre," at bottom "de dimension," at each end the value, and in the centre "Canton de Fribourg." Form: horizontal rectangle ($1\frac{13}{16}$ by $\frac{13}{16}$ inches). Stamps engraved, printed in color upon white paper. Perforated. Three values. Pale red.

20 Cent.
50 Cent.
1 Franc.

Series B.

Description.—Same as series A. save in the border inscriptions. *Inscription.* At top of stamp "Visa en lieu de timbre de commerce," at each end the value, and at the bottom the sum corresponding. Sixteen values. Green on green tinted paper.

15 ct.	500 frs. et au—dessous.			2 00c.	De	7000 fr.	á 8000 frs.
30 "	De	500 fr.	á 1000 fr.	2 25 "	"	8000 "	" 9000 "
50 "	"	1000 "	" 2000 "	2 50 "	"	9000 "	" 10000 "
75 "	"	2000 "	" 3000 "	2 75 "	"	10000 "	" 11000 "
1 fr. "		3000 "	" 4000 "	3 00 "	"	11000 "	" 12000 "
1 25c. "		4000 "	" 5000 "	3 25 "	"	12000 "	" 13000 "
1 50 " "		4000 "	" 6000 "	3 50 "	"	13000 "	" 14000 "
1 75 " "		6000 "	" 7000 "	3 75 "	"	14000 "	" 15000 "

Series C.

Description.—Same as Series A save in the border inscriptions. *Inscription.* At top of stamp "Visa en lieu de timbre gradué," at each end the value, and at the bottom, the sum corresponding.

Fourteen values. Ochre on rose tinted paper.

20	Cent.	De	1	fr.	á	200	frs.	4	frs.	De 3000	frs. à 4000 frs.
40	"	"	200	"	"	400	"	5	"	" 4000	" " 5000 "
60	"	"	400	"	"	600	"	6	"	" 5000	" " 6000 "
80	"	"	600	"	"	800	"	7	"	" 6000	" " 7000 "
1	fr.	"	800	"	"	1000	"	8	"	" 7000	" " 8000 "
2	frs.	"	1000	"	"	2000	"	9	"	" 8000	" " 9000 "
3	frs.	De	2000	"	"	3000	"	10	"	" 9000	" " 10000 "

Series D.

Description.—Same as series C. save in the end and bottom inscriptions.

Inscription.—At top same as series C, at left "20 cents en sus," at the right the values, at the bottom "feuille double de——a——frs." Rose on rose tinted paper. Fourteen values, same as series C.

CANTON OF GENEVE.

Issue of Jan. 1. 1860.

Description.—Design: a chevalier in the costume of the middle ages, holding a lance in his left hand, with his right arm he leans upon a shield on which are the arms of the canton; in the rectangular border the inscriptions, with the indication of the value and the sum corresponding. *Inscription.* At the top of the stamp the value, at the left "Loi du 10 Sept. 1859." At the right "Geneve, Estamp*le*——," and at the bottom the sum corresponding to the value. Form: vertical rectangle ($\frac{25}{32}$ by $\frac{31}{32}$ inches). Stamps typographic, embossed, printed in color upon white paper. Unperforated. All lilac. Eleven values.

Estample	0.	5	cts.	De 1	á	500	fr.	Estample	6.	1 fr. 50 c.	Max 6000 fr.
"	1.	25	"	Max		1000	"	"	7.	1 " 75 "	" 7000 "
"	2.	50	"	"		2000	"	"	8.	2 " 00 "	" 8000 "
"	3.	75	"	"		3000	"	"	9.	2 " 25 "	" 9000 "
"	4.	1	fr.	"		4000	"	"	10.	2 " 50 "	" 10000 "
"	5.	1	fr. 25 c.	"		5000	"				

(*To be continued.*)

Newly Issued Stamps



SPAIN.—Contrary to all expectations this country has again issued a second series of postage stamps in one year. The new stamps as may be seen by our engraving are a decided improvement over the last series, and in our opinion are the best that have ever been produced in the country, this is in a great measure owing to the

printing, which in this case is well done, something quite unusual for Spain, in fact many stamps that have been artistically designed and well engraved, have been spoilt by bad printing. The values and colors as far as we have yet seen are as follows :—

2	cs.	peseta	25	cs.	peseta brown.
5	"	" brown.	40	"	" dark brown.
10	"	" blue.	50	"	" green.
20	"	"	1	peseta	rose.

UNITED STATES OF COLOMBIA.—We had only just finished prais-



ing the new issue of Spain, when we received from Mr. Wineburgh, two of the new issue for these states which are also a very great advance over the former efforts of this country. It would seem that the Spanish peoples are waking up. Thus far we have only seen three values which are



all of an entirely new design. The other values as will be seen below, have the national arms, and may be the same as those nowi n use or the design may have been redrawn with variations. Of the two first values we give engravings. The design of the 20c. is same profile of liberty as on the 10c. with nine stars in the field, the band encircling the head is inscribed CORREOS NALES. EE. UU. DE COLOMBIA, VEINTE above CENTAVOS below in curved lines, numerals of value in each corner, frame of ornamental foliage.

5c. lilac, 10c. brown, 20c. blue.

We are much indebted to our esteemed correspondent S. Dennis Esq., for the following official decree cut from the *Diario Official.*

"Agreement for the manufacturing of postage stamps, stamped envelopes and patente de apartado by Demetrio Paredes for the use of the P. O., signed on the 29th of March, 1876.

Marco A. Estrada, Postmaster General, of the national post and Demetrio Paredes have agreed to manufacture postage stamps, stamped envelopes and patente de apartado on the following basis.

Article the 1st.—Demetrio Paredes will lithograph and deliver at the office of the P. M. General the postage and envelope stamps and the patente de apartado of the following class, colors, size, and form, to be specified viz :—

of	ten	pesos,	on	rose	paper	and	black drawing.
"	five	"	on	green	"	"	black "
"	one	"	on	white	"	"	red "
"	fifty cents		on	white	"	"	green "
"	twenty "		on	white	"	"	blue "
"	ten "		on	white	"	"	brown "

of five cents on white paper and violet drawing,
" five " for "annotation and registry" on white paper and black drawing.

The postage stamps of ten and five dollars, will measure 30 millimeters by 25 and the others 25 by 20.

Article the 2nd.—The stamps of ten, five and one dollar and the 50 cents will bear the inscription *Estados Uniods de Colombia*, (United States of Colombia, *Correos nacionales* with the national arms in centre and the value below. The *Anotacion and Registro* will bear " A " the *Anotacion* and " R " the *Registro*

Annotation Registry.

Article 3rd.—The 20, 10 and 5, cent stamps will have the same inscription before mentioned. The two former will have the head of liberty and the latter the condor of the national coat of arms, the value at the bottom.

Article the 4th.—The register envelopes will measure 13 centimeters long by six and a half, having on the upper part "Estados Unidos De Colombia," " Correos nacionales" and the national flag with red, blue and yellow colors, and will have also the following inscription, " Certificacion . . . . ." " Contenido" "Vale cincuenta centavos" "Salio" de. . . . . en. . . . . de. . . . . de . . . . 18 and on the lower part will have the necessary space for writing the address.

Article the 5th.—Paredes, will also lithograph the *patente de apartado* of the same size as the envelopes and according to the sample.

Article the 6th.—Paredes will deliver at the office, the stamps, envelopes and patente de apartado in sheets, of 100 stamps each, the second in number of four, and the latter in number of eight in every sheet. Every sheet not having the above number will be rendered useless.

Article the 7th.—Paredes, will deliver the stamps and envelopes, already gummed and the patente ordered by the Postmaster General, twenty days after the order has been communicated to him, provided that the amount ordered shall not exceed 200.000 stamps : but if during said time Paredes should not deliver the stamps, he (P.) will pay a fine of an amount equal to one half of the value of the stamps ordered, unless the delay should be caused by an unexpected accident

Article the 8th —The stamp dies will be deposited in a safe having two keys, one to be in the hands of the contractor and another in the Postmaster General's. The stamping shall be done in the presence of one of the Postmaster General's clerks.

Article the 9th.—Paredes shall deliver the stamps at once, or in lots, during the twenty days before mentioned.

Article the 10th.—The Postmaster General will pay to Paredes at his

office four dollars for each die needed for the postage stamps, twelve for each one for the patente, and six for each one used for the envelopes: will also pay for the printing and gumming of every 1000 stamps one dollar and forty cents, and one dollar and sixty cents for every hundred envelopes, and for the printing of every one hundred patente one dollar and sixty cents.

The engraving of the die will only be paid once.

Article the 11th.—This agreement will be in full force during two years, to be prolonged at the will of the government, and will not take effect until approved by the Executive, who has the right to annul it should Paredes not fulfill his part as agreed.

Bogota 29th March 1876.

Marco A. Estrada.— Demetrio Paredes.

Navy and War Departments.

Approved—

the Secy.

Santos Acosta."

BRITISH GUIANA.—Specimens of the new issue of this colony, arrived too late for illustration in this number so we offer the following description in its stead, ship surrounded by *Damus petimusque vicissim* in white letters on solid band, in the white marginal frame is the name and the value. BRITISH GUIANA POSTAGE. The only value we have seen (two cents) is the same color as the same value in the old set.



VICTORIA *Post-card.*—All the Australian colonies are falling into line, and issuing penny post cards. The one before us is very similar to the English, but the frame is not so neat and the card and work very poor.

1 penny violet on buff card.

CABUL.—Numerous varieties of labels purporting to be postage stamps of this state are turning up. They may be genuine postage stamps, or more probably some sort of official revenue labels, or perhaps frauds of the first water. Be they what they may we have no means of judging; most respectable dealers profess entire ignorance of their character, and certainly we shall not allow these pages to be used to aid swindlers in any manner, even in the remotest degree if we can help it. They are no acquisition to any album if genuine, and one great point against them is, several European dealers have sent lots of them which they profess to value at £10 and upwards, to gentlemen here with whom they had never done any usiness, we do not find dealers sending old British Guiana or Luzon hamps out here to strangers, and nearly every bogus stamp which has been gotten up of late years has been sent round in this way. Collectors

can do without them for a few months, when if they turn out to be genuine they can easily be procured, and if frauds they will not have lost anything, and swindlers will not be encouraged to put up new jobs on Philatelists.

UNITED STATES.—In describing the centennial envelopes we omitted to give the watermark. The green as first issued, and possibly the red ones also, were impressed on paper bearing the ordinary watermark, but after a few days we find them with an entirely new one, a monogram of the letters U. S. C. 1876. The sizes of the envelopes are

$5\frac{1}{2}$x$3\frac{1}{4}$ green stamp, white paper.
$5\frac{7}{8}$x$3\frac{3}{8}$ red stamp, " "

At the Centennial.

From our Philadelphia Correspondent.

In passing through the Japanese exhibit the other day, I was surprised to find a complete set of the postal and fiscal stamps of the Islands, a complete sheet of each value being exhibited, but unfortunately they are hung up too high for a careful examination. The sight of these stamps led me to look for more, but I was only rewarded by finding in the Hawaiian department, a few sets of the late issues, on the well known cards, prepared in the islands for collectors, (by the way why will all stamp album and catalogue editors persist in calling this country by a wrong name), it is a great misfortune that the government did not make some exertion to hunt up a complete set of these stamps, it would have been a great treat for collectors, and well worth a visit; Sweden and several other countries, exhibit coins or bank notes, but the two first mentioned are the only foreign governments that show stamps.

The United States government display of postage and revenue stamps is in the government building, and placed in first rate position for examination, the frames of stamps shown by the revenue department are indeed magnificent, an attract great attention and unqalified praise from all, but unfortunately every hing has been sacrificed to beauty, proofs in brilliant colors being shown in place of stamps, and these are arranged sometimes a dozen of a kind together, to carry out the design. While this plan gives a magnificent trophy and a worthy monument to the skill of the desginers and engravers, its value in a philatelical point of view is reduced to a minimum, great difficulty being experienced in finding any particular stamp, in fact half an hour's study of the frame, containing the match, medicine and document stamps, left me doubtful as to whether I had discovered all the varieties that were or might be hid in the intricacies of

the design : I did notice the famous 4c. Morehead's Neurodine, the 6c Swain, the Dr. Pearl, and nearly all the rare matches. The new issues were there in full force, among which I might name the Louisiana match stamp, which has not yet been brought to the notice of Philatelists, Wistars Pine Tree Tar Cordial, and several others that I do not now call to mind. The arrangement of the Tobacco and Beer stamps is even worse than that of the proprietary, the very rare ones not being shown at all, and those that are exhibited are so mixed up, that their value to the visitor is totally lost.

Turning to the display of the Post Office Department, I am almost tempted to pass over it in silence, as it is a disgr ce to the country, but as it is my duty to prevent collectors from being de eived, I will point out a few of the *mistakes*, we must call them ; a complete set of the regular adhesives is shown, the same as the department has been passing off on country school boys as stamps, of course they have a right to show any rubish they wish, but they should not label a page of counterfeit stamps, made a year or so ago, "Engraved and printed by Rawdon Wright and Edson," because it is well known that the firm was dissolved about twenty years ago, and we believe all the members of it are dead, but I suppose the department intended to tel us that the original stamps were engraved by that firm, and as I do not think they can have any object in making a mistake here, I suppose they are correct. The makers of the 1851 issue are given as Toppan, Carpenter, Casilear & Co ; of the 1869, issue, The National Bank Note Co; and of the 1870, issue, The Continental Bank Note Co. The Department stamps are all shown in proof specimens, the colors of which only approximate those in use, the tints of the Wai and Executive Departments being nearly the same.

The crowning shame however of the entire show is dev loped among the envelopes, these are supposed to be exhibited entire, but any value or size that is at all scarce, is produced by carefully cutting out the stamp and pasting it on an envelope of the desired size, thus the four cent envelopes are made, a one cent envelope stam being cut out to the shape of the stamp and pasted on a three cent stamped envelope. As one of the genuine envelopes can be purchased of any dealer for twenty-five cents, I cannot see why so much trouble should be taken to produce a counterfeit which cannot deceive any one ; it is to be hoped that the fifteen dollars which the Department paid for one of the envelopes, was not the cause of this fit of economy. Turning to the Plimptons I find them in all their glory of shades and sizes ; I should have thought that the department would have been ashamed to exhibit such evidence of the bungling way in which it is served by its contractors, but there is no accounting for taste. I am not familiar

with the intricacies of these things but if I get time to study them up, will tell you if they are on a par with the rest of the collection exhibited by the P. O. D.

Taking the U. S. stamps shown at the exhibition, as a sample of the official collection we hear so much about, and, as the government have unlimited control of their manufacture it certainly ought to be the best part; what must the foreign stamps be? I should think it doubtful if there is a genuine stamp in the entire lot. *July* '76.

Extracts from my Private Note Book.

BY C. H. C.

MEXICO.—There has been considerable discussion of late regarding the 12c. brown of the 1868 type, head of Juarez; and, as some collectors have never seen any specimens other than those altered by use of chemicals from the 12c. green, even its authentic existence has been questioned.

I always insisted that a genuine copy must exist somewhere, as I had a distinct recollection of having seen one in the year 1871, in the office of Mr. W. P. Brown, who purchsaed it, together with a quantity of other Mexicans, from the office boy of some New York firm dealing with Mexico.

Mrs. A. G. Craig, of San Francisco, also secured a genuine copy, and some little time ago she sent it to me for purpose of comparison with the bogus article.

Quite recently she has met with two more authentic specimens, one of which is now in my collection where it can be seen by those who so desire.

The color of the genuine is identical with that of the 6c. brown of the same type, but the specimens altered from the 12c green are of a peculiarly dull, dirty shade, which bears every appearance of chemical action. Indeed there is no similarity whatever between the shade of it and of the 6c., and if collectors will bear this fact in mind they cannot possibly be deceived.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.—A few days ago friends of mine in this city, received through the post a letter from Houghton, Mich., bearing a *two cent revenue* stamp which had served in lieu of the usual *three cents* postal label! no charge for postage was made at this end.

In the February number of the JOURNAL, Mr. Freeman, mentioned a pair of previously unchronicled Reay's envelopes, viz.

3c. impressed in *brown* (*or bronze*) ink on a white envelope of "full letter size."

And the usual 3c. green on a *white* envelope of official size.

I now have to add the 2c. brown on an amber envelope of *full letter* size. It usually is found in ordinary letter size.

The Reay envelopes are generally spoken of as "issue of October, 1870," though in reality many of them (including the two just mentioned) appeared during the month of September, of that year. Probably the misapprehension arises from the fact that the official list was not prepared till October.

I have reason for thinking that in September, 1870, Reay also issued the three following envelopes;

1c. Full letter on White.
1c. " " " Amber.
2c. " " " White.

Although I have never heard of any specimens being discovered, I feel almost certain, that they did exist and had a currency of just one month.

EGYPTIAN ENVELOPES of the denomination of 1 piastre (green impression on white paper) have of late been circulating around the stamp market These envelopes have every appearance of being a first class swindle, and from "information received," there seems to be no doubt that their looks do not belie them; they are found uncancelled and also cancelled by a blue Arabic handstamp, and I have seen one specimen on which by a rather ingenious contrivance (which I will not explain, for fear of instigating other unprincipled persons to try the same deceit) the genuine handstamp of the N. Y. P. O., was impressed.

FIJI ISLANDS.—I have a specimen of the 2c. blue, surcharged V. R., and cancelled under date of some time in the year 1874. The day and month are missing, owing to the handstamp having been partially impressed on the envelope, but the figures 1874 are perfectly legible. Probably 1875 is the year intended, (as the V. R. surcharge is of very recent occurrence); and, if my surmise be correct, this stamp will serve as a companion to those of Alsace and Lorraine, with a misdated cancellation.

Overland by Ox Team.

(*From the San Francisco Bulletin.*)

This experiment of fast travelling across the continent, has demonstrated, as much as anything the excellent condition of the railroads and their rolling stock. Inferior rails, rail beds, and rolling stock would have been fatal to it. What a change has taken place in the means of transit across the continent since the early days of California's existence! It took a greater number of days to travel in the days of ox teams from St. Joseph to this State than it has taken hours for

this lightning express to cross the continent. Ninety days by ox team was fast travel. The mails which came by steamer occupied twenty-two days in transit. The pony express, a creation of the fertile brain of Ben Holliday, cut the time down to from twelve to fourteen days, but that line only extended from St. Joseph, Mo., to Sacramento. The distance traversed was 1,900 miles nearly all the way through a trackless wilderness. Seventy-five horses were rode each way. Each made 25 miles in a heat. The average speed day and night including stoppages was seven miles an hour, which was increased to ten or twelve miles an hour, on good ground, and postage on all letters beyond Salt Lake City, was charged at the rate of $5 per half an ounce. The first pony express left St. Joseph, Mo., at half-past six P. M., on April 3, 1860; reached Salt Lake City on April 9, at half-past six P. M.; passed through Carson on April 12, at half-past two P. M., through Placerville April 13, at two P. M., and reached Sacramento on April 13, at five P. M. Two mails were dispatched each way per week. The arrival of the first pony express rider at Sacramento and San Francisco was a day of jubilee. Bells were pealed, bonfires were lighted, bands of music paraded, songs cheers and congratulations rent the air, the whole Fire Department turned out, a torchlight procession filed through all our principle streets and general rejoicings ensued. The pony express gave way to the telegraph and railroad

The lumbering stage coaches were a vast improvement on the ox teams. Yet it took them an average of twenty-eight days to come through with their passengers. The opening of the railroads shortened the time consumed in the transit of mails from fourteen to seven days. The lightning express of Jarrett and Palmer has demonstrated the feasibility of cutting the ordinary mail train time down one-half. It is not probable that such a revolution will be speedily introduced; but to assert that the feat which has just been accomplished will not be out done, would be to presume that the acme of perfection in railroading had been attained.

Answers to Correspondents.

F. E. Chicago.—We cannot understand how you failed to find our publishers, case at the centennial exhibition, if you had asked any of the guards to be directed to P. 73, you would have saved yourself the "hours of hunting."

Philatelist Boston.—We have heard rumors of a change in the centennial envelopes, butnothing definite.

A. B. C. Toronto.—Thanks for your kind wishes, we already have quite a number of subscribers in your city but are always pleased to add to the number.

Newly Issued Stamps



PERSIA.—This month we give the place of honor to Persia, the first country to establish posts and one of the last to issue postage stamps. Eleven years ago, the annexed design figured in the various stamp papers as an essay for Persia, and from that day till this rumors concerning their use have been going the rounds. One was presented to us by a young gentleman, who stated that he received it direct from his mother, who was a governess in the Shah's household, but still up to last month, we failed to get information which would warrant our introducing it to our readers. The one from which our engraving is taken made one of three which prepaid a letter from Persia to New York, so there can no longer be any doubt of their actual employment. The figure four between the legs of the lion has been added since the original essay appeared. The specimen before us is very badly printed and rouletted, not perforated, as our artist has made it appear. *Le Timbre Poste*, chronicles the following values which we presume exist.

1	shahi, black.	4	shahi, vermilion.
2	" ultramarine.	8	" green.

JAPAN.—From the annexed engraving it would appear that Japan is about to issue a new series of stamps, we are indebted to Standenwick and Lake, for the first sight of the two values, here chronicled.



1 sen, black.
2 sens, olive

BRITISH GUIANA.—Below we give the cut of the new stamps for this colony. The design is decidedly poor, and far below that of the superseded issue, what a misfortune that one of the American companies had not been employed to produce them, for with the colony's beautiful emblem, we should have been sure of an elegant addition to our albums. Only the two cent orange has come along so far, but the set will consist of the values now in use with the addition of a 96c. stamp.



FRANCE.—The 15 centimes mauve of the new set is out, and the colors and values of the set announced. It is a great pity they are not all to come together, as it may be years before we get the last, even if a revolution does not spoil the set entirely. The design consists of two figures resting on a globe, which is partially concealed by a large slab bearing the numeral of value. The workmanship and design leave nothing to be desired;



they will form a pleasing contrast to the previous series. The colors and values are as follows :—

1 centime	emerald green.	20 centimes	red brown.
2 centimes	"	25 "	ultramarine.
4 "	"	30 "	bistre.
5 "	"	40 "	bright red.
10 "	"	75 "	carmine.
15 "	mauve.	1 franc,	bronze green.
		5 francs,	lilac.

SPAIN.—The 2 cs. de peseta stamp of the new design has not been issued so far, and the indications are that it may not be used at all the colors of those we omitted are,

20 cs. peseta,	olive green.	4 pesetas,	violet.
1 peseta,	brown.	10 "	vermilion.

They are accompanied by a set of four "war stamps." The design is a profile of the king to left in oval inscribed IMPUESTO DE GUERRA and the value. The colors and values are.

5 cs. peseta,	slate green.	25 cs. peseta,	grey.
10 "	" blue.	1 peseta,	mauve.

AUSTRIA.—We copy the following description of a new post card from Alfred Smith & Co's., Circular.

"A new post card has just been issued, of which Mr. R. O., of Vienna, has obligingly sent a specimen. It has a 2 kr. stamp of the 1867 type printed in the right upper corner, and in the opposite corner the arms of Austria ; between stamp and arms are the words CORRESPONDENZ-KARTE. Below come two dotted lines, the first preceded by AN ; beneath them, in the centre, IN ; and lower still a dotted line to left, and a thick line to right. There is no frame. The card is a simple one, and its only defect that it is not stout enough. It is buff-colored, and the impression is red-brown."

GREECE.—The two new values have at length reached here, they are of the same type as the balance of the set, but the plates being new have a much finer appearance. The colors and values are,

30 lepta, brown. 60 lepta, green.

The postal card bears the stamp in the right corner, and the inscription CARTE CORRESPONDANCE LADDRESSE SEULE. The whole is surrounded by a Greek border, and is printed in blue on white card.

PHILIPPINE ISLANDS.—We have just received three unchronicled varieties of these stamps, each of a different issue, they are,

1872	Portrait Amadeus.	25c. lilac.
1874	Liberty seated.	25c. ultramarine.
1876	Profile Alphonso.	2c. de peso rose.

The batch before this which we received direct from the postal authorities of Manila, consisted of parts of five different sets, we

should like to know how the business of the office is managed that is if there is any business, which from the muddle in which the stamps are kept we should very much doubt.

Hungary,—has added a new value to its set, a 20 kreutzer, black.

Norway,—is to have a new set of stamps, same design as the current issue, with the value in ore. The values and colors are,

1 ore	grey.	12 ore	green.
3 "	orange.	20 "	red.
5 "	blue.	25 "	lilac.
10 "	carmine.	50 "	rose.

Iceland,—is also to have the same currency as the rest of the Scandinavian peoples, and accordingly comes out with a new set of stamps valued in aur the Icelandic equivalent for ore. The type remains as before, except the officials which have a distinct design, The colors andvalues are as follows :—

5 aur,	blue.	16 aur,	brown.
6 "	grey.	24 "	lilac.
10 "	carmine.	40 "	green.

Official.

10 aur, blue. 16 aur, carmine. 20 aur, green.

Dutch East Indies.—The new unpaid letter stamp has arrived here, it is of the same design as the other values. 15c. orange, the 2c. of the regular issue is pale chocolate.

Fiji Islands.—*The Philatelist* says "a six cent green has been surcharged, v. r. and 2 d. in numerals instead of letters." This is as it was described by us a year ago,. did any one ever see a 2d. surcharged with the words two pence?

A History of Postage Stamps.

BEING A RESUME OF THE DESCRIPTIONS OF ALL KNOWN STAMPS AND THEIR VARIETIES.

EUROPE.

BY OVERY TAYLOR.

Continued from page 67.

GERMAN.

The stamps of the first Luxemburg series used to puzzle collectors in the good old days, as the editor of this magazine amusingly related in the second volume. A portrait resembling that on the old Dutch stamps was found in conjunction with the evidently French denomination dix centimes, and again the same portrait, printed in red, was found surmounting an inscription which was no less certainly German —un silber groschen. The portrait was that of the King of Holland,

and the stamps came from his Grand Duchy of Luxemburg. The Grand Duchy was French in sentiment, and the French language was the chosen one throughout its territory ; but it formed part of that German Confederation which the war of 1866 ultimately dissolved, and its postal issues were partially subjected to the regulations in force in the Confederation. In these facts lay the explanation of the anomalies connected with the first Luxemburg stamps, which perplexed collectors who at that time were groping their way to the light.

The name of Luxemburg is a tolerably familiar one, yet there are probably not many persons who could give any definite account of the territory to which it applies. The editor of the *S. C. M.* was justified in including it years ago among the "Little-known Stamp Countries," of which he gave "Sketches ;" and if space would permit I would quote from his sketch of Luxemburg a great many interesting particulars respecting the town and duchy. Suffice it, however, to say that the present Grand Duchy, whence we get our stamps, is a small state, ruled by the King of Holland, containing an area of about 2,500 square miles, situate between Belgium proper, France and Rhenish Prussia. The rest of the old duchy—by far the greater part of it, in fact—was allotted to Belgium when that kingdom was established, and has since formed an integral part of it, under the name of the province of Luxemburg. This arrangement, after years of diplomatic fencing, was confirmed by the Treaty of London, signed in April, 1839.

Both the duchy and the town frequently formed a bone of contention between the higher powers. The town—formerly the most strongly fortified town in Europe, except Gibraltar, and called by the Romans City of Light, or *Lucis Burgum* (whence its present name)—became the object of general attention after the war of 1866. Neither France nor Prussia would agree to the fortress being occupied by other soldiers than its own ; and finally, through the mediation of the Earl of Derby —then Lord Stanley—the dispute was settled by the demolition of the fortifications. Since then little has been heard of Luxemburg, which has been quietly governed by its Royal Grand Duke, and no longer forms part of the German Confederation.

The history of its stamps was lucidly related a couple of years since in *Le Timbre-Poste* by a contributor dating from the city of Luxemburg, who possessed full and authentic information respecting them. From this source we learn that the first step towards the issue of stamps was the entry of the Grand Duchy into the German Postal Union, which took effect from the 1st January, 1852, in virtue of a convention signed on the 6th December of the previous year. One of the regulations of that union was that prepayment throughout the states included in it should be effected by means of postage stamps; and in compliance therewith, the two values forming the first Luxemburg series were

issued on the 15th of September, 1852. Their employment was at first optional, but was rendered obligatory by a law of the 30th of November, 1852, and they remained in use until the beginning of the year 1860.

The type of the first series is here represented. It was engraved in



taille-douce on steel, and printed on white laid paper, watermarked with the letter *W*,—the initial of the Grand Duke's Christian name. The design was the work of a Luxemburg engraver, Mr. Barth, who, before commencing visited the *atèliers* of his Belgian colleagues, for the purpose of acquainting himself with the system of postage-stamp printing in vogue there. Finding that the Belgian stamps were engraved on steel, he decided on engraving the Luxemburg stamps in the same manner ; and as the Belgian stamps were watermarked, it was deemed best to watermark the Luxemburg stamps. But steel engraving and watermarked paper cost dear. The inaugural expenses amounted to nearly $2.500, and the cost of working off the yearly supply of stamps came to the considerable sum of $120, (!), besides other minor outlays ; the government, therefore, decided on choosing some cheaper process when it became necessary to create fresh denominations, and hence it is that the 10 centimes and one silbergroschen are the sole representatives of the first type.

Of these two stamps the former represented the minimum postage on letters circulating in the interior of the Grand Duchy ; and the latter, the minimum postage on letters to other states of the postal union. These rates it will be admitted, were by no means extravagant. The 10 centimes exists in only two shades—black and greyish black ; but the collector seeking for color varieties can find half-a-dozen in connection with the 1 s.gr., which, originally issued in red-brown, subsequently made its appearance in red, brick-red, rose, pale rose, and flesh. The successive changes no doubt mark successive annual supplies, but being evidently unintentional, a beginner's purpose will be answered by collecting only the two extreme shades.

The issue of additional values for the prepayment of heavy letters



was authorized by a law of the 2nd December, 1858, and thereupon the post-office received tenders for the engraving of the designs from various Luxemburg firms, and from a M. Dressler, a type-founder, at Frankfort-on-Maine, whose propositions were accepted. The second type was his work, and he certainly deserves credit for it. It has little in common with the ordinary German style, but is characterized rather by a certain French lightness and elegance.

It is, perhaps, not surprising that some difficulty was at the outset

experienced in finding a printer to do justice to it. The first who tried his hand on it—a Luxemburg man—struck off some ineffective proofs of the 30c. in brownish lilac, on watermarked paper; and ultimately recourse was had to a Frankfort printer, M. Naumann, who has ever since held the contract, and under whose superintendence the third type was subsequently produced.

The first of the new stamps to appear was the 30c., brownish lilac, which was issued on the 29th September, 1859. On that date notice was given, that as the supply of stamps of the first series became exhausted, they would be replaced by the 10 c. blue and 12½ c. rose of the new type; it should be, therefore, considered as the official date of issue of the two latter values. On the 20th October, 1859, the emission of three other values, the 25c., 37½c., and 40c., was announced. These, with the 10c. and 12½c.. form the unperforated issue of the second series, and are catalogued thus :—

10	centimes,	dark blue, light blue.
12½	"	rose.
25	"	light brown.
37½	"	green.
40	"	yellowish orange.

The 12½ c., 25 c., and 37½ c., are the respective equivalents of 1 silber groschen, 2 sgr., and 3 sgr.; and in July, 1865, the Prussian government, as the head of the Postal Union, requested the Grand Ducal Post-Office to alter the colors of the two latter values to blue and brown, so as to bring them into accord with the corresponding stamps in the emissions of the other states. This was done, but not all at once. The 25 centimes blue was issued at the end of 1865, and simultaneously the 10 c. made its appearance in lilac, the change of color being necessary to prevent confusion. The 37½ c, brown, however, was not put in circulation until December, 1866, the supply of the green 37½ c., having lasted until then. All the new values were issued perforated on lines of color. This method of perforation is very simple; all that is necessary being if I mistake not, to insert thin plates with a serrated edge between the casts of the stamps, the edges to come up just above the level of the surface of the casts; then, when the press is worked, the same stroke which imprints the design on the sheet, forces the sheet down on the rows of teeth between the casts, and it is instantaneously perforated.

The 10 centimes, since its change of color, has been issued in several more or less distinct shades. It is found in lilac (1865), reddish lilac (1868), and lilac-slate (1871). The other values have varied but little. in 1867 a new denomination made its *début*,—the 20 centimes, brown; and in 1873 a provisional 1 franc was issued, formed by surcharging

the 37½ c. bistre, a value which is no longer required, with the words UN FRANC in black.

At some future date, when 90,000 provisional one franc stamps have been issued, a new type is to be emitted, but the circulation of this value must be extremely restricted, if applicants for a supply are told at the chief office, as a friend of mine recently was told, that no such thing as a one franc stamp exists!

There are two trifling errors of impression to be noted in connection with this series. Nearly all the 10 centime stamps have the value written *ceniimes*, and on two per cent of the 37½ c. it is written *centines*. The perforated issue of the series reads as follows:—

10	centimes,	lilac, reddish lilac, lilac-slate
12½	"	bright rose
20	"	dark brown, light brown.
25	"	blue.
30	"	reddish lilac.
37½	"	pale bistre.
40	"	orange vermilion.
1	franc,	pale bistre.

JOURNAL STAMPS.

The third type which is special to the stamps for journals, circulars, &c., was issued on the 3rd Nov., 1860, and originally consisted of the



2 c black, and 4 c. yellow, to which was added, on the 1st January, 1863, the 1 c. buff. Their design is as pretty in its way as the designs of the second type. They are models of a certain dainty neatness. There have been frequent accidental changes in the shade of the stamps but no official change, except in respect of the 4 c., which was issued in *green* in August, 1871.

The unperforated varieties are the—

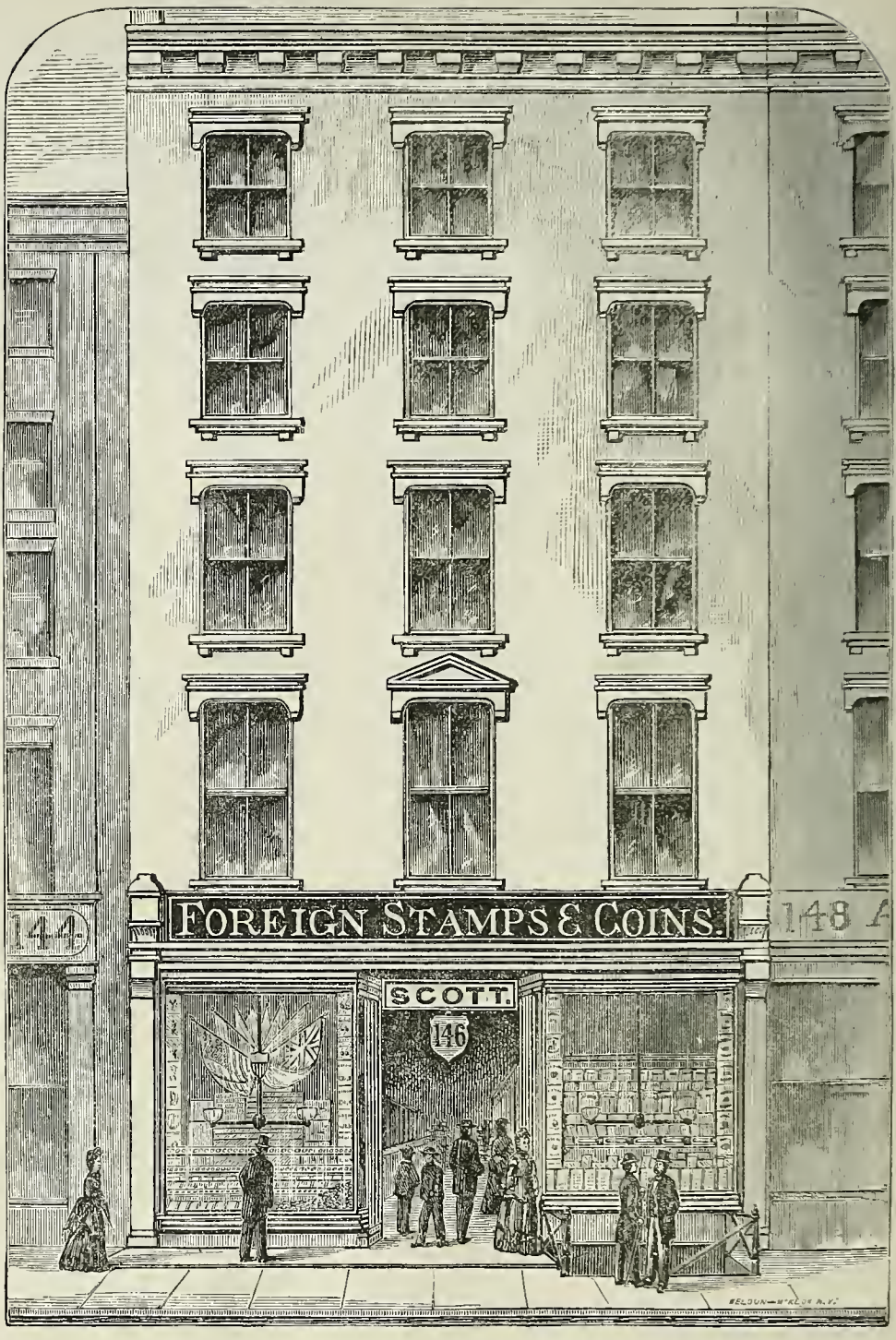
1 c. buff, 2 c. black, 4 c. yellow, yellow-ochre.

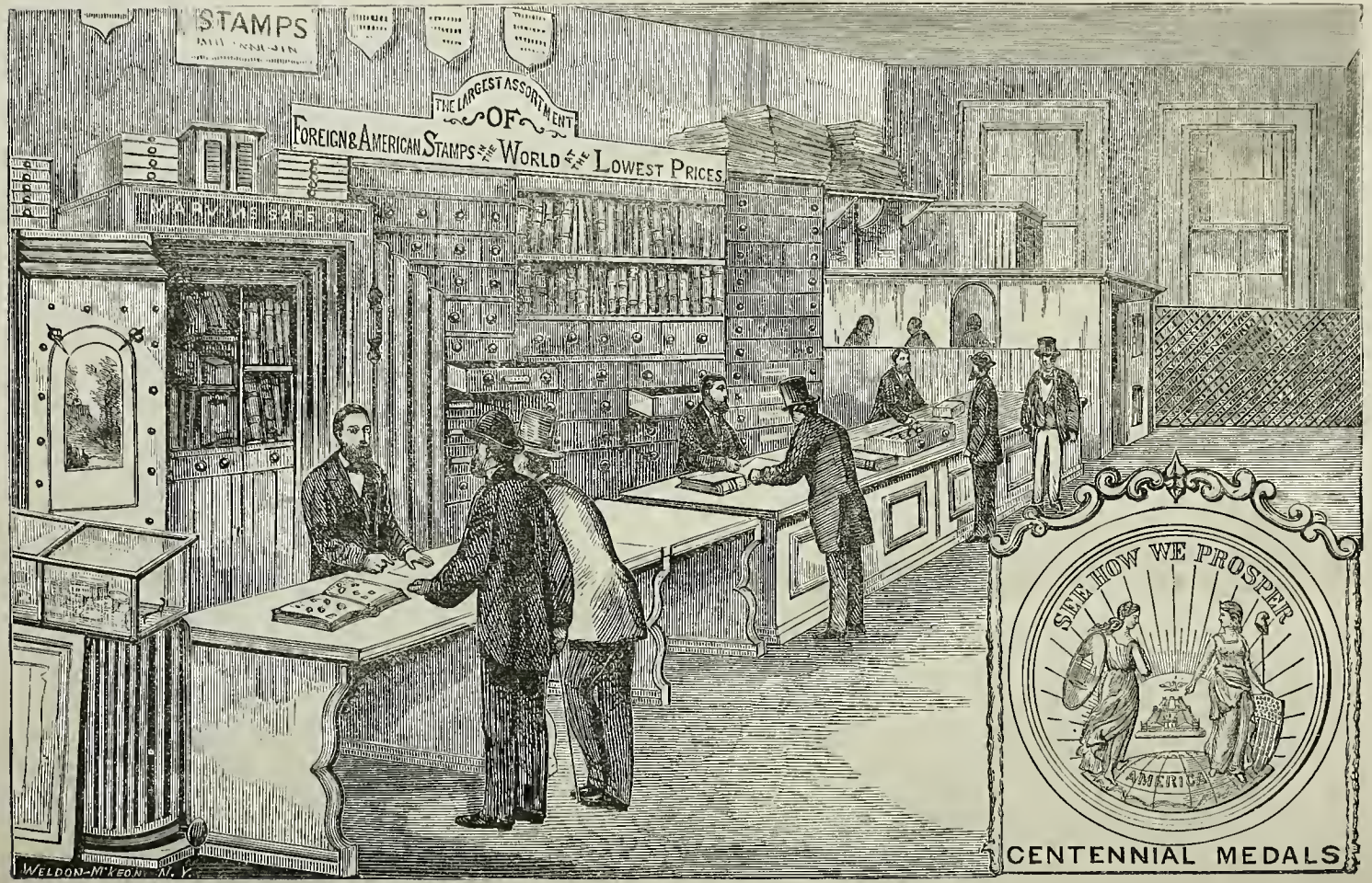
Of the perforated varieties, the 1 centime is the only one which is perforated on lines of color. It was so issued for the first time in May, 1868, and is found in red-brown, orange, brownish red, yellow, and (according to our authority) vermilion.

The 2c. black was line-pierced in October, 1867, and the 4 c. yellow in October, 1868, the latter stamp being found in yellow, yellow-ochre, and orange-yellow.

The Stamp Business.

The newspapers have at length discovered philately, and are, as usual, making a great parade of their newly acquired knowledge. Several of the leading papers have given long articles describing the "new in-


FOREIGN STAMPS & COINS.
SCOTT.
146
144
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STAMPS
THE LARGEST ASSORTMENT
OF
FOREIGN & AMERICAN STAMPS OF THE WORLD AT LOWEST PRICES
SEE HOW WE PROSPER
AMERICA
CENTENNIAL MEDALS
WELDON-M'KEON N.Y.

dustry" as some call it, while others term it a mania. Hundreds of the country papers have copied these articles with variations of their own, the effect of which has been to confuse sundry nervous gentlemen ,and to raise the hopes of some sharp speculators who think they see an opening to go into business these dull times. Our publishers are not adverse to being brought before the public, even if there is a little puffing used at the introduction, but they don't like to have their receipts set down at a quarter of a million a year, because it is calculated to raise false hopes in the mind of any one going into the stamp business. But independent of the commercial view of the case, these articles have raised the curiosity of country customers, and caused considerable inquiry concerning our publishers new quarters. To satisfy the demands of our readers, we will attempt to give a description of the stamp business as now carried on in New York, and illustrate our sketch with two fine cuts giving an exterior and interior view of Scott & Co's. new business house.

The store is situated at 146 Fulton street, in the old part of the Evening Post building, and is about five doors from Broadway. Fulton street is one of the most traveled thoroughfares in the city, being the main artery which connects New York and Brooklyn a city of 400,000 inhabitants. The stages from the ferry pass the door and go to all the leading hotels, while street cars to all parts of the city are within one block of the house. Thus it will be seen that persons unacquainted with the city will have no difficulty in finding the store. The large gold sign—"Foreign Stamps and Coins,"—greets the eye from the corner of Broadway, while the near approach to the windows is blocked by an eager crowd of sight-seers who occupy the pavement from morn to night, and well they may stand and stare, for spread out before them lies a mass of goods and signs which half of them do not comprehend. One sign, which held a constant throng of readers, was as follows :—

THE COLLECTING OF POSTAGE STAMPS.

IS THE MOST INTELLECTUAL AND AGREEABLE PURSUIT OF THE DAY.

AND IS ENGAGED IN BY OLD AND YOUNG, RICH AND POOR.

PRINCE AND PEASANT,

THERE ARE NEARLY 1,000,000 COLLECTORS IN THE U. S. ALONE,

WHILE AMATEURS ARE TO BE FOUND IN EVERY CIVILIZED CITY, TOWN OR VILLAGE IN THE WORLD.

IT TEACHES GEOGRAPHY AND HISTORY.

IT DEVELOPES A TASTE FOR ART AND SCIENCE.

AN D STIMULATES RESEARCH IN EVERY BRANCH OF LEARNING.

Inside the store we find ample accommodation for the throng of buyers who usually fill the place ; behind the counters is a

large stock of stamps of all nations, singly, in sets, in packets, and in cheap lots wholesale, counted out in thousands, and weighed out in millions. Perhaps this is a way of selling stamps new to most of our readers, but the business of stamp selling has now become so large, and common stamps sell at so low a price per thousand, that it has been found impossible to count the stamps fast enough; in fact, some stamps sell at a lower rate than the wages paid for counting them come to. Stamps range from eight thousand to the pound, cut from the envelope with the piece of the envelope still adhering, to fifteen thousand to the pound with the paper and gum soaked off. Albums in numerous varieties, and at prices ranging from twenty-five cents to fifty dollars each, line the shelves; coins, from twenty-five hundred years old to the present day, and of every people and race, are to be found in countless profusion, but this, we presume, does not interest our present readers so we will return to the stamp department.

The stamps are principally sold out of collections, which are made up for the purpose, thus, an album is filled with one of every variety of postage or revenue stamp with the price of each marked under it. Customers look over the books (of which there are usually about twenty-five) and select any they desire. For the convenience of those who prefer to buy a complete issue of a country at once, one counter, provided with a glass top, displays some hundreds of different sets, all marked at from 5 to 50 per cent, under catalogue rates. The lower counter, devoted to the packet department, is well stocked with stamps, done up in this popular way. Stamps at the uniform rate of 1c. each are to be found in a glass case at the front cross counter, this is a very popular department with the boys, as they have a stock of fifty thousand stamps to select from at a nominal price, and as the case is refilled every morning, they can always find something new, while the saving in time to the clerks, by the boys helping themselves, allows the proprietors to sell such stamps as Peru, Sandwich Isles, Brazil, Jamaica, and such like stamps, at 1c each. For the convenience of persons desirous of selling their collections, private rooms have been fitted up where their albums can be examined and valued with despatch. The ample sorting-rooms are fitted up with every convenience, and a well drilled corp of girls capable of doing up a thousand packets, or sorting one hundred thousand stamps per day, keeps the stock always in condition to fill any orders at the shortest notice, but of this there is no need for us to speak, as all who read this have tested the capacity of the firm in this respect.

In conclusion, we can only repeat the well-known invitation of the proprietors, that all are welcome to come and examine, whether they wish to purchase or not, and may add that amateurs will find it a sight

well worth seeing, or traveling a hundred miles to visit, as it will give them some idea of the importance of the trade in stamps, and assure them that their collections will never become valueless but will go on increasing in value till they rival coins, in the exciting competition which greets a rare variety at auction.

A Check List of U. S. Cigar Stamps.

By Z.

Stamps for cigars were first issued during the month of July, 1864, and were placed on boxes until November, 1868, by Inspectors appointed for that purpose, and who were paid by the manufacturer 25 cents for each thousand cigars so stamped.

The tax being.

$ 3.00	on	cigars	valued	at	$ 5.00	
8.00	"	"	"	from	5.00	to 15.00
15.00	"	"	"	"	15.00	" 30.00
25.00	"	"	"	"	30.00	" 45.00
40.00	"	"	"	"	45.00	and over.

In April 1865, the tax was made uniform at $10.00 per thousand and continued so until September 1866, then reduced to $4.00 per thousand and twenty per ct. ad. val. which remained in force until March 1867, when a uniform tax was created of $5.00 a thousand, which remained so until March 3rd 1875, then changed to $6.00.

The inspector's stamps were not tax paying stamps. They simply indicated inspection of the cigars, and that the cigars, on which such stamps were affixed had been reported for the assessment of the tax at the proper time, the stamps were first issued for sale in December 1868.

During the summer of 1865, the Government refused to furnish the inspectors with stamps and for a while no stamps were used except such as a few inspectors had made at their own expense, ordinary type setting printed on strips of white paper, while the majority used stencil plates.

The stamps here enumerated are classed in order as issued, many of the earlier issues may be found cancelled at a comparatively late date. the reason of which is that some revenue offices do not sell many of the higher denominations, hence the stock frequently remains unsold, for several years. Since January 1st 1875, the government has called in all of the old issues remaining unsold in the several offices, and replaced them by the stamps now in use.

CIGAR STAMPS,

A.

Rough design formed of type border, issued 1864, with inscription in centre, white paper.

$ 3.00	Black.	$ 25.00	Black.	
8.00	"	40.00	—	*aa*
15.00	"	25.00	Yellow.	

B.

Landscape scene white paper, issued 1864.

$ 3.00	Blue.	25.00	Orange.
8.00	Green.	40.00	Pink.
15.00	Black.	3.00	Blue. surcharged "15"

C.

Inspector's stamp, rudely set up in type on plain white paper, various *designs* and denominations.

Inspector's stamp by stencil marked on some part of the box. "*July* 1865."

D.

Head Lincoln, names of months and numerals 1 to 31, white paper.

25	Cigars,	Black.	1865.	250	Cigars,	Black.	1865.
50	"	"	"	500	"	Green.	"
100	"	"	"				

E.

Same as last in design, dif't date.

25	Cigars,	Black.	1866.	250	Cigars,	Black.	1865.
50	"	"	"	500	"	Green.	"
100	"	"	"				

There are varieties of the last two series with large and small heads of Lincoln.

F.

Issued 1867-68.

25	Green.			
50	Blue.			
100	Light brown,	2	heads of Washington.	
100	Dark "	2	"	"
250	Black "	2	"	"
500	?			

(End of Inspector's stamps.)

G. *White Paper.*

Stamps with four ovals, two, with words "Tax Paid." Issued

1869-70.

25 Red. Head of Washington.
50 Green. Ship under sail.
100 Black. A sailor.
250 Blue. Soldier and horse.
500 Orange. Farmer and child.

H.

Same design as last, the words "Tax Paid" omitted in the centre oval.

Mottled Paper. Issued 1871-72.

25 Red. Head of Washington.
50 Black. " " Sherman.
100 Black. " " Grant.
250 Green. Soldier and horse.
500 ? ?

I.

White Paper.—Same design as last, purple waving lines across the two centre ovals.

25 Red. Head o Washington. Issued 1871-72.
50 ?
100 ?
250 Blue. Soldier and horse.
500 ?

Same design as H.

25 Red on white paper, without waving lines.
50 Black on buff. " " " "
100 " " " " " " " "

J.

Black on *Violet Paper.*

Same design as fig. H. Issued 1872-3.

25 Washington. 250 Soldier and horse.
50 Sherman. 500 Farmer and boy.
100 Grant.

K.

Same design as last, *Pink Paper.*

25 Washington. 1873. 250 Soldier and horse.
50 Sherman. 500 Farmer and boy.
100 Grant.

L.

Black, on *Pink Paper.*

25 Delano. 1873-4. 250 John Adams.
50 Fessenden. 500 S. P. Chase.
100 John Hancock.

M.

Same design as last, *Violet Paper*. 74-75.

25 Delano. 250 John Adams.
50 Fessenden. 500 S. P. Chase.
100 John Hancock.

N.

Same design as last, *Black on Green paper*. 74 75.

25 ? 250 ?
50 Fessenden. 500 ?
100 John Hancock.

O.

Issued in Feb. to Mar. 3. 1875. *Black on Green Paper.*

25 ? 250 ?
50 Waite. 500 ?
100 "

P.

Surcharged March 3. 1875.

250 Blue. same as in "G."
500 Orange. " " " "G."
250 Black. " " " K.
25 " on pink " " " L.
250 " " " " " " L.
500 " " " " " " L.
100 " " Green. " " N.
50 " " " " " O.
100 " " " " " O.

Q.

Head of Fessenden, Black on Green.

25 Series of 1875. 250 Series of 1875.
50 " " 500 " "
100 " "

Imported Cigars.

Brown, Treasury Building issued. 1866.
Green, " " " 1866-67.
Red, Two heads of Washington. " 1867-69.
Blue, Head of Grant. " 1870-73.
25 Cigars, Black and orange. Head of Grant. 1874-5.
50 " " and red. " "
100 " " and green. " "
250 " " and brown. " "
500 " " and orange. " "

25	"	Black and orange.	Head of Harrison.	1875-6.
50	"	" and red.	"	"	"	"
100	"	" and green.	"	"	"	"
250	"	" and brown.	"	"	"	"
500	"	" and orange.	"	"	"	"

Cigarettes.

500 Female bust in a circle, "Tax Paid," 75 c. in centre oval W. paper
500 " " " two centre ovals plain. Mottled paper.
500 " " " " " " Pink "
500 Head of Jefferson, Pink paper.
500 " " Violet "
500 " Seward, Green "

Surcharged March 3. 1875.

500 Female head, Pink paper.
500 Jefferson, " "

Answers to Correspondents.

PHILADELPHIA.—We cannot concur in your remarks concerning the Philatelist. Dr. Viner, is a very old gentleman, and we must excuse him being a little forgetful now and then, he certainly did not intend to convey the impression that his information concerning the centennial envelopes was in advance of ours, and his quoting from a back No. of the JOURNAL, was simply an inadvertency which will happen sometimes. You must bear in mind that Dr. Viner, is a gentleman, and if he prefers to call the AMERICAN JOURNAL OF PHILATELY, "Scotts New York Journal," it is not out of disrespect as you seem to imagine, but a simple recognition of the fact that the name of our publishers is a sufficient guarantee for any statement. Mr. Overy Taylor's standard history of postage stamps will not be finished for some time yet, when it is our typos will miss their usual quota of reprint, as none of our foreign contemporaries furnish matter suitable for reproduc.ion in this country.

H. B. TRENTON.—The only unique stamp known is the 4 c. black, Morehead's Neurodine. There are about a dozen revenues, of which only two or three copies have been found.

G. E. A. OSHKOEH.—The lables used on the locks of the post bags, are not stamps of any kind, as they do not represent any money value, they are simply used as an additional security to the lock.

J. J. H. CHICAGO.—The centennial post cards are not to be issued, for answers to your other questions see *Coin Collector's Journal*.

Newly Issued Stamps.







Iceland, Spain, Persia.—Above we give engravings of three stamps describ d last month, but not illustrated. The first two are types of the official stamps of Iceland and Spain, the third represents the Persian stamp as it originally appeared. Before chronicling our new budget we must again correct our list of colors of the Spanish stamps, the 1 peseta is *blue*, not brown or rose as the printer has made us say.

Portugal, Azores, Madeira.—We are at length enabled to give our readers the design of the Journal stamp for Portugal the same stamp, being appropriately surcharged for service in Azores and Madeira. It is printed in pale olive on white paper.



Japan.—Our publishers have received a third value of the new type, 5 rin, slate.

France.—In addition to the 15 centimes announced as in circulation last month, may be added the 5 c. green, 25 c. blue and 30 c. brown. They are coming along much faster than we expected, but surely the 5 francs must be issued or an immense number of the old ones must have been printed, that is if the stamp is needed at all.

British Guiana.—Appears to be running a race with France and is now two ahead, they both commenced with one value of the new type; of this country the following are out 1 c. grey, 2 c. orange, 6 c. reddish brown, 12 c. mauve 24 c. emerald green, 96 c. yellowish brown.

Fiji Islands.—We have lately seen specimens of these stamps surcharged v.r. in fancy script letters similar to those used on the back piece of the English deed stamps.

Notes on "The Stamp Act" of 1765.

In the June number of the Journal (page 83), was given a full description of the tax stamps, issued by authority of this famous Act. We now propose to refresh the memories of our readers in regard to the reception of the same in America, by reproducing the records of

several historians. First, however, we will present the following transcripts from Minute Book No. 33 of the British Treasury, which have never before been put in type, and which show, among other things, that upwards of $34,000 was expended by the Stamp Commissioners :

WHITEHALL, TREASURY CHAMBERS, 17th Sept., 1765.

Present, the Marquis of Rockingham, Mr. Dowdeswell, Lord John Cavendish, Mr Townshend, Mr. Onslow.

Read an Account from the Stamp Office of the necessary Expenses already incurred for carrying into execution an act of last session of Parliament, for levying certain Stamp Duties on the British Colonies and Plantations in America, amounting to the sum of £4947 5s. 11d.

Prepare a Warrant for this sum. [Page 133.]

WHITEHALL, TREASURY CHAMBERS, April 4, 1766.

Present, Mr. Dowdeswell, Mr. Townshend, Mr. Onslow.

[P. 409]. Read a Representation from the Stamp Office for a Sign Manual to pay to their Receiver General the sum of £1889 14s. 8½d., out of the Sinking Fund for defraying the Expenses of carrying the American Stamp Act into Execution.

Prepare a Warrant.

[P. 414. April 8 ; the same men present.] Read a letter from Mr. Beresford, by order of the Commrs of Stamps, desiring orders as to Instructions by them to be sent, by the Packets now preparing to sail, to the Distributors.

Return this letter to Mr. Beresford, and acquaint Him that My Lords desire the Commrs of Stamps to lay before this Board what Instructions they would propose to be sent to the Distributors, and what they would recommend to be done with the Stamps in those Colonies where the Act has not taken place.

[P. 427. April 25, 1766. Present, Messrs. Dowdeswell, Cavendish and Townshend.]

Read and Approved, a Representation from the Stamp Office proposing to send Orders to the Distributors in those Colonies where the Stamp Act has taken place immediately to transmit to the Office an Account of the Quantitys they have disposed of, & also to send Bills on the Paymaster General here for the Payment of the sums they have received on Account of the said Duties ; and praying My Lords to give Directions for Letters to be written to the Respective Governors of His Majesty's Colonies & Plantations in America & the West Indies, requiring them to give their Assistance in forwarding to the Commrs such parcels of Stamps as may be in their Custody or in the Possession of any other Persons within their Jurisdiction.

Let the Letters be written accordingly, and Let the Money be ordered to be remitted in such good Bills as can be procured.

[From Bancroft's History of the United States, Vol. 5.]

The last 300 pages of this volume are devoted to an elaborate account of the passage and repeal of the Stamp Act, and of the manner in which a united resistance to it knit the colonies together. The Act passed the House of Commons Feb. 27, 1765, and the repeal passed the same body Feb. 22, 1766, by a vote of 275 to 167. The King's signature was affixed to the repeal on the 18th March, the day after its ratification by the House of Lords. Chapter XVI details the measures taken by the colonists to cause the resignation of the stamp distributor

"The Maryland lawyers were of opinion that the Stamp Tax must be declared invalid by the courts of that colony as a breach of chartered rights. All resolved to burn the stamp paper on its arrival in Annapolis."—P. 315.

"Bernard, who had adopted measures to increase the garrison at the castle, for fear of the people of Boston, countermanded the levy and, in an official declaration, he voluntarily set forth to a very full council, 'the absurdity of such a supposition as that he should cause the stamped papers to be lodged in the Castle, there to be unpacked and distributed; he had no warrant whatever to unpack a bale of them, or to order anyone else to do so.'"—P. 316.

"Friday, the first morning of November, broke upon a people unanimously resolved on nullifying the Stamp Act. From New Hampshire to the far South, the day was introduced by the tolling of muffled bells; minute guns were fired and pennants hoisted at half mast; even the children at their games, caught up the general chorus, and went along the streets merrily carolling: 'Liberty, Property and no Stamps.' *The publishers of the newspapers,* which appeared on Friday, *were the persons called upon to stand the brunt in braving the penalties of the act.* Honor, then, to the ingenious Benjamin Mecom, the bold-hearted editor of New Haven, who on that morning, without apology or concealment, issued the Connecticut Gazette, filled with patriotic appeals. Timothy Green's New London Gazette also came forth on that day without stamps."—Pp. 352, 353.

"The people of North Carolina would neither receive a stamp man, nor tolerate the use of a stamp, nor suffer its ports to be closed. It was the same throughout the country. Wherever a jealousy was aroused that a stamp officer might exercise his functions, the people were sure to gather about him and compel him to renew his resignation under oath, or solemnly before witnesses."—P. 359.

"At the South, in the Savannah river, a few British ships took stamped clearances, but this continued only till a vigilant people had time to understand one another and to interfere."—P. 374.

"In Boston, the people placed Oliver at the head of a long procession and escorted him to the Liberty Tree to stand in the rain under the very bough on which he had swung in effigy, There in the presence of 2000 men he declared in a written paper, to which he publicly et his name, that he would never directly or indirectly take any measures to enforce the Stamp Act."—P. 375.

"In New York, on the evening of the 8th of January, the ship which arrived from London with ten more packages of stamps, was searched from stem to stern, and the packages were seized and carried in boats up the river to the shipyards where, by the aid of tar barrels, they were thoroughly consumed in a bonfire."—P. 378.

"Canada, Nova Scotia and the Floridas, which were military governments, had submitted ; the rest of the continent was firm. Massachusetts, Rhode Island and Maryland had opened their courts. A New York merchant who had signed a stamped bond for a Mediterranean pass, was obliged to stand forth publicly and ask forgiveness before thousands."—P. 440.

[From Benson J. Lossing's History of the United States.]

The idea of producing a revenue by the sale of stamps and stamped paper in America was promulgated almost 40 years before its final development in legislative enactment in 1765 Sir Wm. Keith advised the policy as early as 1728. In 1739 the London merchants advised the ministry to adopt the measure, and public writers from time to time suggested various plans predicated upon the same idea. In 1750, Douglas, in his book on British America, recommended the levying of a stamp duty upon all legal writings and instruments Dr. Franklin regarded the plan favorably ; and Gov. Sharpe, of Maryland, was confident, in 1754, that Parliament would speedily make a statute for raising money by means of stamp duties. Lieut. Gov. Delancy spoke in favor of it in the New York Assembly in 1755, and the following year Gov. Shirley of Mass. urged Parliament to adopt a stamp tax. The British press urged the measure in 1757, and it was confidently stated that at least $300,000 annually might thus be drawn from the colonies without the tax being sensibly felt. Notwithstanding public opinion in England appeared to be decidedly favorable to the measure, it was not proposed by the ministry until 1764. It became a law in 1765 and was repealed in 1766. Had not ministers been deceived by the representations of stupid and selfish royal governors in America, it probably would never have been enacted.—Page 542.

In several cities, popular excitement created mobs and violence ensued. The stamps were seized on their arrival and secreted or burned. Stamp distributors were insulted and despised ; and on the 1st of No-

vember, 1765, when the law was to take effect, there were no officials courageous enough to enforce it.

The first of November was observed as a day of fasting and mourning. Funeral processions paraded the streets of cities and bells tolled funeral knells. The colors of sailing vessels were placed at half mast, and the newspapers exhibited the black-line tokens of public grief. The courts were now closed, legal marriages ceased, ships remained in port and for some time all business was suspended.—Page 215.

[From "Annals of America" by Abiel Holmes, D. D., Minister of the First Church in Cambridge, Mass. Vol. 2, p. 137.]

In New York the Stamp Act was contemptuously cried about the streets, under the title of "The Folly of England and Ruin of America." The stamp papers arriving toward the end of October, Lieut. Gov. Colden took them into Fort George, and extraordinary preparations were made to secure them. On the 1st of November, many of the inhabitants of New York, offended at the conduct and disliking the political sentiments of Mr. Colden, having assembled in the evening, proceeded to the fort walls, broke open his stable and took out his coach and after carrying it through the principal streets of the city, marched to the common where a gallows was erected, on one end of which was suspended his effigy with a stamped bill of lading in one hand and a figure of the devil in the other. When the effigy had hung a considerable time, they carried it in procession with the gallows entire, the coach preceding, to the gate of the fort, whence it was removed to the bowling green, under the muzzle of the guns, where a bonfire was made and the whole pageantry, including the coach, was consumed, amid the acclamations of several thousand spectators. They next proceeded to the house of Major James, who was a friend of the Stamp Act, and, after plundering it, consumed every article of the furniture in a bonfire. The next day, the people insisting to have the stamps, it was urged that they should be delivered to the corporation ; and they were deposited in the city hall. Ten boxes of stamps, arriving afterwards, were committed to the flames.

[From Bradford's History of Massachusetts, Vol. 1, p. 13.]

By this Act, a ream of bail bonds *stamped* was £100; a ream of common printed ones, before, was £15. A ream of *stamped* policies of insurance was £120; of common ones, without stamps, £20.

[From Hildreth's History of the United States. Vol. 2.]

In all the colonies the stamp officers were persuaded or compelled to resign ; and such stamps as arrived either remained unpacked, or else were seized and burned.—Page 529

The first day of November, appointed for the Stamp Act to go into

operation, came and went, but not a stamp was anywhere to be seen. Two companies of rioters paraded that evening the streets of New York, demanding the delivery of the stamps which Colden, on the resignation of the stamp distributor and his refusal to receive them, had taken into the fort.—Page 531.

Alarmed for the safety of the city, and not willing to take any responsibility, as Sir Henry Moore, the recently appointed governor, was every day expected, Colden agreed, by Gage's advice (the captain of a British ship of war in the harbor having refused to receive them), to give up the stamps to the mayor and corporation. They were accordingly deposited in the City Hall, under a receipt given by the mayor. —Page 532.

The Berlin Postal Museum.

The imperial German postal administration, in the new building at 15, Leipzigerstrasse, Berlin, has founded an art museum, containing a very interesting collection of everything appertaining to postal service. The various objects composing the said museum are grouped after the following classification :—

1st.—Postal buildings.
2nd.—Models and drawings of mail carriages.
3rd.—Official uniforms.
4th.—Furniture, books, maps, and everything else connected with the technical management of the post-office.
5th.—All the material for postal service in time of war.
6th.—Collection of Postage stamps, cards, envelopes, money-order forms, &c.
7th.—Historical documents, &c.
8th.—Foreign postal institutions.

The first group comprises a plaster model of the principal frontage of the new post-office at Berlin, as well as several drawings and photographs of that building; also the designs of a great number of postal erections belonging to the State in other cities.

Among the carriage models may be found an open mail-cart of the last century, and a closed one of the same epoch ; moreover, a specimen of every kind of mail vehicle in present use on common roads, and a couple of models of railway ambulating post-offices. Some of the mails are fully equipped with zinc horses in complete harness ; thus giving a good idea of the manner in which the harnessing of one or more horses is managed, as well as of the different component parts of the whole equipage. These mail models, and especially the drawings which represent all the carriages employed by the German ad-

ministration in the course of the present century, permit the visitor to apprehend the modifications successively introduced into the means of transport during that period.

In the third division of the museum may be remarked two figures of postilions of the natural size fully equipped; and also drawings and descriptions of postal uniforms worn both formerly and now-a-days by all classes of postal *employés*.

The fourth group contains a considerable number of models of letter boxes, constructed principally with the intention of realizing some preconceived idea: that, for instance, of assuring the security of correspondence by means of bags placed inside, and self-closing immediately upon the opening of the box by the postman, without his being able to tamper with the letters. With regard to printed books and maps, every sort which ought to be provided for the use of the more important offices may be seen in this same group.

In the section relative to the apparatus needful in time of war, is found a specimen of every object requisite for the complete establishment of an office, or for postal relays for army service during a campaign.

The collection of stamps, &c., contains (with the exception of some obsolete emissions) a specimen of every adhesive, stamped envelope, post card, &c.; issues from the introduction of this method of prepayment down to our own days.

On the 1st of December, 1875, this collection comprehended 3,431 individual stamp impressions of every nature. The adhesives and envelopes, taken separately, are apportioned as follows:

	Adhesives.	Stamped Envelopes.
Europe	1404	285
Asia	207	21
Africa	170	8
America	765	77
Australia	160	2

The historical section is principally distinguished by a remarkable collection of drawings and copies representative of every system of transport employed from remote ages until the end of the last century. In addition may be remarked designs of the sedan chairs in use up to the commencement of the present century, as well as the plaster model of a statue representing a postman of the middle ages, the original of which ornaments the top of the principal staircase of the town hall at Basle. The same section comprises a sub-division consecrated to postal curiosities; this portion of the museum is exclusively enriched by gifts from postal *employés* or amateurs. Seals and coins are also begun to be collected.

Objects relative to foreign postal institutions are represented in photographs forming a special gallery, among which are principally remarkable:

From Russia—a reindeer-post employed in the government of Archangel; a sledge-post used on the frozen river, Vitchegda, in the government of Vologda; a boat-post (Post Karbas) doing duty between Archangel and the monastery of Solovetski, situate on an island of the White Sea; and lastly an *arba* of Georgia, or Caucasian post (a two-wheeled car drawn by mountain oxen).

From Switzerland—The St. Gothard mail, and the diligence which serves the baths of Gournigel.

From the United States of America—Photographs of the head post-offices of New York, St. Louis, Chicago, New Orleans, &c.; edifices which, for the most part, are of a grandiose character, and are, besides, distinguishable for their fine architecture.

We have now but one desire, which is, that all governments would decide on following the lead of the German Empire, and establish museums after the plan of that of Berlin in their several capitals.—*The Philatelist.*

A History of Postage Stamps.

BEING A RESUME OF THE DESCRIPTIONS OF ALL KNOWN STAMPS AND THEIR VARIETIES.

EUROPE.

BY OVERY TAYLOR.

Continued from page 103.

MALTA.

THE solitary Maltese stamp has now been in existence for more than fifteen years. Its emission was decided on in the early part of 1860.



The execution of the design was entrusted to De La Rue & Co., and a government notice, dated the 10th November, 1860, fixed its emission for the 1st December of that year. The type will compare favorably with some of the more pretentious productions of the celebrated stamp manufacturers. It has remained unchanged ever since, and the varieties are derived entirely from differences in shade of color and paper. The first issue or edition was printed in dull buff on white unwatermarked paper; but in 1862, according to a Maltese collector, some sheets were delivered of a *bluish* paper; the second issue, which appeared in the year 1863, was watermarked with c. c. and crown, the

third, dating from 1864, was printed in light orange on the watermarked paper, and the fourth, in 1875, in deep orange. The bluish variety is probably an accidental one, and some assert that it is due simply to the action of the gum, but the other varieties are no doubt of official origin and worthy of collection.

The stamp is issued to prepay the postage of letters between the islands of Malta and Gozo and the thickly inhabited villages of the former which possess a daily mail service. The postage on letters for England or other countries is paid in English stamps, which are obliterated with a large capital M. Some unwatermarked English large-letter sixpenny were accidentally sent out to Malta and used there; they are consequently classed by continental collectors with the Maltese stamps. There seems to be no likelihood of the isolated half-penny label being joined by any fresh values and as the postage cannot well be reduced below the amount indicated on the stamp, there would be but little advantage in issuing even a post card. The busy little Mediterranean naval station is but poorly represented.

MECKLENBURG-SCHWERIN.

Collectors whose experience extends over a dozen years or so, will remember the ardent desire then displayed to obtain specimens of the "mite" Mecklenburg. The stamp drew attention by its ridiculous smallness, and before stamp importing had become a trade the "mite" was tolerably scarce, and had its value. The idea of issuing a subdivisible stamp—of which Brunswick also furnishes an example—was a curious one, and perhaps had something to recommend it of which we are not aware, but it did not make much way. Possibly, objections arose to the circulation of stamps which had been drawn and quartered. Be that as it may, the Mecklenburg label become well known at a time when other less peculiar but more valuable stamps attracted but slight notice.





The 1st July, 1856, was the date of issue of the first Mecklenburgs. The series consisted of the following values:

¼ schilling (printed in fours), pink.
3 " yellow.
5 " brown.

The four ¼ schg. stamps printed together represented a 1 schg. stamp, and in the envelope series there is an intermediate value, a 1½ schg.; hence, by calculating the changes which may be rung on the four-quarter stamp, and including the envelopes, we get a series com-

posed of ¼ schg., ½ schg., ¾ schg., 1 schg., 1½ schg., 3 schg , and 5 schg. stamps.

The designs of the stamps do not call for comment, but it may be mentioned that the bull's head which forms the arms of the Grand Duchy is also found on the shield of the Mecklenburg-Strelitz stamps. In the first ¼ schg. the ground on which the bull's head is drawn is filled with a dotted pattern, but in 1865 the groundwork was done away with, and the stamp reissued as it is represented on this engraving.

The issue of perforated stamps took place in 1864, and was made the occasion for a change in the colour of the 5 schg., from blue to brown, to bring it into accord with the stamps of equivalent values issued by other states of the postal union. The 1864 issue reads thus:—

¼ schg. (dotted ground)	pink.
3 schg.	yellow.
5 schg.	brown.

In 1865 the ¼ schg. on plain ground, alluded to above, was issued, and was perforated like its predecessor. Lastly, in 1866, a new value, 2 schg. reddish lilac (perf.), made its appearance, and the series continued in circulation until the 1st January, 1868.

ENVELOPES.

The envelopes are a decidedly handsome and well engraved series. They were issued on the same day as the adhesives —the 1st July, 1856,—and consisted of the following values:



1	schilling,	red.
1½	"	green.
3	"	yellow.
3	"	orange.
5	"	blue.

In 1860 the same stamps were reissued with the diagonal inscription, which traverses the envelope, printed in smaller type. The difference which marks the two editions is clearly perceptible, and when a collector can secure specimens of both, it is worth while to do so. The colour of the 5 schg. was altered from blue to bistre in 1864, to match the adhesive, and in 1866 a 2 schg. lilac was issued, which was intended to replace the 1½ schg. The post-office, however, sold out its stock of the latter value by affixing two adhesive ¼ schg. by the side of the embossed stamp, and then selling the envelope as a 2 schg. one.

MECKLENBURG-STRELITZ.

The series issued for use in this Grand Duchy may be very briefly



dismissed. The date of its emission was the 1st October, 1864, and like the stamps of Mecklenburg-Schwerin and many other of the minor German states, its suppression—resulting from the incorporation of the Duchy in the North German Confederation—took effect on the 1st January, 1868.

The values and colours were as follows :—

Rectangular.	¼ sgr.	orange.	Octagonal.	1 sgr.	rose.
	⅓ "	green.		2 "	blue.
	1 schilling	mauve.		3 "	stone.

There were also three envelopes—1 sgr., 2 sgr., and 3 sgr.,—the stamps on which are identical in design and color with the adhesives of the corresponding values. All the adhesives are line-pierced. It is a noticeable circumstance, that whilst the arms on the stamps of the two Mecklenburgs are identical, the currency in which the values are expressed is not. This is a striking illustration of the diversity of the old German coinage. In Mecklenburg-Schwerin the denominations are all in *schilling;* in Mecklenburg-Strelitz, with one exception, they are all in *silbergroschen.* What may have been the special service intended to be performed by the solitary *schilling* stamp of the Strelitz series has never been stated.



MODENA.

From the somewhat prim and formal German stamps, with no history worth naming, it is a relief to turn to the more interesting and irregular issues of the Italian state. It was on the 1st of January, 1852, that the Duchy of Modena was endowed with postage stamps of the annexed design, and of the following values :



5	centesimi	green.
10	"	violet.
25	"	pale ochre.
40	"	blue.
1	lira	white.

The impression was in black on colored paper for the first four stamps, and white for the fifth. The latter is further distinguished from the rest by being watermarked with a letter A. Some hint of the old paternal style of government is found in the inscription POSTE ESTENSI, which means " Post of the House of Este," and may be taken to signify that the post was considered as a kind of appanage of the reigning house. The design is not executed in the highest style of art,

and it would appear from the number of varieties exemplifying printer's errors, that the inscription as well as the value was formed of movable types, and composed more than once during the currency of the stamps. Thus we find that all the values exist with *poste* misprinted *posie*. The errors in the values are well-known; varieties are found with one or other of the following combinations to represent the words CENT, viz.,—*eent cenl, ent, cnet, cnt, ce6t, ce ≈ t, cetn, clnt,* &c. As the series has been reprinted, the suspicion has arisen that the reprinters have fabricated some of these "errors;" but in any case their philatelic value is really slight, for they simply establish the fact that the printers were careless.

During the seven years in which the series was current, some slight variations naturally occurred in the shade of the paper employed; two colour-varieties of the 5 c., 15 c., and 40 c., may be with propriety distinguished. As to the 10 c., for a reason which will be hereafter explained, the colour was altered from violet to rose in 1853, and at one time specimens of the violet 10 c. which, as will be observed, had but a short circulation, were not easily procurable, but now-a-days it is scarcely less common than the other values.

JOURNAL-TAX STAMP.

On the 9th August, 1852, a treaty was entered into between Austria, Parma, and Modena, by which the two latter powers agreed to impose a tax of 9 centesimi on all political Journals originating out of the territories of the other contracting parties, and brought into the country through the post. Parma commenced to collect the tax by means of a stamp struck on the journals themselves, a system it soon had to abandon. In Modena, however, on the 1st February, 1853, the collection was effected by the apposition of a 9 c., adhesive stamp, of the same design as the ordinary postage stamps, but with the letter B. G. (*Bollo Giornale*) prefixed to the denomination. A year afterwards, a second variety was issued, with the letters B. G. of smaller size. Specimens of the small-letter type are common, but the large-letter B. G. is of considerable rarity, owiug no doubt to its brief circulation. Both varieties are printed on violet paper—the tint originally selected for the ordinary 10 c., adhesive. In the last edition of Dr. Gray's catalogue, through a misunderstanding, the two B. G. stamps are catalogued as "Newspaper," instead of "Newspaper Tax" stamps.

In 1859, according to the generally accepted statement, the B. G. stamps were succeeded by the square type, and of which the inscription signifies "Gazette Tax." The cause of the issue must no doubt be found in the increase of the tax from 9 centesimi to 10 centesimi. This stamp was not destined to have a long circulation, for in the course of a year the local government was "obliterated" by a peace-

ful revolution, and its issues gave place to those of the provisional government.

PROVISIONAL SERIES.



Although, if I recollect aright, the revolution took place in July, the old stamps did not give place to the new issue of the annexed type until the 15th October, 1859. Apparently the interval was occupied in selecting and engraving the design and printing the supply The Savoy arms clearly indicate the change which had been wrought in the direction of affairs, and, as historic mementoes, the Modenese provisionals are superior to those Parma. Their colours and values are:

5	centesimi	green.
15	"	brown.
20	"	lilac.
40	"	rose.
80	"	orange.

Probably the postal tariffs were reformed at the same time, the 20 c. being made to replace the 25 c., and the 80 c. to replace the old 1 lira. The provisional stamps are printed in colour on white, a very easy mode of distinguishing them from the series which their issue superseded. Some "printer's errors" are quoted in connection with them, but it is quite possible that they are peculiar to the reprints.

The exact date of suppression of the provisional stamps has not been stated, but it probably occurred in 1861–2, and since then the Italian stamps have been used in the quondam duchy.

The Don Carlos Stamps.





Taking advantage of the presence of Don Carlos in the city, we wrote a letter to him enclosing a complete set of stamps purporting to have been issued by his authority, unfortunately the answer he was kind enough to send us is like most official letters rather too vague to be of any use except to establish the well known fact that stamps were used by his forces, but the main question, as to which particular de-

signs were used, has not been answered, we can assure our readers that we are still working up the facts and hope to have the mystery which surrounds these interesting stamps satisfactorily cleared up before long.

Translation of the letter and answer are annexed.

NEW YORK, 21ST JULY, 1876.

To H. R. H.
DON CARLOS MA DE BORBON.
Present.

Sir .

Will you have the kindness to inform me how many of the enclosed varieties of postage stamps (if any) were used by your Majesty forces during the late war in Spain.

As many spurious stamps supposed to have been issued under your authority are being offered to collectors, you will confer a great favor by replying to this.

With great respect
I remain
Your obd servt,
M. SCOTT.

M. SCOTT ESQ.

Sir :

His Majesty, my master, the Duke of Madrid, has taken due notice of yours of the 21st inst. requesting him to state if the postage stamps you enclosed were genuine.

I am authorised by His Majesty to answer you that said stamps are the only ones which have had a legal circulation in the country occupied by His troops during three years.

I take pleasure in offering you my best wishes and remain your most obedient servant
EL VISCONDE DE MONSERRAT.

NEW YORK, 24 July 1876.

Another Swindler Exposed.

We have repeatedly warned our readers against purchasing stamps from dealers who are ashamed to do business under there own names, but as the following letters show, our advice has not been heeded by our readers until too late to save themselves from being swindled at least once, and this is all the swindlers expect, for if all the subscriber to the American Journal of Philately were to give them one trial they would consider there fortunes made.

Messrs Scott & Co.
New York.

Gentlemen !

Enclosed please find letter of the Triumph Stamp Co., Erie Pa., a swindle concern of the first water. I ordered about $1,50 worth of stamps, stating to send me only good genuine stamps.

I enclosed the money and received in return the meanest counterfeits and letter I enclose. Please publish in your next monthly a notice in regard to the imposters and you may use my name.

Albert Degan.

July, 29.

Albert Degan Esq.

Dear Sir:

Your favor of the 25th, rec'd, enclosed find stamps as per order except the Cape, we have not got them at present, you say very emphatically that you want *genuine stamps.* We do not guarantee our stamps *all genuine,* we buy many of our stamps from American dealers as *genuine* stamps if they are not, we are no to be blamed, as we are not very skillful judges, all the stamps which we purchase of Foreign P. O's. we do *warrant genuine.*

Hoping to hear from you again, we remain yours truly,

TRIUMPH STAMP CO.
Erie, Pa.

The cool impudence with which this swindle (we almost wrote swindlers, but it is very doubtful if the "Triumph Stamp Co." consists of more than one small office boy) professes entire ignorance of the business he is supposed to be engaged in, is decidedly refreshing this hot weather. If our readers will be foolish enough to deal with these Stamp Companies they must expect to be swindled, and we suppose that as the race of fools will never die out, there will always be thieves to rob them.

At the Centennial.

From our Philadelphia Correspondent.

I will now return to J. W. Scott & Co's., exhibit, and describe the magnificent collection of U. S. and Foreign revenues there displayed. First and foremost comes the celebrated Moreheads neurodine, one of the few stamps that has remained unique a year after its discovery ; the design is the same as the magnetic plaster, with the wording changed, and enlarged in all its proportions. The next unique which strikes the eye of the observer is the beautiful 1 c. Ayres in *scarlet,*

while such rarities as 6 c. Swaim's, Dr. Pearl's Bitters, Mercado and Seully; the red Barnes, Bennet Pieters Red Jacket Bitters, the old 2 and 4 c. J. F. Henry, the purple Husband, T. Kensett's pretty little stamp which was used on canned fruit and after the proprietors had been at the expense of engraving and had used some hundreds of dollars worth it was discovered that canned fruit did not require stamps, but I never heard of the government refunding any of the money which it had wrongfully received. The very rare 1 c. black, liver pills stamp, of McLane, the 6 c. U. S. Proprietary Medicine Co., and many others in fact I do not remember a single stamp that is missing, and as all the specimens are in the finest possible condition, we must pronounce the collection perfect The playing card stamps are of course complete. The Match stam s likewise appear to be perfect, I notice among other excessively rare ones, the Rock Island 3 c. green, the green Aetna, the 3 c. brown Bousfield and Poole, the black Brown and Durling, the 3 c. black, Chicago Match Co; W. E. Doolittle's stamp, who does not appear to have belied his name, as by the excessive rarety of his stamp must have done very little business, Henning and Bonhack's stamp, the proprietors of which are in the state prison in company with Howard and some others who are represented in this collection by their stamps, Macklins stamp, with the big rooster on it, which if he crowed loud did not crow long, which accounts for its rarity. The Pierce stamp, Richardson's red stamps, by the way it would appear that the war gave people's minds a sanguinary turn for we find quite a number of stamps printed in red, when first issued under pressure of the war, which now that peace is restored have returned to more peaceful colors, Wise's rare stamp which to balance Doolittle belies his name, for if he had been a wise man he would have laid by a few of his stamps which at this time would be worth quite a little fortune.

The foreign revenue stamps appear to have been selected more for their beauty than their rarity, but there are quite a good sprinkling of scarce stamps among them, we notice full sets of the handsome stamps of Brazil, France, and many other countries, as the showmen say, too numerous to mention.

I see that I omitted to call attention to the U. S. do ument stamps, the first set is complete, and contains a beautiful specimen of that rarest of all the government issue the $20 probate of will, also a fine $ 00 stamp. The last issue stops at the $25 stamp.

In my next I will review the exhibits of the Bank Note Co's., and some few foreign lots, I have discovered. July, '76.

Newly Issued Stamps.

FIJI ISLANDS.—The entire new set of stamps for these islands which were referred to last month, are now before us, the colors and values are :

1 penny ultramarine. 2 pence dark green. 6 pence, dark rose.

UNITED STATES.—To make up for the lack of other illustrations we give the complete set of U. S. newspaper stamps, which will no doubt, prove acceptable to most of our readers, as it is doubtful if the majority will ever see the beautiful originals.







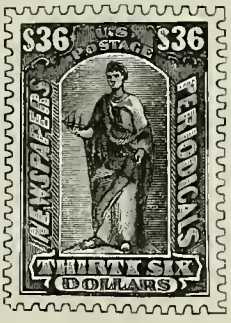
















JAPAN.—The 5 sen of the new set is now before us, although of similar appearance to the values heretofore described, the design is quite changed, the English inscription is as follows and occupies the outer frame : JAPANESE EMPIRE POST POST FIVE SEN., in the centre is the imperial emblem with a star shining on it from above and supported by two beautiful little wreaths, this is enclosed in a wide oval frame occupied by Japanese characters; the spandrils are filled by winged wheels. Color brown.

NEW SOUTH WALES.—The new shilling which has been announced so long is now issued, the color is black.

The Plimpton Envelopes.

BY C. H. C.

(Continued from page 40.)

The list of these envelopes published in the February number of the Journal was supposed by me to be complete, so far as the series for general use for the public was concerned. It was the result of a year's research among the various post-offices of the country, "from the Atlantic to the Pacific, from the great lakes to the gulf of Mexico," as the Centennial orator would say.

Latterly, however, it has been my good fortune to have considerable correspondence with a gentleman who has access to the official records (such as they are), and who has consequently been able to pursue his investigations under peculiarly favorable circumstances. It is to him that I am indebted for nearly all the information here given.

The following envelopes (all obsolete) must be added to my list on pages 19 & 20.

Reference Number	Size.	Denomination.	Die.	Color of paper.	Quality of paper.
500½	Note.	3c.	A	Amber.	second.
501½	"	3c.	B	"	"
516½	Ord. let.	3c.	A	"	third
519½	"	3c.	B	"	"
523½	Full let.	3c.	A	"	"
526½	"	3c.	B	"	"
533½	"	6c.	—	"	"
534½	"	7c.	—	"	"
542½	ungummed	2c. brown.	C	Gold.	—— ?

561½	Ex. let.	3c.	A	Amber.	third
564½	"	3c.	B	"	"
568½	"	6c.	—	"	"
572½	ungummed	2c. brown.	C	Gold.	——— ?

On page 18, it will be noticed that I mentioned amber paper as coming only in the *first* quality, so that in enumerating the amber envelopes on page 19, I had reference to that quality. In addition thereto, the color has been discovered in *second* and *third* qualities, in the sizes &c., stated in the supplementary list just given.

As most collectors are aware, the P. O Department is exhibiting at the "Centennial," a set of its stamps and stamped envelopes. The envelopes, so far as the Plimptons are concerned, were specially prepared for the occasion, (three or four sets were in all prepared), and in addition to the orthodox varieties, contain the following:—

Extra official size, 6, 12, 15, 24, 30 and 90c. on cream.

Full letter and extra letter (ungummed). } 2c. Die A. Brown on gold paper.

These two last were included in my list on page 19 (Nos. 541 and 551). It now appears that they never were prepared for postal purposes, though, of course there is nothing to prevent them going through the mails to day. Nevertheless they were got up simply to exhibit at the "Centennial."

The extra officials on cream seem to have been prepared for the same purpose, though there is to be said in their favor that the government gave the Plimpton Co., an order to prepare and issue them to the public, but the Company used amber paper instead, and from all that can be learned the cream envelopes of the size stated were not printed at all until the P. O. Department required them for exhibition purposes I therefore do not think these envelopes (the 2c. Die A on gold and the cream extra officials) of any philatelic value; but having explained for what purpose they were prepared, I leave collectors to accept or reject them as they may deem best.

It will be noticed that No. 542½ and 572½ of my supplementary list have queries affixed. The P. O. Department ordered these envelopes, to be prepared for sale to the public and they were so prepared; but they were immediately afterwards suppressed, in all probability before a single specimen had gone outside of the Plimpton factory. Still there is a possibility that they were supplied to one or two post-offices, but, as just stated I am inclined to think that such was not the case.

No. 556 of the list on page 19 does not exist, and was catalogued in error. It may consequently be erased as may also its counterpart viz; 6c. on blue, in the list of denominations and colors (cut envelopes) on pages 39 and 40.

On pages 17 and 40 I made allusions to minor varieties existing in some of the earlier dies, viz, 1, 2 and 3c. Die A. of the 3c. I have found in all about ten minor varieties, but the two mentioned on page 40 are by far the most noticeable. My correspondent, writing on the subject says :—

"These are mere accidents. The envelopes are printed not from the "dies but from transfers, which are retouched and, as they gradually "wear out, are replaced by fresh transfers. I ignore them altogether. "they are liable to occur in any of the envelope stamps that are ex- "tensively used."

On page 18, I stated that of "Full letter" three sizes of knife are known. This was in accordance with information received direct from the Plimpton company; and while I do not venture to doubt its correctness, I deem it proper to state that only two varieties have as yet come under my notice.

A History of Postage Stamps.

BEING A RESUME OF THE DESCRIPTIONS OF ALL KNOWN STAMPS AND THEIR VARIETIES.

EUROPE.

BY OVERY TAYLOR.

Continued from page 125.

NORWAY.

No one has ever written a paper on the officially-issued Norwegian stamps, probably for the simple reason that there is very little indeed to say about them. This would be a sufficient motive for my passing them over, were it not that the plan on which these papers are based forbids the entire omission of any country, however unchequered may be the history of its stamps.

The emissions of Norway form a not unpleasing array. They exemplify the three principal classes of stamp design,—the national arms, the effigy of the Sovereign, and the numeral of value. They are fairly engraved, and the arms series may lay some claim to delicate execution.

The first issue which took place in 1854, was confined to a single value, of which the type is annexed—



4 skilling, blue.

This stamp has that old-fashioned appearance which characterizes many first issues. Although it was in use only a couple of years, it has never been rare, and, wonderful to relate, no color varieties or sub-types are known.

In 1856 the "head" series saw the light. The portrait

of the king is a striking one, and there is something rather French in the *pose*. The impressions are uniformly clear, and the paper is of a stoutish texture. The four values, which are as follow :



2 skilling, orange,
3 " lilac,
4 " blue,
8 " dull lake,

make a good show. Of the 2 skg. there is a comparatively scarce pale yellow variety, and two shades of the 4 sk. may be noted.

King Oscar died in 1859, but the stamps bearing his effigy were nevertheless, continued in use until 1863, when they were in part superseded by the third type. In that year the new



4 skilling, blue,
8 " pale rose,

of the annexed design, with a fresh value, the

24 skilling, brown,

were issued. A couple of years elapsed before the emission of the new

2 skilling, yellow,

—of which two fairly distinct shades may be noted,—and it was not until 1866 that the

3 skilling, lilac,

put in its appearance.

Hardly had the series been completed by the latter value, than it was superseded (in 1867) by a fourth type, differing from its predecessor principally in the repetition of the figure of value on either side of the abbreviation SKILL., and further varied by the employment of a ground of vertical lines, instead of the former diaper pattern. No explanation of the cause of the change of type has ever been given, and it can only be conjectured that it was made because the figure of value in the 1863 series was not judged to be sufficiently prominent. The values of the 1867 issue are as follow :—



2 skillings, orange yellow.
3 " lilac.
4 " blue.
8 " rose (two shades).

The series was completed in 1868 by the emission of a

1 skilling, greyish black.

The 24 sk. of the 1863 type was allowed to remain in use, either because its employment was more limited, or it was considered not to possess the same effect as its companions.

In 1872-3 the present series was issued. Its type seems to some extent to have been modelled on that of the current Danish. The alliance between particular colors and denominations, which was maintained through three successive series, has been dissolved in this, the fourth. The 2 skilling, which for sixteen years had been identified with yellow, comes out in blue ; the 3 skg., in lieu of the old established lilac, is in carmine ; the 4 skg. exchanges its ancient blue livery for a deep violet ; and even the interloping 1 skg. doffs the sombre coat of black, which it had worn since 1867, and re-appears in a brilliant green. The 7 skg., deep brown, is a new value, which has presumably superseded the 8 skg. As to the 24 skg., it appears to be an extinct denomination.



ENVELOPES AND POST CARDS.

The revolution in the color and design of the adhesives above referred to was accompanied by two important innovations. Envelopes and post cards were issued. The design of the adhesive did duty for both. Of the envelopes there are two values, the 3 skg. carmine (1872,) and 2 skg. blue (1873.) The post card (issued in 1872) is a buff one, neatly bordered, and plainly inscribed ; in the upper right angle it bears the impress of the 3 skg. in carmine.

OLDENBURG.

The early issues of Oldenburg are remarkable for their neatness and finish. They have the same kind of artistic primness as their Hanoverian contemporaries. There is the same conbination, at any rate in the first series, of the useful numeral of value with the decorative coat of arms ; and there is the same peculiarity noticeable in them as in many of the older German stamps,—They are rigidly rectangular. Whatever vagaries of ornamentation may be allowed in the centre of the German stamps of ante-Prussian days, their exterior border is always composed of a neatly ruled double-lined rectangle. Other stamps might take oval, octagonal, hexagonal, or sinuous-edged frames, the German engravers stuck fast to their four-sided ideal ; and it must be admitted that their productions are not lacking in a certain grave and well-balanced appropriateness. The first Oldenburg type is an example in point. The arms are very carefully and clearly drawn, though on a small scale ; the shield, containing the value is fancifully designed ; and the scroll, which frames it on the three sides, falls in graceful folds ; whilst the subordinate foliate ornaments and shading relieve and harmonize with the prominent features. The repetition of the value in three different forms is one of the peculi-



arities of this series. The central denomination is a fractional one, as on the first Hanoverian; on the right-hand side is its equivalent in *silber*-groschen, and on its left its equivalent in groschen,—an inferior and apparently strictly local coin, of which seventy-two went to the thaler. This description applies to three values of the series; the fifth and lowest, the $\frac{1}{3}$ sgr. green, has the equivalent denomination, 4 *schw.*,—an abbreviation of the word *schwar*,—inscribed on each of the lateral scrolls. The "schwar," a coin probably unknown out of Oldenburg, is about equal to a *centime*.

The $1\frac{1}{30}$ th. blue, $\frac{1}{15}$ th. rose, and $\frac{1}{10}$ th. yellow, were issued in 1851 or 1852: the $\frac{1}{3}$ sgr. green in 1855. The three former values are tolerably common in an obliterate state, and the $\frac{1}{30}$ th. and $\frac{1}{3}$ sgr. unused are not rare, but the rose and yellow are very difficult to obtain in an "immaculate" condition. The yellow is found in two shades, bright and pale, and there is a variety of the blue with a thick dash above the *a* in thaler.

The second Oldenburg type made its appearance in 1858, according to M. Moens; in 1860, according to Berger-Levrault, whose date I prefer. A change in the currency was probably the motive for the change in type, for it is not to be supposed that the "groschen" on the second series is the same coin as that to which reference is made on the first.



The emission of 1860 was in black on colour, and consisted of

$\frac{1}{4}$	silbergroschen	green.
1	groschen	blue.
2	"	rose.
3	"	yellow.

In 1861 it was superseded by a similar design in colour on white, as follows:—

$\frac{1}{4}$	silbergroschen	orange.	1	groschen.	blue.
$\frac{1}{3}$	"	green.	2	"	rose.
$\frac{1}{2}$	"	brown.	3	"	yellow.

The stamps of these two issues, with one or two exceptions are not easily procurable, and, indeed, the 3 groschen is rarely to be had, except on the break-up of an old collection. The prices at which they are quoted in dealers' lists do not give an idea of their scarcity, which their short circulation fully explains. Whenever a chance occurs for filling up a vacancy in either of these emissions at a reasonable figure it should be taken advantage of. There are no color varieties in the 1860 issue, but the 1861 stamps were printed in a rather thick ink, and two distinct shades can be made out for the $\frac{1}{3}$ gr., $\frac{1}{2}$ gr., 1 gr., and 3 gr. The $\frac{1}{3}$ gr. is also found with the word *drittel* misspelt in two dif-

ferent ways, and OLDENBURG written *Oldeiburg ;* the latter fault is repeated on the 3 gr.

The differences between the second and third types, though not striking at first sight, are really considerable. In the third issue the crown is as large again as that in the second; the arms and crown are on a solid coloured ground, and the ends of the scrolls, on which the value is inscribed, fill the place, which in the second type is occupied by the handle-like ornaments. Taken altogether, the third type is less correctly designed, and less pleasing, than its predecessor.



In 1862, the Oldenburg stamps donned the Prussian uniform. The series issued in that year ranks with the other Berlin-invented types. The type consists simply of an inscribed oval border enclosing the Oldenburg arms. Perhaps it looks a trifle prettier than some of its fellows, but it is evidently one of the family. Its five values are

⅓ groschen,	green.	2 groschen,	ultramarine.
½ "	orange.	3 "	bistre
1 "	rose.		

They are commoner and cheaper now than when they were in use.

ENVELOPES.

The envelope series was brought out in 1860. There were two issues of the same type, distinguished by simultaneous changes in the colour of the values, and in the position of the stamps. In the first issue they were struck on the left upper corner, and in the second issue, which took place in 1862, in the right upper corner. The values and colours are as follow :—



1860. ½ gr. brown ; 1 gr. blue ; 2 gr. rose ; 3 gr. yellow.
1862. ½ gr. orange ; 1 gr. rose ; 2 gr. blue ; 3 gr. bistre.

The specimens of the first issue are by no means common, especially uncut ; but the values of the second are more come-at-able.

It only remains to be added, that the ½ sgr. and the 1 sgr. of 1860 are each found in two opposite shades, both of which should be collected.

PARMA.

A GLANCE at the emissions of Parma carries us back to the time when Italy was a "geographi al expression," and the country was divided into half-a-dozen unimportant states. Among these states were the duchies of Modena, Tuscany, and Parma, which were all governed by rulers of Austrian "Proclivities," who managed to rub along in a mild despotic manner, and are still regretted by the shopkeepers of

their respective capitals who benefitted by the presence of a royal court. In politics and in administrative matters they took their cue from Austria, and hence it is not surprising that when that country adopted the system of cheap postage, with its corollary in the shape of postage stamps, the three duchies should have been desirous of copying the example. An Austro-Italian postal league was consequently inaugurated by a convention between Austria and Tuscany, signed at Florence on the 5th November, 1850, which received the adhesion of the Duchess of Parma on the 17th September, 1851.

The act of the 17th September, 1851, stipulates, among other things, that the postage stamps to be issued shall be of the following values: 6 centesimi, 10 c., 15 c., 25 c., and 40 c.; and by a notice dated the 7th March, 1852, the Parmesan postmaster, M. Dentone, fixed the 1st June as the date of emission, and gives the colours of the five denominations. Thus, then, we have the date of isssue of the first series and the values of which it was composed clearly ascertained. The 5 c., 15 c., and 25 c. were printed in colour on white, and the 10 c. and 40 c. in black on colour. Until a recent period it was supposed that the two latter values were issued alone at a subsequent date, but the researches of a well-informed correspondent of *Le Timbre-Poste*, who has brought to light the official document treating of the emission, has proved the conjecture to be erroneous. And here let me take advantage of the opportunity to express my indebtedness to the author of the monograph published in the Brussels journal, as the present paper is founded almost exclusively on it.



The first Parmesan type is here represented. The Duchess of Parma was a Spanish Bourbon, hence the fleur-de-lis which forms the central device. The abbreviated inscription in the upper margin signifies STATI PARMENSI. The colours are as follow:—

5 cents.	pale yellow, dark yellow.	}	on white.
15 "	red, pale red.		
25 "	red-brown.		
10 "	black.		
40 "	dark blue.		

In the year 1856 the 5 c. 15 c. and 25 c. were issued in black on colour. No official notices have been found by which the exact date of the emission can be fixed, nor is it known for what reason the change in the mode of impression was made. The colours are as follow:—

5 centesimi.		yellow, greenish yellow.
15	"	rose.
25	"	violet.



The first stamp of the second type, the 25 c. brown, is believed to have been issued in July, 1857 ; it was followed in January, 1858, by the 40 c. bright blue, and the series was completed by the emission of the 15 centes. vermilion in March, 1859. These dates have been fixed as approximately correct after an examination of an official table showing the quantities of stamps printed from 1855 to 1869, and taking into account corroborative evidence supplied by obliterated specimens, and the personal recollections of M. Moens's correspondent.

The 15 centes. had a very brief currency, for on the 30th April, 1859, a few weeks after its emission, the Dutchess of Parma quitted her states in consequence of the outbreak of the revolution which resulted in the absorption of Parma into the Italian kingdom, and on the 1st August che series was formally suppressed. Obliterated copies of the 15 c. are scarce, and the 40 c. is not often to be met with postmarked, but reprints or remainders of the three values of this series, as also of the 5 c. and 10 c. of the preceding type, black on colour, are to be had for a song. As to the three stamps of the first series in colour on white, they have not been reprinted, and of them unused copies are far from common, whilst even used specimens of the 5 c. and 25 c. possess a certain value.

So much for the old ducal stamps for the prepayment of postage ; but there were other stamps issued contemporaneously, which require to be noticed. I refer to the

JOURNAL TAX-STAMPS.

They were first issued pursuant to a treaty of the 9th August, 1852, by which the states of Parma and Modena bound themselves to adopt the Austrian system of taxing foreign political journals. A subsequent notice fixed the amount of the tax at 9 centesimi, and 1st February, 1853, as the date for its introduction. By the terms of this notice the stamp which this ordinance rendered necessary was to be struck on the first page of the journal. The correspondent above referred to has resuscitated the design, which consists of two concentric circles, between which runs the inscription GAZZETTE ESTERE (foreign journals) PARMA. In the centre is the Parmesan shield and crown in outline, and below the shield the value CENT 9. This stamp was handstruck in black, and was used from the 1st February to the 13th April, 1853. On that date adhesive stamps were introduced for the collection of the tax. They were of the annexed well-known type, which subsequently served for the provisional postage stamps. The single value, 9 centesimi, was struck in black, at first on greyish blue, and afterwards on a deeper blue.



On the 31st October 1857, the treaty with Austria ex-

pired, and in anticipation of its expiry a decree was issued on the 8th of the same month, reducing the tax on journals from nine centesimi to six centesimi. The 6 centes. journal stamp, struck in black on dark rose, made its appearance in consequence on the 1st November, and continued in use until the annexation. On the 9th June, 1859, the Bourbon rule finally ceased, and the Sardinian government appointed Count Pallieri as provisional administrator of the duchy. The latter having ascertained from the different post-offices that the tax on the journals was a vexatious one, abolished it on the 6th July, 1859.

Both the journal-tax stamps are common enough unused, but used copies are not priced in the catalogues. There are some misprint varieties of each.

Provisional Series of Postage Stamps.

Count Pallieri applied to the Turin post-office on the 26th June, 1859, for a supply of Sardinian postage stamps, and a small quantity was at once sent. They were issued to the public on the 25th July, and the stock being soon exhausted, a fresh application was made on the 2d August, which was refused, probably for political reasons On the 8th August, Count Pallieri addressed a proclamation to the people of Parma informing them of his intention to withdraw and leave them to themselves, but it appears that the threat was only a feint. He remained, but as no Sardinian stamps could be had, and things were in a provisional state, it was deemed advisable to have recourse to the type of the old journal-tax stamps, with its simple inscription, STATI PARMENSI, which compromised nobody. A supply was struck off in color on white, and issued without formal notice between the 16th and 27th August. The values were those of the Sardinian stamps, which had enjoyed a brief fortnight's currency, viz. :—

5	centesimi	yellowish green, bluish green.
10	"	brown.
20	"	blue, pale blue, dark blue.
40	"	vermilion, red-brown.
80	"	olive-yellow, yellow, orange, deep orange.

They remained in use until the end of April, 1860, although the Sardinian stamps were formally introduced on the 12th January, of that year.

Misprint varieties are to be found among them as among their predecessors. All the values, except the 80 centes., are common unused, though not many years back they were considered as rarities. The specimens now-a-days offered for sale must, if we accept the statement of M. Moens's correspondent (and he certainly appears to be fully informed) form part of the surplus stock or "remainder" in the Parma post-office; for he distinctly says that "None of the old Parmesan stamps have

ever been reprinted. After an inventory of the plates had been taken by Count Barals they were all packed up, and subsequently sent off to the Finance Minister at Turin." To this, indeed, it may be objected that stamps which have even been engraved in Turin, under the eye of the Finance Minister have been reprinted. The fact that the plates were sent to Turin does not appear to me to be conclusive, and certainly if there have been no reprints taken of the stamps of Parma, the surplus stock of some of the values must have been enormous.

Counterfeits.

BY A MIDDLE-AGED COLLECTOR.

Probably there has never been a time in the history of Philately in America when there were so many counterfeits in circulation as at the present day. This is more to be deplored, as, heretofore, this country has been comparatively free from these pests of the young beginner. While in Europe, my connection with various educational establishments gave me exceptionally good opportunities for seeing boys' collections, and I should say, that German collections of this class, (300 to 1000 varieties), contain 25 per cent. of counterfeits; similar English collections would contain about 15 per cent.; while not more than 5 per cent. of imitations would be found in the average of American boys' collections. I do not think this is owing to our boys being better judges than their European confreres, but to the fact that heretofore the American dealers have been more honest than their contemporaries abroad.

The great increase in the number of counterfeits, in small collections, which I have noticed lately, is directly traceable to the mushroom companies which are springing up in all the cities of the interior. These sometimes consist of one or two dishonest errand boys who use the stamp business as a blind by which to account to their fathers for the possession of money stolen from their employers; others, perhaps, confine their stealing to their dupes in the philatelic line, and as they are not likely to get many orders from the same persons, change the name of the company every month or two. Thus, "The Great American Stamp Co." of to-day may be "The Centennial Stamp Co." of last month, and will most likely change to "The Consolidated European and American Stamp Agency," or some such concern, next month. Boys, have nothing to do with any one who trades under a false name, there can be but one object in using it, and that is to avoid responsibility. There are now many respectable dealers; if one does not give you satisfaction, try another, but first see

that the person to whom you send your money has a local habitation and a name—in other words, trades under his own name, and gives you his place of business, where he can always be found during business hours.

Some of the hundreds of boys, who sell stamps more or less, and call themselves dealers, may intend to be honest, but I very much doubt if there is a single one in the entire number who knows sufficient about stamps to be able to tell a genuine one when he sees it, except among the very common ones.

I have spoken thus strongly about these so-called dealers, because they are doing a very great harm to the science of Philately in America. Hundreds of boys have given up their collections in disgust on being told that their cherished album was half filled with counterfeits; and I must take this opportunity to record my conviction that "The collection of postage stamps is the most intellectual and agreeable pursuit of the day" that boys can be induced to engage in, and I have invariably found that the stamp collectors maintained themselves at the top of their class in geography, and often in other branches. Admitting that in purchasing by mail from strangers, amateurs may occasionally get imitations for their money, it by no means follows that the counterfeits should find their way into their collection. *Make it a positive rule to put no stamp into your album until you have devoted at least five minutes to a careful study of it.* By acting up to this rule strictly, I think I might offer to indemnify collectors for every counterfeit they unknowingly put in their collection, for a very small premium. Sets of modern stamps are *always* all of the same workmanship, so if you see one value, especially the low one, a fine steel engraving, and the high value you have just bought so cheap, a coarser, (that is the lines of the groundwork further apart), you may be sure the new comer is a counterfeit. Always buy the cheapest stamps of a set first, as they are less likely to be counterfeits. These you will have to compare subsequent purchases with, and if you will follow my advice in looking at your stamps, and in not buying of dealers who trade under false names, you will be comparatively safe from counterfeits, the bane of the amateur collector.

Clippings.

What Name.—An exercise of the Vox Humana recently occurred at the Boston Post Office that was a little more amusing than musical.

An individual stepped up to the general delivery window, and, in a somewhat subdued tone, asked,

"Any letters for me?"

"What name sir?" said the clerk in attendance.

"Watt," replied the applicant.

"What name?" repeated the clerk, still louder, growing red in the face in his effort.

"Watt, sir, is my name," now shouted the applicant, in return.

"Yes," responded the man of letters, putting in all the power of lungs he possessed, and shouting like a new adjutant at the head of a raw regiment, "what is your name, sir?"

"Yes, I know it is," now screamed the other, red and excited. "Do you mean to keep me yelling at you all day in this manner? Give me my letters!"

By this time two or three clerks inside the window had come to the rescue of their comrade, and a small crowd had gathered around the excited letter-seeker outside, who was shaking his fist and denouncing the Post Office Department for placing a deaf man at the delivery window.

"What do you mean by calling me deaf?" said the clerk, who overheard this last remark.

"Why, you are deaf, ain't you" asked his customer.

"Not a bit of it," said the clerk, "but you are, ain't you?"

"No, sir. I can hear a whisper a mile off."

"Then why do you keep saying 'What?' when I asked you your name?"

"Because Watt is my name—James Watt."

"O! I thought you said 'what' all the time, said the clerk.

"So I did; W-a-t-t, Watt."

At this, a fellow clerk suggested that they had better give old Watt's-his-name his letters; which was done, and the crowd, including several disappointed individuals who were in anticipation of a fight, instead of a laugh, dispersed.

CURIOUS POSTAGE STAMPS, THEIR COLLECTORS AND THEIR METHODS.—The other evening, crossing at Fulton Ferry, as the writer was placing some tickets in his pockets he chanced to expose an envelopeful of used stamps that he was taking home for his little girl who is "making a collection." Instantly a stranger sitting beside leaned over with a manifestation of deep interest.

"Ah!" he said, "a philatelist? What department, sir? I'm general and Asia myself.

The remark led to an extended conversation and subsequent researches which disclosed the fact that the pursuit of philately, or in other words the collection of postage stamps, is literally one of the great industries of the country. J. W. Scott & Co., formerly of Nassau

street and now on Fulton, are at the head of the American trade. That trade is not a small one, for this single house has a stock valued at $50,000. *The New York World.*

Curiosities of the London Post Office.

There are now more than thirteen thousand Post Offices in the United Kingdom, the number having been increased by 264 during the past year. The number of road letter-boxes exceeds ten thousand. Thus the total number of postal receptacles exceeds twenty-three thousand, as compared with sixteen thousand ten years ago, and with less than five thousand before the establishment of the penny postage in 1840. London alone has 1,744 of these receptacles. A curious instance is noted from a place in the west of Ireland, where the authorization for erecting a wall letter-box was rendered nugatory, by the fact that no one could be induced to undertake the collection of the letters, the spot where the box was to be fixed having the repute of being nightly paraded by a phantom having the appearance of "a large white turkey without a head." The fame of this headless phantom was fatal to the letter-box, and "superstition," as Lord John Manners intimates, was thus allowed to "stand in the way of postal accommodation." Miscellaneous articles, numbering 13,648, reached the Returned Letter Office wholly destitute of covers. In a large number of instances the covers had been too flimsy to resist what is called "the attrition to which packets are unavoidably subjected in the mail-bags." The faith in the capabilities and tender mercies of the Post Office is indeed great. "Small articles of almost endless variety" are committed to the care of the Postmaster General, as if he were the presiding genius of a parcels delivery company. Thus we have an enumeration of flowers, fruit, and vegetables, together with wearing apparel, leeches, snails, six white mice, a sparrow, two snakes, a crawfish, and a dog. There is, however, a limit to official endurance, and several of these articles were sent to the Returned Letter Office under a decree of prohibition. The dog partly slipped through the fingers of the officials, for, having been precipitated into the bag affixed to the letter-box at the Lombard street office, the animal was not discovered until the contents of the bag were turned out at St. Martin's-le-Grand.

The White Horse of Hanover.—Like the white elephants in Siam, the white horses of early German worship were carefully preserved and tended. In the neighbourhood of the haunted Harz mountains was their principal abiding place; and the sacred animal

is frequently seen carved over the doors of dwellings in North-Western Germany. The same effigy is still to be found on some German coins; and stamp collectors do not need being reminded of the horses portrayed on so many of the Hanoverian and Brunswick stamps.—*The Philatelist.*

THE DILIGENCIA STAMP OF MONTE VIDEO:—These stamps,—original impressions of which are very scarce,—appear to have been issued, in reality, by the proprietors of the diligences running between the town of Montevideo and the interior, and the charges were collected for their benefit. This we infer from the fact that the decree of 1859 opens as follows: "The prepayment of letters is *hereby* established, and the postal administration is forbidden to send any letter which does not bear a stamp;" and also from the fact that no reference is made therein to any pre-existing issue of stamps. Subsequently to the decree of 1859, the offices of the diligences became branch post-offices. Originals of the above stamps are very scarce.—*Dr. Gray's Illustrated Catalogue.*

THE FIRST ISSUE OF BRAZIL.—Brazil had the honor of being the first country in the world to adopt the cheap postage system introduced by Great Britain. It appears that a Brazilian consul, Mr. J. D. Sturz, who was stationed in a European town, comprehended its importance, and used all his influence at home to get it tried there. His efforts were successful; the decree ordering that *postage should be prepaid in stamps*, was signed on the 29th November, 1842, but the first series did not actually come into use until the 1st July, 1843. It was originally intended to put the sovereign's effigy on the stamps, as in England, but (the report goes) that the postmaster-general considered it would be showing disrespect to obliterate the face of the monarch, so recourse was had to the "bull's-eye" type.—*Dr. Gray's Illustrated Catalogue.*

Answers to Correspondents.

F. H. B., PHILADELPHIA.—Great Britain was the first country to issue postage stamps. For answer to your other question, see May No. of *Coin Collector's Journal.*

PHILATELIST, TORONTO.—Persian stamps are now arriving in this city by every mail; there is no doubt of their genuineness, but we should advise collectors to look carefully at all offered to them, for they have been counterfeited already.

S. B. B., PORTLAND.—Our publishers are selling a well-selected collection of five hundred varieties of foreign stamps in a good album for $11.50.

A History of Postage Stamps.

BEING A RESUME OF THE DESCRIPTIONS OF ALL KNOWN STAMPS AND THEIR VARIETIES.

BY OVERY TAYLOR.

Continued from page 140.

PORTUGAL.

From a beginner's point of view the Portuguese stamps are not free from certain difficulties. The variations of type, consisting in the position of the profile, and the curled or uncurled locks which adorn it, are puzzling things to one whose knowledge of stamps in general dates back only a few months ; and inattentive collectors, whose acquaintance with the contents of their albums extends over a longer period, are apt to confound the current series with its immediate predecessor. Yet, in fact, all that is needed in order to understand the Portuguese issues is the exercise of very ordinary powers of observation. The first series, that with Donna Maria's profile, is at once recognisable. In the second we get the portrait of her successor, Pedro V., to *right ;* in the third, that of the reigning king, Luis, to *left*. The values are the same (with one exception) in all three series, and each value, throughout the three series, keeps the frame originally allotted to it. The three subjoined engravings are illustrations of the three successive types.



1st Type.
(Donna Maria.)



2d Type.
(Pedro V.)



3d Type.
(Luis I.)

The following values and normal colours run through them all :

5 reis	brown.	50 reis	green.
25 "	blue.	100 "	lilac.

Added to which there is a 25 reis rose in the second, and an additional value—10 reis, orange-yellow—in the third series. To these types—identical as to the frame and differing as to the portrait—succeed two others, which are practically identical as to the portrait, but differ only in the frame, as will be seen from these engravings :



4th Type. (Luis I.)

The fifth type differs chiefly from the fourth in that the labels above and below the portrait are prolonged to the outer margin. It differs also in secondary details; the shape of the white labels at the sides is changed, the letters below the portrait are suppressed, and the background is formed of simple vertical lines instead of a trellis-pattern. The values and normal colours of these two series are the same, viz :—



5th Type. (Luis I.)

5 reis	black.	25 reis	rose.	100 reis	lilac.
10 "	yellow.	50 "	green.	120 "	blue.
20 "	ochre.	80 "	orange.	240 "	mauve.

Having thus contrasted the various series, and placed before the reader their salient points, let me now take them *seriatim* for the purpose of noticing their several peculiarities, choosing for my guide, as far as possible, the admirable and exhaustive article on the "Stamps of Portugal," by the Rev. R. B. Earee, which appeared in the last volume of this magazine.

FIRST SERIES.—Issued in 1853.—The two higher values vary but slightly in shade, and present no admissible colour varieties. They are scarce in a postmarked state, and would seem to have been but slightly employed. The 5 reis runs from moderately dark chocolate to yellowish brown; the 25 reis from very pale chalky blue to a dark dull blue, verging on indigo. The 5 reis is *almost* a rarity, whilst the 25 r. is certainly a common stamp. The former was used for newspaper postage, at a time when newspapers were not so cheap or so extensively patronised as at present; the latter represented the minimum rate for letters from one part of the country to the other, and great numbers have been preserved on the epistles they franked. The design was furnished by an engraver who rejoiced in the sounding name of Francesco de Borges Freire, and his initials—F. B. F.—are found on the section of the neck of the bust. It was struck in high relief, like the design of succeeding issues, on a paper which was much too thin to receive it, and consequently many specimens are found with the paper cut through by the die. However, there is this to be said in favour of the system of embossing, that it rendered forgery practically impossible: whilst Spain was compelled to change its type annually, in order to checkmate the stamp forgers, Portugal never had to call in a single stamp in order to counteract the circulation of counterfeits; and it must be said of the first type, at any rate, that, from an artistic point of view, it had some claim to be considered effective. That fine old lady—Donna Maria—has a right regal aspect on the stamps. In 1864 the entire series was

reprinted in a very careful manner. The reprints are distinguished by the white gum with which they are backed, that of the originals being brown. The colors are all of the lighter shades, viz.: 5 reis, yellowish brown; 25 reis, chalky blue; 50 reis, bright yellow-green; and 100 reis, rather pale lilac. Originals of all except the 5 reis are scarce, and used copies are generally obliterated in such an out-and-out way that really, as far as appearance goes, the reprints are preferable.

SECOND SERIES.—Issued in 1855.—Although the frames of th stamps of the second and third series are, respectively, identical with those of the stamps of the first, it must not be supposed that they were struck from the same dies. On the contrary, fresh dies were cut, the designs each time being copied from those first adopted; and of the correctness of this statement a superficial examination will suffice to satisfy the reader. The second series was engraved by de Borges Freire, and his initials appear on the bust, but in sunken letters, whilst on the first type they were embossed. The king is represented with *straight* hair, which *partially covers the ear*, as in the above engraving. No less than five typical varieties of the 5 reis are found, showing that five different drawings of the frame must have been m de. The description of the distinguishing points of the five types will be found in the last volume. Collectors who happen to get hold of any number of 5 reis stamps would do well to compare them carefully together, with a view to discover the varieties. The colours of the two lower values, of which, of course, a larger number must have been struck than of the higher denominations, vary considerably, the 5 reis ranging from dark chocolate to yellowish brown, and the 25 reis from chalky blue to dark royal blue. The 50 reis and 100 reis give no marked colour varieties.

In 1856 an important modification was effected in this type. The 5 reis and 25 reis stamps were entirely re-engraved, and the king was represented on the new issue with *curly* hair so disposed as to leave the *ear uncovered.* Whether the engraver altered the arrangement of the hair because it looked better curled, or whether, as Mr. Earée suggests, the change was effected at the king's own request, it is impossible to say. Perhaps a simple regard for truth prompted the alteration. The sub-type requires to be sub-divided itself, as regards each value, into two typical varieties. The 5 reis in one variety has the pearls very large, very close together, and oval; and in the other variety they are small, tolerably far apart, and quite round. The differences in the two 25 reis lie in the network; in one variety it is coarse, and in the other fine. These stamps run through the same gamut of colours as their predecessors; but I apprehend that most collectors will be satisfied with one or, at the most, two copies of each value.

In 1857 a rose 25 reis of the "curly" type made its appearance, and

as it remained in use until 1862, it became by far the commonest of the Don Pedro series. Of this stamp, also, two secondary typical varieties have been noticed.

THIRD SERIES.—Issued in 1862.—This series came into circulation just at the time when stamp collecting had become general; it therefore does not possess that halo of antiquity, to use an exaggerated phrase, which encircles the others. One cannot help looking with greater respect on stamps which circulated and prepaid and had their being in pre-philatelic days. Those which have since come out and been superseded we have known from their emission upwards, have been familiar with throughout, and we can never look at them as so thoroughly obsolete as the stamps which were issued before even *The Stamp-Collector's Magazine* was thought of. Will my readers pardon this garrulousness in respect of my old acquaintances, the Don Luis stamps? They cannot boast of being distinguished by any of those subtle differences of engraving which characterized their predecessors. The 5 reis alone can lay claim to the right of putting in an appearance in duplicate, by reason of the existence of two varieties, in one of which the 5 is near to REIS, and in the other is far away from that word. Such a distinction, however, unsupported by any other, is barely admissible. As to colour varieties, there are a fair number, but they are less remarkable than those of the early series. The 5 reis is found in chocolate of various shades; the 10 reis is faithful to orange-yellow; the 25 reis, starting with very pale rose, arrives at very dark rose-carmine; the 50 reis varies from yellow-green to dark bluish green; and the 100 reis, from very pale lilac to dark lilac *violacé*. This series, like the two previous ones, was engraved by de Borges Freire, who was not subsequently employed. His initials appear, in sunken letters, on the edge of the bust.

FOURTH SERIES.—Issued in 1866.—A Belgian engraver, Mr. C. Wiener, was employed to produce the type of this series, and he inaugurated quite a different style of design, whilst keeping to the old system of embossing. The profile of the king was not a successful one. The stamps, taken altogether, were showy and well printed. The introduction of the name of the country on the left-hand label was a praiseworthy innovation. The insertion of the engraver's initials in a prominent position below the bust was, on the other hand, a blemish. The normal colours were adhered to pretty closely with the unperforated edition, but a year after a second edition, neatly perforated, was issued, and these show some noticeable colour varieties. The 240 reis, it should here be observed, was not issued imperf. Among the perforated stamps we notice the following shades:—

10 reis yellow to vermilion-orange.
25 " dull rose to dark rose-carmine.

50 reis pale bluish to dark yellowish green.
100 " pale lavender to dull mauve.
120 " dull chalky blue, ultramarine, and royal blue.
240 " reddish lilac to bright mauve

Fifth series.—Issued 1871.—Apparently the Belgian engraver had not given satisfaction, for Campos, a native artist, was employed to design the fifth and current type, which is certainly an improvement on the fourth in many respects. The king's portrait is stated to be a very faithful representation of him. For the first time the engraver allows his work to speak for itself, and refrains from initialing it. Of the colours it is scarcely necessary to speak in detail; suffice it to say that there is the same tendency shown to variation as in the preceding series.

The 15 brown, 150 blue, and 300 reis violet, together with the 2½ r. olive green newspaper stamps, have been so lately chronicled in these pages, that it is only necessary to mention them now.

PRUSSIA.

The emissions of Prussia are remarkable, at least in one respect, and that is that they formed a guide and pattern as to color and value for the issue of a number of German states. In matters postal Berlin was the capital of Germany long before she assumed that position politically, and it is to the credit of the Prussian administration that for a long period it vindicated its right to direct the postal service of the Confederation by the intelligence with which it seized on improvements and led the way in every useful innovation.

Its early issues possess more historic interest than those of later days. The first three series are adorned with the respectable profile of the last king of Prussia, and the initial series of envelopes bears an admirably engraved portrait of the same monarch. How greatly it is to be regretted that the subsequent adoption of the national arms as the permanent and exclusive device of the stamps, precluded the representation of the soldierlike face of his militant successor!



Regarded from a philatelic point of view, the stamps issued during the reign of Frederick William IV. offer but little difficulty, at any rate to the beginner. He need not trouble himself with the abstruse distinctions between copies on a patterned or *burélé* ground and those *nonburélés*, which arise in respect of one of the series. The only thing he has to concern himself about is the presence or absence of a watermark.

The first issue consisted of the following values:—

Col. imp. 6 pfennige vermilion

Blk. imp.	1	silbergroschen	rose.
"	2	"	blue.
"	3	"	yellow.

It made its appearance in the year 1850, and in 1856 a 4 pf. green (col. imp) was added. All these stamps bear as a watermark *a laurel crown*, and the portrait is on a ground of crossed lines.

In 1857 the three higher values, 1 sgr., 2 sgr., and 3 sgr., were re-engraved ; and whilst the general design of the preceding stamps was adhered to, the details were modified, and the execution was finer. The chief point of difference is that the portrait appears on a solid ground, besides which the stamps are printed in color on white, and are not watermarked. Concurrently with this series the first 4 pf. and 6 pf. continued in use.

In 1858 the design of the second issue was retouched, the lines of the portrait were deepened, and a few strokes of the engraver's burin served to change the solid ground into a ground of crossed lines. So far, then, the design was brought into conformity with that of the first series, but the system of printing in colour on white was maintained. Of this type we have—

4 pfennige	green.	2 silbergroschen	blue.
1 silbergroschen	rose.	3 "	yellow.

These stamps are unwatermarked, and a fresh supply of the 6 pf. vermilion of the first type on *unwatermarked* paper was issued. When selecting copies of this stamp care must be taken to observe whether they show the laurel crown or not, as the absence of watermark is all that distinguishes the 5 pf. of 1858 from its forerunner of 1850.

The four values of the third type are said to exist on *burélé* paper, that is to say, on paper whereon is embossed over the whole face of the stamp a microscopical engine-turned pattern, which, in fact, is scarcely perceptible. Some doubt has arisen as to the genuineness of these *burélés* varieties, but, although the matter can hardly be considered as settled, the best opinion is that probably the *burélage* was applied as a trial, and the stamps which show it were perhaps only essays.

The first three series have been more than once reprinted. The first reprint of the 1850 series was on unwatermarked paper, which rendered detection easy in respect of the 4 pf. and 1, 2, and 3 sgr., but with regard to the 6 pf., which, as above stated, exists on both watermarked and unwatermarked paper, this test was not applicable ; the reprint of that value could only be known by its paler colour. Again, in 1873, the first issue was reprinted, and "it appears," says *The Stamp Collector's Magazine*, "that it is exceedingly difficult to distinguish the reprints from the originals, seeing that they are on paper watermarked with the laurel crown, that the plates are not worn, and

therefore the impressions are equal to the original ones, and that, although the paper seems somewhat thicker, no fair comparison can be made between these crisp new specimens and the oft-manipulated copies of the known originals. The colour of the paper offers, in respect of the three higher values, about the only test, and even that is an uncertain one. The old 1 sgr. have a more or less marked shade of *rose-orange;* the new are rose-mauve: the old 2 sgr. are dark blue; the new, sky or greenish blue: the old 3 sgr. are dark orange-yellow; the new are much paler, with a tendency towards a greenish shade. As to the two lower values, printed in colour, the reprinted orange ½ sgr. is of a more yellowish shade, whilst the 4 pf. green has less of yellow in it. However, that the stamps are reprints is certain, for only a little time back the Prussian post-office did not possess a single old stamp, and now the values of the first series are very easily obtainable.

Throughout the first three series it will be noticed that the values keep to their original colours, but in 1861, for some reason or other, it was decided to abandon the employment of yellow for the 3 groschen stamps, and substitute for it that changeable and ineffective hue which the French call *bistre*, and which we have christened "stone," whilst retaining the other colors previously employed. In 1861 the fourth series made its appearance, and we find it to be composed as follows:—

4	pfennige	green	arms in octagon.
6	"	orange	
1	silb.groschen	rose	arms in oval.
2	"	dull blue, ultramarine	
3	"	stone	



The oval design has been so often grumbled at as the acme of prosaic stiffness, that it is hardly necessary to criticise it again. Let us confine ourselves to observing that on the breast of the eagle are the initials F. R., which stand for *Frederic Rex.* No stamps are better known than these, and probably many a young collector has been disappointed at their too frequent appearance in his packet of stamps; no doubt, however, they are a trifle less common now.

In 1865 a new value appeared—the 3 pf. octagon, mauve—designed for the prepayment of circulars, &c., and no further alteration took place in the series, which continued in use until 1868, when the Prussian administration was merged in that of the Confederation.

In 1867, however a fresh series was issued, with values in *kreuzers*, for the special use of the provinces in which that fractional denomination was employed. The design may be fairly characterised as superior to that of the groschen series ; if not elegant, it has at any rate, a certain solidity and breadth which are wanting in the latter. The colours are :



1	kreuzer	green.	6	kreuzer	blue.
2	"	orange.	9	"	stone
3	"	rose.			

As these stamps were in use but a short time, they tend to become much scarcer than the other Prussian emissions, though, on the other hand, the certainty that a large stock was left over when the series was suppressed, must be taken into account in calculating the chances of possible rarity.

ENVELOPES.

The first series must be divided into oval and octagonal impressions, as follows :—



Ovals—	1	silbergroschen	rose.
	2	"	blue.
	3	"	yellow.
Octagons—	4	"	brown.
	5	"	lilac.
	6	"	green.
	7	"	green.



The pattern of the frame differs in each value. The ovals were issued on the 15th September, 1851, and the octagons on the 1st September, 1852. They were all originally embossed on paper with two silk threads interwoven, which crossed the stamp, and in 1856 a fresh supply of the three oval impressions, *plus* the 4 sgr. brown, was struck off on paper without threads, but with two lines of greyish black inscription crossing the envelope diagonally above the stamp, and these latter varieties exist on bluish and on white paper. The bluish-tinted are the rarer, as they were in use only a year the white papers did not appear until 1857.

These are the main features of the series, to which should be added, that on the edge of the neck of the profile appears on all the values the engraver's name, *Schilling*, sometimes followed by a numeral supposed to be that of the die.

Uncut copies of the first issue of this series (the silk-threaded impressions) are by no means common, owing to the pernicious practice which obtained in former days of cutting out the stamps, and some of

the values are all but unattainable in a perfect state. The normal colours only are given in above list, but it should be stated that the oval stamps vary very considerably in shade.

In 1861, simultaneously with the issue of the eagle series of adhesives, appeared a corresponding set of envelopes, consisting of 1 sgr. rose, 2 sgr. blue, and 3 sgr. stone, identical in design and colour with the labels of the same values. These envelope stamps have two lines of print *above* the impression. In 1863 the three values were issued with the inscriptions crossing the stamps, but otherwise unchanged. The first issue—with inscriptions above the stamp—are considerably rarer than the later edition. The normal colour of the paper of both is white, but specimens exist of the first edition on slightly bluish paper, and of the second edition on paper of a more pronounced bluish tint.

In 1867 the series was completed by the issue of 3 pf. and 6 pf. envelopes, respectively mauve and vermilion, with inscription across the stamp. They had but a very short currency, and the 3 pf. was at one time a rare stamp, but by some mysterious process it has since become more common.

Envelopes to correspond with the kreuzer adhesives were likewise issued in 1867. The values and the colours were the same as those of the stamps, viz., 1 kr. green, 2 kr. orange, 3 kr. rose, 6 kr. blue, and 9 kr. brown. Each of these values exists in two tolerably recognisable shades. They, like the 3 pf. and 6 pf., were doomed to extinction after a brief existence, but this has not prevented their remaining common in an unused state.

In addition to these stamps, the Victoria Association for Invalids obtained the privilege of franking its local Berlin official correspondence at a reduced rate, and to that effect the 4 pf. green, which does not exist in the regular series, was struck on special envelopes bearing an inscription denoting their employment.

REGISTRATION OR PARCEL STAMPS.

Two new types were issued in 1866; according to some, for heavy letters and for the prepayment of parcels, of which the post undertook the delivery. They are not, however, issued to the public, but are affixed by the authorities themselves. They are finely engraved, and the ground inside the frame is covered with minute repetitions of the Prussian eagle. In style they remind one of the thaler notes. They are printed on gold-beater's skin, and if detached from the envelope to which they have been fastened, they leave the impression of the design on it, and a simple strip of skin is all that comes away. The utility of these labels having been recognized, the two values were repeated in the series subsequently issued in succession for the Confederation and the Empire, but the innovation of printing on gold beater's skin was not perpetuated.

Newly Issued Stamps.

ANTIOQUIA.—The 1 centavo of the annexed type is now printed black on white.



ARGENTINE REPUBLIC.—This country, in common with Salvador, is about issuing stamped envelopes. We give the design of the Argentine, the color of which is vermilion. We hope to be able to engrave the Salvador next month



JAPAN.—Another value of the new set of adhesives has just made its appearance. The design is similar to the two sen, but more ornamental, and the value in the corners is in circles instead of rectangles—4 sen, sea green.

GREAT BRITAIN has added a new value to its list of postals. The design consists of the usual diademed profile of Queen Victoria to left; POSTAGE in curved line above, EIGHT PENCE below; the number of the series (1) in circles at the sides, and colored letters in the corners, all of which are very prominent. The color is a bright orange yellow.



PERSIA.—We understand that a new set of stamps are in preparation for this country. They are to be engraved in Europe, and will bear the Shah's portrait. This announcement at first appeared very suspicious to us; but we find, on investigation, that the Mohammedan law prohibiting representations of the human form, has of late years been falling into disuse in Persia. The royal palace at Ispahan is adorned with many native paintings of battle and hunting scenes, some of which are of considerable artistic merit.

TURKEY.—Through the kindness of Dr. Petrie we are enabled to be the first to introduce the picture of the new set of stamps for the Ottoman Empire. The design, as will be seen by the engraving, is novel, although not remarkable for beauty. The entire ground of the stamp is covered with white inscription on a colored ground, the principal design being printed over this in color.



The following are the values we have already seen:

10 paras	black, puce ground.
20 "	lake, green ground.
50 "	blue, yellow ground.

VICTORIA.—This colony again favors us with a provisional. The nine pence, reddish brown, being surcharged in blue with "8d" on each side of the profile, and the words EIGHT PENCE in a straight line across the original value.

The Letters on the Japanese Stamps.

Although Japan was one of the last countries to issue postage stamps, she is making rapid strides to obtain supremacy in point of numbers in our albums, having in five years issued more adhesive stamps than Great Britain, the introducer of the system, has in thirty-five, and this without counting varieties of paper, &c. In fact, the rapidity with which series follows series, is the reason I pen these few lines to call attention to some varieties which many advanced amateurs are collecting, and which, if not catalogued now while specimens to select from are plenty, would soon become too difficult to undertake.

The third series of stamps issued by this government consists of the following values:

½ sen,	1873,	brown.	20 sen,	1873,	mauve.
1 "	"	blue.	30 "	"	slate.
2 "	"	vermilion	½ "	"	slate. (?)
2 "	"	yellow.	1 "	"	brown.
4 "	"	rose.	4 "	"	green.
10 "	"	green.	5 "	1876,	green.



Shortly after the issue of these values the design was slightly altered to make room for a letter (after the style of the British). This was done in different ways. On the ½, 1, 2 and 4 sen stamps a small frame has been inserted at the bottom of the wreath, in the 6 sen, a few lines of the shading on the band, just below the buckle have been cut away to make room for the letter, on the 10 and 20 sen they are added in microscopic form, in the usual place, in the 30 sen, and some of the later 6 sen orange, the letter is enclosed in an oval, and is perhaps the most noticeable of the set.

As I have before intimated, these little marks are letters, and as it is very doubtful if I have discovered them all, I will give the entire Japanese alphabet, or Iroha, (called from the first three letters) with their names, so that any stamps subsequently found can be added in their proper order.

イ	ロ	ハ	ニ	ホ	ヘ	ト	チ	リ
i	*ro*	*ha*	*ni*	*ho*	*he*	*to*	*ti*	*ri*
ヌ	ル	ヲ	ワ	カ	ヨ	タ	レ	ソ
nu	*ru*	*o*	*wa*	*ka*	*yo*	*to*	*re*	*so*

(?) This I have not seen, but am told it exists.



Before going any farther, I may as well state plainly that in giving this list I am not advocating the collection of the entire set, and if the series had been continued, it is very doubtful if I should have considered it worth while to note them at all, but having commenced a collection of them myself, I was surprised to find many other collectors doing the same; and as we were all groping in the dark without knowing which came first, or, in fact, anything about the meaning of the signs, I hunted them up for my own amusement, and now offer it to aid my brother collectors in arranging their sets.

I find that the first batch of stamps printed of each value were marked with the first letter, probably to keep account of the number of each printed.

In the following list, I enumerate under the letter only those values I have seen.



LETTER イ BELOW.

½ sen	slate.	6 sen,	orange.
1 "	blue.	10 "	green.
1 "	brown.	12 "	rose, bird.
2 "	yellow.	15 "	lilac, "
4 "	rose.	30 "	stone.
4 "	green.	45 "	carmine, bird.



LETTER ロ BELOW

½ sen, slate. 1 sen, blue.

1	sen,	brown.	10	sen,	green.
2	"	yellow.	15	"	lilac, bird.
4	"	green..	20	"	violet.
6	"	brown.	30	"	mauve.



LETTER BELOW.

½	sen,	slate.	4	sen,	green.
1	"	blue.	6	"	brown.
1	"	brown.	10	"	yellow.
2	"	yellow.	20	"	violet.



LETTER BELOW.

½	sen,	slate.	4	sen,	green.
1	"	blue.	6	"	brown.
1	"	brown.	10	"	blue.
2	"	yellow.	20	"	violet.



LETTER BELOW.

½	sen,	slate.	4	sen,	green.
1	"	blue.	6	"	brown.
1	"	brown.	20	"	violet.
2	"	yellow.			



LETTER BELOW.

This letter I have not been able to find on any stamp.



LETTER BELOW.

1	sen,	blue.	2	sen,	yellow.
1	"	brown.	6	"	brown.



LETTER BELOW.

1	sen,	blue.	2	sen,	yellow.
1	"	brown.	20	"	rose.

(To be continued.)

The Plimpton Envelopes.

BY C. H. C.

(*Concluded from page* 132.)

Having disposed of the series destined for public use, it merely remains for me to enumerate those comprised in the War and Post Office Department issues.

WAR DEPARTMENT.

The dies were described on pages 169–171 of the last volume of the JOURNAL. The sizes, &c., (as far as I have seen), are as follow:

Full letter—3c. on white, amber, cream and blue.

Extra letter (*ungummed*)—2c. on gold.

Official—3c., 6c.; both on white.

Extra Official—6c. on white, amber and cream; 12c. on white.

Wrappers—1c., 2c.; both on Manila.

I believe that this list includes everything issued by the Plimpton Co. up to the present time. It is certain, however, that 10c. and 30c. dies were also prepared by the Plimpton Co. (as I possess impressions from them), and it is therefore reasonable to assume that envelopes of these denominations will be shortly forthcoming; and, indeed, as the War Department has free scope to order any sizes that it may desire, perhaps we will also see some of the other values on different envelopes from those above enumerated.

POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT.

The main points of difference between the dies are as follow:

TWO CENTS.

Reay.	*Plimpton.*
1.—The line defining the band inscribed "Post Office Department," is scarcely distinguishable, and is lost altogether in some places, especially on the right hand side, where the loops run into it above and below.	1.—The line is clearly done, and easily distinguishable. At no point do the loops touch it.

THREE CENTS.

Reay.	*Plimpton.*
1.—The disks bearing the inscriptions "U" and "S" form perfect circles.	1.—They do not form perfect circles. Are rather oval in shape.
2.—The pattern under the band inscribed "THREE CENTS" is not the same as that above the one with "POST OFFICE DEP^{T}"; or, to speak more accurately, the length of the pattern is different in the two instances.	2.—The pattern is the same in every respect in both instances.

SIX CENTS.

1.—The "U" and "S" are as in the 3c.

1.—The "U" and "S" are as in the 3c.

As common to all the values, I may say that the lettering of the Plimpton's is better than that of the Reay's, also that the Plimpton's have the words "OFFICIAL STAMP" in considerably *larger* letters than in the Reay issue.

The list of the Plimpton Post Office Department envelopes is as follows:

Full letter—2c., 3c., 6c.
Extra letter—2c., 3c., 6c.
Official—2c., 3c., 6c.
Extra official—3c, 6c.
All on canary (yellow) paper, varying somewhat in shade.

Curiosities of the Parisian Post Office.

It is a remarkable fact that Paris, the city of all others where the science of municipal government seems to have reached a point not far from perfection, and where all branches of the administrative machinery are studied with the utmost care, should possess a post-office which as an edifice is notoriously insufficient for the needs of the vast function established there. Situated on the Rue Jean-Jacques Rousseau, composed of two ancient *hôtels*, those of the families of D'Epernon and De la Sabliere, the present Hotel des Postes dates from the year 1757, and in 1847 was pronounced insupportable by the minister of finance. Yet thirty years have passed since that declaration without bringing any amelioration to the situation. Old, inconvenient, cramped and dingy, the antique structure remains a singular incongruity in the midst of a city whose opera-house cost twelve millions of dollars, and whose official buildings are usually marvels of beauty and convenience. To give some idea of the cramped dimensions of the Hotel des Postes, it is only necessary to state that two men carrying bundles cannot pass each other on most of its staircases; that the *poste-restante* office, which was visited during the exhibition of 1855 by over two thousand persons daily, could barely contain sixteen people at a time; and that whole days are sometimes passed in contriving how to place an extra desk or another employe in the already overcrowded rooms. Like most old buildings that have been altered and adapted from their original purposes, the interior of the structure forms a bewildering labyrinth, with which, according to tradition, only one man is thoroughly acquainted, and that is the old doorkeeper, who has held his present post for a great number of

years. The postal service of the city of Paris requires sixty-two vehicles and two hundred horses. Of these vehicles the Hotel des Postes can only lodge eleven: the rest are scattered about wherever a place can be found for them, twenty-five being kept on sufferance at the railway-stations. And this lamentable state of affairs is suffered to continue in spite of the fact that the objects that pass through the Paris post-office increase annually at the rate of some thirty or forty millions. The number of letters, papers, samples, etc., that passed through it in the year 1875, amounted to over five hundred millions. Of these, five millions represented the New Year's cards which every well-bred Parisian sends out to his friends and acquaintances.

Postage in France is not so cheap as with us. A city letter costs three cents, an open circular two cents, a letter for the departments five cents. The postal cards are two cents for Paris, and three for the provinces and Algiers. Our lamp-post boxes are replaced by boxes at the tobacco-shops, which are under government control: stamps may be purchased at these establishments, and letters can be weighed there, so that the system is really more convenient than our own. Pre-payment on letters for any part of France is optional, the charge for an unpaid letter being increased to eight cents. The post-office transmits samples, photographs, etc., but has recently made an absurd rule, forbidding the transmission of more than a single article of any kind. This rule, being applied to such small matters as sewing-machine needles, gloves and lace collars, has caused considerable dissatisfaction. A gentleman who wished to send some glass-headed pins through the post, on being refused, went off and purchased a good-sized turtle, pasted an address on his shell, marked him "Sample," and mailed him in triumph. "Change for my six pins!" he remarked as he deposited the turtle in the hands of the official.—*Lippincott's Magazine.*

Stamps at Auction.

We are pleased to be able to inform our readers that Messrs. Scott & Co. have had a very fine collection of postage stamps placed in their hands for cataloguing, ready for the auctioneer. The sale will take place some time during November, and will be quite an event in the annals of stamp collecting, few of the present generation of amateurs having ever had an opportunity of assisting at a sale of this character. The collection is the property of a well-known amateur, and consists principally of unused sets. They will be sold in small lots, giving every one a chance to get good sets of stamps at very low prices. Intending purchasers can obtain catalogues, when ready, at the office of the JOURNAL.

A History of Postage Stamps.

BEING A RESUME OF THE DESCRIPTIONS OF ALL KNOWN STAMPS AND THEIR VARIETIES.

BY OVERY TAYLOR.

Continued from page 153.

ROMAGNA.



The stamps of Romagna seemed at one time to be destined to become rare. They were scarce at a time when the issues of Parma, Modena, and Tuscany were common, and it might reasonably have been supposed, seeing how short was the period of their currency, that they would constantly increase in value. But not only is it possible at the present time to obtain questionable reprints at a nominal price, the far more valuable obliterated specimens are also to be had for a few pence, and are much more frequently met with than, for example, the upright Oldenburgs. That so large a number of stamps should have been employed in the course of five or six months in a province by no means remarkable for its commercial importance, is surprising; yet the fact, as apparently evidenced by the commonness of most, if not of all the values, remains.

The emission of the series took place, as everyone knows, shortly after the inauguration of the provisional government of Romagna. The people of that province, seeing the success which had attained the struggle for liberty in the north of Italy, took it into their heads to free themselves from the Papal yoke, and their unceremonious action in the matter was viewed with no great satisfaction by the diplomatic world. Out of the Napoleonic idea of a free Italy from the Alps to the Adriatic was growing a greater idea, that of free Italy throughout the regions traversed by the Apennines. They who had set the ball rolling were astonished at the momentum it had acquired, and would, perhaps, have been glad to arrest its progress, but that could not be done. The Romagnese, after a short struggle, gained their liberty, and, as a necessary preliminary to union with Piedmont, a temporary government was established. From that government (to return to things postal) emanated, on the 2d July, 1859, a request to Professor Silvessi Gherardi to furnish a design for the stamps of the emancipated provinces. Professor Gherardi, an inhabitant of Turin, appears to have taken no notice of the order. The government then applied to the Turin post-office, and the authorities there sent a set of Sardinian stamps to serve as models for the projected set; but apparently the designs did not find favour at Bologna, for, instead of adopt-

ing a type adorned with the king's portrait, the Romagna administration took refuge in he above unpretending and unlovely device. It may be conjectured that considerations of economy had something to do with the decision, which was taken after an inspection of a series of proofs struck in black on colour.

The article from which these particulars are taken* states that the printing of the stamps was undertaken by a Bologna firm, that of Tinto and Merlain and that the casts were made by Amoretti Brothers, also of Bologna. The sheets are divided into two parts, each containing six rows of ten stamps.

The decree authorizing the emission reads as follows :—

The Governor-General of Romagna

Considering that postage stamps are requisite, both to facilitate the work of the post-office and for the convenience of the public.

Considering that those which bear the Papal arms can no longer be admitted,

Decrees,

Art. 1.—The stamps bearing the arms of the Pope are suppressed.

Art. 2.—On and after the 1st September new postage stamps shall be issued, with the following inscription :—FRANCO BOLLO POSTALE, ROMAGNE, and the value in the centre in *baiocchi.*

Art. 3.—The Finance Administrator is charged with the execution of the present decree.

The Governor General,
CIPRIANI.
The Finance Administrator,
G. N. POPOLI.

Bologna, 30th August 1859.

The values of the stamps are as follow :—

½	baiocco	lemon.	5	baiocchi	dull lilac.
1	"	iron-grey.	6	"	light green.
2	baiocchi	dark yellow.	8	"	rose.
3	"	dark green.	20	"	light blue.
4	"	red-brown.			

The employment of the 6 baj. has never been proved, though the writer from whom I quote is of opinion that the value was issued with the others. He bases his argument on the founders' (Amoretti Bros.) invoice for the casts, in which those of the 6 baj. and 8 baj. are entered as having been delivered together to the printers; and, if delivered to the printers together, why should not the supplies of the two values have been struck off together? This chain of reasoning is obviously incomplete. It certainly does not prove the simultaneous issue of the 6 baj. and 8 baj.; it only creates a presumption to that effect, which is weakened by the fact that no used specimens of the 6 baj are known.

The entire series was withdrawn on the 31st January, 1860, in exe-

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cution of a decree of the governor of the Emilian provinces, dated the 12th of the same month, though a delay of two months was allowed for the exchange of the stamps against those of Sardinia, which were appointed to supersede them.

After the suppression of the stamps (says the writer already quoted from) the dies, badly packed, were forwarded to Turin, and arrived there in bad condition, most of them having had the corners knocked off during the journey. A postal *emyloyé* Mr. J. Gozo, nevertheless obtained from the dies a number of impressions in all colours, his practice being to unite all the values and print them off on the same sheet. Later on, desiring to hide the defects presented by the stamps printed from deteriorated dies, Gozo got an engraver to add an outside frame, consisting of six to seven thin lines. The impressions from these manipulated dies are worthless.

ROMAN STATES,

(OR STATES OF THE CHURCH).



No one can look on the stamps of the Pontifical government without some degree of interest. They have no claim to artistic merit, in fact they are unworthy to the last degree of the city in which they were printed; but they bear the world-famed arms of a power which stands apart from all others in its origin, and in the mighty influence it still wields. The keys of St. Peter and the papal tiara are symbols of peculiar import. They are linked with religious and historical associations of the gravest nature, and they remain the emblems of a spiritual dominion which has outlived the temporal sovereignty. Hence the philatelist who takes a pleasure in noting the suggestiveness of the humble labels which fill our albums, will be inclined to give particular attention to the issues of the Roman States.

The Papal government has never been conspicuous for its fondness for progress, and its conservative habits appear even in its postal rates. Such as they were in 1816 such they remained, at any rate, until the issue of the series with decimal values. Until the end of the last century all the powers who were represented at Rome had their own couriers, and the local correspondence of the country was carried on by the nobles for their own profit. When the French invaded the States they put an end to these manifold privileges, and established a uniform postal service, which was carried on by the government as in other countries. This service was continued by Pius VII. when he returned to Rome in 1814, and in 1816 he published a postal tariff which, as above stated, remained in use without any alteration until

1867, and perhaps until 1870, for I am not sure that the change in the denominations was accompanied by any modification in the rates.

The emission of postage stamps took place under the auspices of Cardinal Antonelli, who signed an order, dated the 29th November, 1851, and on the 19th of the following month the pro-minister of finance issued a notice concerning the employment of postage stamps, in which it was stated that they would be of eight different kinds, from a half-bajoccho up to seven bajocchi, inclusive. Nothing is said of the colour of the stamps, nor is any reference made to the three other values which were issued, viz., 8 baj., 50 baj., and 1 scudo. No trace of any order for the emission of these stamps can be found, and it would appear that of its own authority the post-office issued them, on finding that they were necessary for the prepayment of the numerous letters sent from Rome to distant parts of the world. Whether that was really the cause is uncertain. I have always been under the impression that, as the Papal government had no postal treaties with other powers, letters from Rome could only be prepaid up to the Italian frontier. Whatever may have been the true motive for the issue, it is worth noting, that for a long period Rome was alone among the European states in the possession of a stamp, of so high a value as a scudo.

The colours which were selected by the post-office were the following :—

½ bajoccho	pale lilac.	6 bajocchi	bluish grey.
1 "	bluish green.	7 "	blue.
2 bajocchi	yellow green.	8 "	white.
3 "	buff.	50 "	blue.
4 "	pale brown.	1 scudo	red.
5 "	rose.		

Changes subsequently took place in the shades of some of the stamps; but it appears that they were entirely accidental, and due only to irregularities in the colouring of the paper. Thus we find that the ½ baj. passed through some noticeable modifications, becoming of a reddish violet in 1862, and olive-brown in 1866. The 3 baj. varies from brown to pale brown; the 4 baj. from pale brown to bright yellow; and the 50 baj. is found in two distinct shades of blue. Minor differences of shade are noticeable in the 1 baj., 2 baj., and 6 baj.; the remaining values remained tolerably faithful to the original colours.

With regard to the designs, it is remarkable that not only does the shape of the frame differ in each, the armorial bearings also were engraved specially for each value. The handles and, in some instances, the shafts of the keys vary considerably in shape, and are diversely ornamented. In some values the handle is round; in others, curved in-







wards at the centre; in others, oval, with an interior cross-shaped pattern; some of the handles have a scalloped inner edge; others, a chain-pattern; others, a series of dots, and so on throughout this curious series, as a glance at the engravings which accompany this article will show.

In 1867, in consequence of the adoption of the decimal currency, a new series of stamps became necessary. It is to be regretted that the opportunity was not taken advantage of to adorn the stamps with the Pontiff's effigy. The administration, however, appears to have been intent on realizing an economy, and finally decided on the re-issue of the old types with values altered to suit the occasion; we have consequently—



1867.	2 centesimi	[2 baj.]	bright green.
	3 "	[½ "]	grey.
	5 "	[3 "]	light blue.
	10 "	[8 "]	vermilion.
	20 "	[4 "]	crimson.
	40 "	[6 "]	yellow.
	80 "	[1 "]	rose.



These stamps are all printed in black on coloured glazed paper. In 1868 they were reissued perforated in the same colours, and in 1869 the 50c. appeared in solferino colour. The old 50 baj. and 1 scudo did not share in the general metamorphosis; probably they were not employed sufficiently to render necessary their reproduction.

In September, 1870, the Papal territories were invaded by the Italians on the withdrawal of the French garrison; the temporal power gave way, and the States of the Church, with Rome itself, have since formed part of the kingdom of Italy, the Pope withdrawing, in consequence, to the Vatican. At what precise period the Romish stamps were withdrawn is uncertain. The rumour ran that they remained in use within the precincts of the Vatican for the service of the Papal functionaries and adherents, but that is not probable. It is more reasonable to suppose that when the postal service was taken in hand by the Italian government the Papal stamps at once ceased to circulate. They are now very common in an unused state—I allude of course to the lower values—and in this instance I see no reason to suspect that

the copies which are offered are reprints. It is more likely they formed part of the "remainder" left over in the Roman post-office.

The 50 baj. and 1 scudo continue rare. They have been frequently forged, however, and inexperienced collectors should be careful what they buy.

Of essays there are none known, except an apocryphal type which was communicated to a continental paper in 1867. Yet it appears that even prior to that date numerous offers to furnish designs for a new series were received from foreign houses.

The Letters on the Japanese Stamps.

(*Continued from page* 157.)



LETTER BELOW.

1 sen,	blue.	2 sen,	yellow.
1 "	brown.	6 "	brown.



LETTER BELOW.

2 sen,	yellow.



LETTER BELOW.

1 sen,	blue.	6 sen,	brown.
1 "	brown.	6 "	orange.
2 "	yellow.		



LETTER BELOW.

2 sen,	yellow.



LETTER BELOW.

1 sen,	blue.	2 sen,	yellow.
1 "	brown.		



LETTER BELOW.

1 sen,	brown.	2 sen,	yellow.

LETTER  BELOW.

1 sen,	brown.	2 sen,	yellow.

LETTER  BELOW.

1 sen,	brown.	6 sen,	brown.
2 "	yellow.	6 "	orange.

LETTER  BELOW.

1 sen,	brown.	6 sen,	brown.
2 "	yellow.	6 "	orange.

LETTER  BELOW.

1 sen,	brown.	6 sen,	brown.
2 "	yellow.		

LETTER  BELOW.

2 sen,	yellow.	6 sen,	orange.

LETTER  BELOW.

2 sen,	yellow.	6 sen,	orange.

LETTER  BELOW.

2 sen,	yellow.	6 sen,	orange.

LETTER  BELOW,

2 sen,	yellow.

LETTER  BELOW.

2 sen,	yellow.

In the foregoing list I have enumerated all the letters found thu far, with the exception of a 2 sen yellow, with the letter *he* (the sixth of the alphabet, noted on page 157, as missing), and from the fact of the last batch of the 1 sen brown and 2 sens yellow being issued of the first type, that is, without letters, I am inclined to think that the system was abandoned previous to the appearance of the new set.

Although I have not seen all the varieties named in the following list, I have every reason to believe that they will all be found with the possible addition of one letter to the rarer values, and two or three to the 1 and 2 sens. The table is also interesting, as showing the comparative number of each stamp printed.

½	sen,	slate.	Letters *i* to *ho*,	5 varieties.
1	"	blue.	" *i* to *wa*,	13 "
1	"	brown.	" *i* to *se*,	18 "
2	sens,	yellow.	" *i* to *mu*,	23 "
4	"	rose.	Letter *i*,	1 variety.
4	"	green.	Letters *i* to *ho*,	5 varieties.
6	"	brown.	" *i* to *se*,	18 "
6	"	orange.	" *i* to *na*,	21 "
10	"	green.	" *i* to *ha*,	3 "
10	"	blue.	Letter *ni*,	1 variety.
12	"	rose.	" *i*,	1 "
15	"	lilac.	Letters *i* and *ro*,	2 varieties.
20	"	violet.	" *i* to *ho*,	5 "
20	"	rose.	Letter *ti*,	1 variety.
30	"	stone.	" *i*,	1 "
30	"	mauve.	" *ro*,	1 "
45	"	carmine,	" *i*,	1 "

Total number of varieties—120.

Thus it will be seen that a full set, with all probable additions, will amount to about one hundred and twenty-five. Not a very large number, truly, when we consider that many amateurs have enough color varieties of various stamps to bring up the grand total of their collections to over ten thousand stamps.

In arranging a set, considerable care must be exercised in determining which letter is on the stamp, as each one on the plate, is separately engraved, and shows slight differences, and there is also considerable difference in the form of the same letter as written on different values, but these little puzzles only add pleasure to the pursuit. I shall be happy to give any information in my power to any amateur who may have any doubts as to which letter any particular stamp may bear, and shall also be pleased to see any varieties not chronicled here. ALPHA.

Newly Issued Stamps.

India.—The annexed engravings represent the two values lately issued by the government of British India.





The *Illustrites Briefmarken-Journal* notices another value, nine pies, but none have as yet come under our observation. The colors and values are as follow:

9 pies	violet.
6 annas	bistre.
12 annas	mauve.

Tasmania.—We have lately seen a post-marked specimen of the four pence dull yellow of this colony, and are quite at a loss to know what to think about it; the color is precisely the tint given by dipping a blue stamp in acid, and we have lately been assured by the very highest authority that such a stamp did not exist; on the other hand, we are told by reliable parties that they have received unused yellow four penny stamps direct from the postmaster-general of the colony.

Peru.—Through the kindness of Mr. Coster we are enabled to give an engraving of the new 10c. Peru. The design is very similar to the last issued two cent stamp, and we are informed that the entire series will be made to conform to this type. The design is very beautiful, superbly executed, and quite appropriate, but still we are sorry to have the beautiful llama series withdrawn from circulation, as they belong to a class which, unfortunately, is fast dying out.



Newfoundland.—The seal of Newfoundland appears to vie with the chamelion in its changes of color. Brown seals we have always known, black ones we have been acquainted with for some time, and now we are introduced to a blue one. We have to thank Mr. Frank H. Morice for sending us a copy of the five cent Newfoundland, printed in blue, and rouletted instead of perforated. The American Bank Note Co. is evidently using its new rouletting machine whenever it gets a chance.

5 cents	blue.

Turkey.—We are now enabled to give the color and value of the complete set of the new issue for this country. The design was given in our last,

10 paras	black and rose.	2 piastres	black and orange.
20 "	plum and green.	5 "	red and blue.
50 "	blue and yellow.	25 "	claret and pink.

Holland.—We learn from Messrs. Smith's *Circular* that a new series of low value stamps for this country will shortly be issued.

FRANCE.—All the new set of this country are now out, except the 1 and 40 centimes and 5 franc, and it is very probable that the latter value will never be issued, as enough of the old five francs remain on hand to last twenty years.

MONSERRAT.—We have lately received specimens of the one penny Antigua stamp, surcharged "MONSERRAT," in black, it evidently being intended to do duty in the little West India island of that name; but whether for postal or fiscal purposes we do not know. Copies of the 6d. green have been seen surcharged the same way.

JAPAN.—A new postal card has been issued by this country.

DANISH WEST INDIES.—These colonies have added two values to their stock of postals, of the same design as the current set.

5 cents grey and green. 10 cents brown and blue.

NATAL.—The one penny has lately been issued in orange. Most probably the supply of the regular color having run out, the officials surcharged some of the penny revenue stamps with POSTAGE.

The Reay Departmental Envelopes.

BY C. H. C.

In the course of my article on the Plimpton Envelopes (concluded in the last number of the JOURNAL), I gave a list of the Departmental envelopes issued by that company. For the sake of reference, I append a similar list of those prepared under the Reay contract,

WAR DEPARTMENT.

Ordinary letter—1c., 2c., 3c., all on white.
Full letter—3c., on white, amber and cream.
Extra letter—3c., on white, amber and cream; 6c. on white.
Extra letter, ungummed—2c. on gold.
Official—3c., 6c., both on white and cream; 10c., 12c., 15c., 24c. (?) 30c., all on white.
Extra official.—6, 12, 15, 24, 30, all on white.
Wrappers—1c. and 2c. on manila.

I must acknowledge assistance received from Mr. Durbin's *Philatelic Monthly* in compiling this list.

POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT.

Full letter—2c., 3c., 6c.
Extra letter—2c., 3c., 6c.
Official—2c., 3c., 6c.
Extra official—6c.
All on canary (yellow) paper, varying somewhat in shade.

The Revenue Stamps of Australia.

BY X. Y. Z.

In the present paper I propose to give a descriptive list of the current fiscal stamps of the various Australian colonies, or in the case of those which have discontinued their employment, I give the set last in use.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

All the fiscal stamps of this colony are now obsolete. Diademed profile of Queen Vic oria to left, in circular band, inscribed NEW SOUTH WALES STAMP DUTY. Crown above, value below, ornamental frame; colored impression on white paper, watermarked N. S. W. Small rectangle perforated 1 penny lilac.

Diademed profile of Queen Victoria to left, in circle, surrounded by inscription NEW SOUTH WALES STAMP DUTY; value above in large numerals, and below in words; ground work above and below central device different in each value, the whole inclosed in double lined frame; colored impression on white paper, watermarked N. S. W.; central circle and frame printed in violet, perforated.

4pence	blue.	5 shillings	green.
6 "	"	6 "	"
8 "	"	7 "	"
1 shilling	dark brown.	8 "	"
1 sh. 6p.	" "	9 "	"
2 shillings	light brown.	10 "	carmine.
2 sh. 6p.	" "	12 sh. 6p.	"
3 shillings	" "	15 shillings	"
4 "	" "	1 pound	"

STAMPED PAPER.

Oval garter, inscribed NEW SOUTH WALES STAMP DUTY, inclosing value in words, and surmounted by a crown, embossed, without color in relief, on white paper.

1 PENNY.

Value in words in central circle, surrounded by a wreath and crowned, NEW SOUTH WALES on scroll above, STAMP DUTY below; embossed without color, in relief on white unwatermarked paper.

3, 4, 6, 8 and 9 pence; 1 shilling, 1s. 4p., 1s. 6p., 1s. 8p., 2s., 2s. 4p., 2s. 6p., 2s. 8p., 3s., 3s. 4p., 3s. 8p., 4s., 4s. 4p., 4s. 8p., 5s, 5s. 4p., 5s. 8p., 6s., 6s. 4p., 6s. 8p., 7s., 7s 4p., 7s. 6p., 7s. 8p., 8s., 8s. 4p., 8s. 8p., 9s., 9s. 4p., 9s. 8p., 10s., 10s. 4p., 10s. 8p., 11s., 11s. 4p., 11s. 8p., 12s., 12s. 4p., 12s. 6p., 12s. 8p., 13s., 13s. 4p., 13s. 8p., 14s., 14s. 4p., 14s. 8p., 15s., 15s. 4p., 15s. 8p., 16s., 16s. 4p., 17s, 17s 4p., 17s. 6p., 17s. 8p., 18s., 18s. 4p., 18s. 8p., 19s., 19s. 4p., 19s. 8p., 1

pound, 1p. and 4p., 1p. and 8p., 1p. 1s., 1p. 1s. 4p., 1p. 1s. 8p., 1p. 2s., 1p. 2s. 4p., 1p. 2s. 6p., 1p. 2s. 8p., 1p. 3s., 1p. 3s. 4p., 1p. 3s. 8p., 1p. 4s., 1p. 4s. 4p., 1p. 4s. 8p., 1p 5s., 1p. 5s. 4p., 1p. 5s. 8p., 1p. 6s., 1p. 6s. 4p., 1p. 6s. 8p., 1p. 7s., 1p. 7s. 6p., 1p. 10s., 1p. 12s. 6p., 1p 15s., 1p. 17s. 6p., 2p., 2p. 5s., 2p. 10s., 2p. 15s., 3 p., 3p. 10s., 4p. 4p. 10s., 5p., 5p. 10s., 6p., 6p. 10s., 7p., 7p. 10s., 8p., 8p 10s., 9p., 9p. 10s., 10p., 10p. 10s., 11p., 11p. 10s., 12p., 12p. 10s., 13p., 13p. 10s., 14p., 14p. 10s., 15p., 15p. 10s., 16p., 16p. 10s., 17p., 17p. 10s., 18p., 18p. 10s., 19p., 19p. 10s., 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 35, 40, 45 and 50 pounds, "fine paid," "penalty paid," "deficiency duty," "duty paid in full," "one per cent.," "one and half per cent.," "two per cent.," "three per cent," "five per cent.," "six per cent.," "seven per cent."

NEW ZEALAND.

Diademed profile of Queen Victoria to left, in circle, inscribed STAMP DUTY, NEW ZEALAND, surcharged in various colors, with the value above in numerals, and below in words, ornamental frame, colored impression on white paper, watermarked N. Z., perforated and unperforated.

Those marked thus (*) are unperforated.

1 penny	violet	*5s 6p	blue
4 pence	green	*5s 8p	brown
6 "	brown	6 shillings	red
8 "	blue	*6s 4p	green
1 shilling	plumb	*6s 6p	brown
1s 4p	brown	6s 8p	blue
*1s 6p	blue	7 shillings	plumb
1s 8p	brown	*7s 4p	brown
2 shillings	red	7s 6p	blue
*2s 4p	green	*7s 8p	brown
2s 6p	yellow	8 shillings	red
"counterpart" below.		*8s 4p	green
*2s 8p	blue	*8s 6p	blue
3 shillings	violet	*8s 8p	blue
3s 4p	brown	9 shillings	plumb
*3s 6p	blue	9s 4p	brown
*3s 8p	brown	*9s 6p	blue
4 shillings	rose	*9s 8p	brown
*4s 4p	green	10 shillings	red
*4s 6p	brown	12s 6p	brown
*4s 8p	blue	15 shillings	grey
5 shillings	plumb	*17s 6p	blue
*5s 4p	brown	1 pound	red

1p 2s 6p	brown	*10 pounds	red
1p 5s	grey	15 "	rose
*1p 7s 6p	blue	20 "	"
1p 10s	red	25 "	"
1p 15s	grey	30 "	"
2 pounds	red	35 "	"
2p 10s	"	40 "	"
3 pounds	rose	45 "	"
3p 10s	red	50 "	"
4 pounds	"	" Fine paid,"	red
*4p 10s	"	" Not liable,"	plumb
5 pounds	"	" Penalty paid,"	stone
*5p 10s	"	" Duty paid in full,"	stone
*6 pounds	"	*1 per cent	"
*6p 10s	"	*1½ "	"
*7 pounds	"	*3 "	"
*7p 10s	"	*5 "	"
*8 pounds	"	*6 "	"
*8p 10s	"	*7 "	"
*9 pounds	"	*10 "	"
*9p 10s	"		

Crown in upper part of lined circle, LAW COURTS above, NEW ZEALAND below, in curved lines; surcharged in center with value in various colors; colored impression on white paper, watermarked N. Z.; perforated small rectangle.

1 shilling	green	6 shillings	blue
2 shillings	red	10 "	stone
3 "	violet	20 "	yellow
5 "	rose		

QUEENSLAND.

Diademed portrait of Queen Victoria in oval band, inscribed QUEENSLAND STAMP DUTY; crown above ornamental frame; groundwork of value in minute repetition of value in script letters; blank squares in corners; colored impression on white paper, watermarked with crowned Q perforated, rectangular.

1 penny	violet	2s 6p	scarlet
6 pence	brown	5 shillings	orange
1 shilling	green	10 "	brown
2 shillings	blue	20 "	rose

TASMANIA.

In this colony the postage stamps are all used for fiscal purposes, together with the following:

St. George and dragon in circle in various frames, TASMANIA above,

and value differently disposed in each denomination. Colored impression.

PERFORATED		UNPERFORATED.	
3 pence	green	5 shillings	brown
2s 6p	rose	10 "	orange

VICTORIA.

Profile of Queen to right in circle, band inscribed STAMP STATUTE, VICTORIA, above; value below, in curved lines; colored impression on white paper, watermarked with crowned V, and perforated upright rectangle.

1 penny green, same surcharged in red; ½ penny green, similar stamp with obverse and reverse of four penny silver piece:

4 pence rose.

Similar to first profile to right in oval; garter inscribed STAMP STATUTE, and "victoria" in script capitals.

6 pence blue.

Similar colored impression on colored paper.

1 shilling blue on blue. 5 shillings blue on yellow.

Similar watermark.

10 shillings brown on black.

Same profile groundwork composed of value in minute words, many times repeated; large £, the size of the stamp; colored impression on white paper, watermark crowned V.

1 pound plumb.

Profile, Victoria to right, on lined disk in left, and figure 5 on lathe work, disk in right corner, £ in centre, with VICTORIA STAMP STATUTE above and below, FIVE POUNDS on label composed of value, many times repeated in minute type, one FIVE on green lathe work, ground numerals of value in corner.

5 pounds black.

The Auction Sale of Stamps.

In the advertisement page of this number will be found the catalogue of a fine collection of stamps which will be sold by auction on the eleventh of December. We have thought it of sufficient importance to call our readers' attention to it, because it really is of great interest to them in more ways than one. First, as it gives them an opportunity of adding to their collections at small cost; and Second, it insures them a ready mode of disposing of their collections whenever they may wish to raise money. The immense amount of capital invested in numismatic collections may be distinctly traceable to the numerous auction sales of coins. Amateurs having no objections to put-

ting a few hundreds or thousands of dollars in a collection which is at once a source of instruction and amusement, when they are certain they can always sell out at small loss, and often at considerable profit, as it is with coins, so it will be with stamps when stamp auctions are of frequent occurrence, and are relied upon as an ever ready mode of disposing of a collection or an accumulation of duplicates. An intimate knowledge of the market confirms us in the belief that our prophecy made five years ago, ("that we would live to see stamps sell at auction for one thousand dollars each"), will be realized before many years.

There is no occasion to call special attention to any particular lots, as collectors are as well able to judge of their scarcity and value as ourselves; but there is no harm in reminding them that the general tendency of the market is for common stamps, to get cheaper and rare stamps, to become more valuable. In fact, it is scarcely possible to pay too much for a unique stamp, as the high price last paid is but a criterion to set the price at a still higher figure next time the stamp is offered for sale. It is a better investment to pay twenty-five dollars for a twenty dollar stamp, than to pay five dollars for twenty-five dollars worth of five cent ones.

Reviews of Philatelic Publications.

The Permanent Stamp Album, containing Specially Designed Spaces for everg Postage Stamp ever issued. American Edition. New York: SCOTT & Co., 146 Fulton Street.

The above is the title of a new aspirant for public favor on this side of the Atlantic, and from its careful get-up, and the extremely low price at which it is offered, we have no doubt but that it will be a great favorite with the boys. The general design of the album is as follows: Each page is divided into twenty-eight spaces, numbered to correspond with the description of the stamps, which occupies a column on the left of each page.

The book contains 4,177 of these numbered spaces, and a large quantity are left blank to provide for future issues, and any varieties of color or perforation the collector may possess.

The binding is all that can be desired, being both strong and elegant, and will doubtless sustain its European reputation.

The Postage Stamp Catalogue. Thirty-Third Edition. New York: SCOTT & Co., 146 Fulton Street.

The most noticeable feature of this book is the number of the edition, it being scarcely creditable that the Thirty-Second could have been exhausted so soon, but we know its publishers too well to believe they would go to the expense of a new edition, while a single copy of

the old remained in stock. The usual additions and alterations to complete the catalogue up to the day of going to press, have been carefully made, and many old stamps have been priced, but probably the most interesting part to its purchasers will be its new preface, from which we quote the followng:

"The great activity in trade since the beginning of Autumn, combined with the steady decline in the value of gold, inspires us with the belief that the time has arrived when we can safely make a general reduction in the price of stamps. We have long hoped for this opportunity, believing that it will do much to stimulate stamp collecting in the United States, and although the effect of the reduction we now make will diminish our profits considerably, and is against our immediate interest, as the supply of stamps has never equalled the demand, we have such faith in the future of philately in America, and in the confidence reposed in us by all the leading amateurs, that we should be negligent of our duty if we charged more than a fair profit for our services in procuring stamps for our customers. We have concluded that the most equitable way to effect the desired reduction, is to make a uniform *discount of* 10 *per cent. on all orders of* $1.00 *and upwards*, which will apply to this (the thirty-third) edition of the catalogue only, as our next edition will be entirely reset, giving us an opportunity to reduce the price of those stamps which have been more immediately affected by the decline in gold. Having no doubt but that collectors will immediately avail themselves of this reduction, we have put on an extra force of clerks, so that correspondents may be assured of their letters being answered the same day they are received by us. To our new customers we would say, that we give the fullest guarantee of genuineness of every stamp we sell, and may add that the prices in this list are AS LOW AS GENUINE FOREIGN STAMPS CAN BE SOLD."

FRANK IVES SCUDAMORE, who has gone to Turkey to reorganize the postal sevice, has been more successful than he was in England with the postal telegraphs. An international service, on the basis of the Postal Convention at Berne, came into partial operation on the 20th ult., and so soon as the necessary measures are completed for a regular service of mails, the several foreign postal agencies in Turkey will cease to exist, and there will then be but one system of postage stamps and charges. A force of postmen, sorters and other post-office officials is already in active work, and pillar-boxes have been transplanted and are fixed for use in the several streets and quarters of Constantinople. The new postage stamps bear the emblematic Turkish crescent, instead of the Sultan's head.—*The World.*

A History of Postage Stamps.

BEING A RESUME OF THE DESCRIPTIONS OF ALL KNOWN STAMPS AND THEIR VARIETIES.

BY OVERY TAYLOR.

RUSSIA, a recent writer observes, is "not a country, it is a continent,"—a vast agglomeration of races, which it will be the work of generations yet to knit into one homogeneous whole. At present it is a little barbarous in the west, a little civilized in the east. Its postal system is one of the fruits of its contact with European civilization, but it is still incomplete, and in its lack of unity and completeness it typifies the extent and present condition of the empire. Concurrently with the imperial post-office exists that of Finland, and from 1853 to 1865 that of Poland was also administered independently; added to which, in scores of districts, a local service has been established to supplement the work of the state. Thus the postal organization of Russia is now represented by a multitude of diverse stamps, and the student who would thoroughly master their history must go deeper than we can profess to do within the limits, and having regard to the scope, of the present paper.

It is worthy of remark that Russia, as represented by Finland, was one of the first among European countries to give the system of prepayment by stamps a trial; but the hesitating and tentative character of the experiment is apparent from the fact that she confined herself to issuing stamped envelopes at the commencement (1845), and did not start an adhesive series in Finland until 1856 Similarly, the St. Petersburg office began with a single envelope for local service in 1845, issued a series for general use three years afterwards, and did not take to adhesives until 1857. Lastly, envelopes for local postage were in use in Warsaw in 1858, and the solitary Polish adhesive did not see the light until 1860. If, however, Russia at first moved but slowly in the path of postal progress, she, at any rate, deserves the credit of having advanced with rapid strides of late years, as witness the low-value stamps issued in 1864, the legalisation of the local service in 1870, and the issue of post cards in 1872. Liberal ideas in postal matters appear to be in the ascendant, and we should not be surprised to see Russia distinguish herself, in healthy emulation of Germany, as the promoter of bold and useful innovations.

Turning from this general survey of the Russian issues, and the indications they yield, let us give a glance at the emissions for the empire proper—those which emanate from St. Petersburg, and bear the imperial arms.

The beginner who pays no attention to secondary varieties, derived

from peculiarities of colour, perforation, or paper, need collect only seven stamps in order completely to represent the normal issues; of these seven six are still in use, and one, which is known as the 5 kop. of St. Petersburg, is obsolete The philatelist who goes to the other extreme will require thirty specimens to fully exemplify the various "editions."

The first stamp to appear was the 10 kop. brown and blue, of the annexed type, which was issued, unperforated and on thick paper, on the 10th Dec., 1857. Specimens of this emission are of considerable rarity, which is not surprising, seeing that the perforated 10 kop came out only a month or two afterwards, in company with the other two values, viz., 20 kop. blue and yellow, and 30 kop rose and green, which also were perforated. These stamps, like the first 10 kop., were on thick paper, and the perforations are very fine (15 in two centimetres) Collectors who wish to satisfy themselves as to the date of their specimens, should begin by examining the paper, and if it be thick, and the number of the dents be the same as those on the *watermarked* stamps, and the colours are *not* aniline, then they may be tolerably sure they are in possession of copies of the first *tirage*. Such, at any rate, is the conclusion which results from the arrangement in M. Moens's catalogue, though I cannot trace any authoritative *dictum* on the point in any of the magazines, the Russian adhesives having attracted comparatively little attention from students. The 10 kop., 20 kop., and 30 kop. appear to have been perforated $12\frac{1}{2}$ in 1869, and to have reverted to the original perforation—15—in the year 1866, upon the occasion of their being first printed in aniline colours; this measure has since been continuously used down to the present time. Between 1868 and 1871 they were printed on paper watermarked with undulating lines. From this it will be seen that the full catalogue reads thus:



1857.	10 kop., unperf. (thick paper).			
1858.	10, 20, 30 kop., perf. 15 (thick paper).			
1859.	10, 20, 30	"	"	$12\frac{1}{2}$.
1866.	10, 20, 30	"	"	15 (aniline colours).
1868–71.	10, 20, 30	"	"	15 (aniline colours), watermarked.

The beginner who is unable or unwilling to include all the above varieties, should select a set of the edition of 1859, and the current set, as the two together would fairly illustrate the varieties of colour, perforation, and watermark.

In September, 1863, the 5 kop. stamp made its appearance. It is generally termed a St Petersburg stamp. Whether the inscriptions bear out the title I cannot say. It may well be that it really was is-

sued for the local service of the capital, and perhaps also of Moscow; but no documentary proof of the fact has ever been given, and it certainly served to prepay letters sent to England. It is printed in grey and black, and, like all the Russian stamps, is exceedingly well executed, though not of brilliant appearance. It was in use for only a short period, but has remained a common stamp to the present day.

A series of three stamps of low value was issued in 1864, without any preliminary notice. They were, and still are, printed in brilliant aniline colours, and are remarkable for delicacy and tastefulness of design. They created quite a sensation on their appearance, and still remain, with their elder brethren, among the prominent ornaments of the stamp album. They were first issued perforated 12½; but a year later they received the No. 15 perforation, and since 1868 have been printed on laid paper watermarked with undulating lines. A peculiar variety exists which has often been referred to, viz:, a 3 kopec green, with the ground of the 5 kop. In all three values the ground is formed of minute figures of value, and is printed apart. By oversight the die from which the ground of the lilac 5 kop. was printed was, on one occasion, inked with the green colouring intended for the 3 kop, and the mistake not being perceived, the stamps were completed by the impression of the black framework and centre-piece of the 3 kop. over the green ground. The number of abnormal impressions thus obtained must have been considerable, to judge from the fact that they are common both used and unused.

ENVELOPES.

The series opens with the envelopes which did duty in St. Petersburg for three whole years before the system of prepayment, by means of stamped envelopes, was applied to general correspondence. It was in 1845 that it saw the light, and it remained in circulation, without any modification in its design, until 1869, when it was withdrawn. The earlier copies are distinguished by being printed in a dull milky blue, those of more recent date being generally in ultramarine or in some brighter shade; and the only other varieties, exclusive of those derived from the shape and size of the envelopes, depend on the position of the stamp, which is found in the *lower* left, the *lower* right corner, and the *upper* right corner. The inscription on this stamp clearly denotes its strictly local currency. The fact of the design being struck on the front of the envelope, instead of on the flap, like the other Russian issues, is worthy of attention.

The series of envelopes of the annexed design, viz :—



10 kopecs, black,
20 " blue;
30 " rose—

was issued in 1848. The envelopes were of thick greyish yellow paper, and were watermarked with the imperial arms in the centre of a check pattern. In 1861 the 10 kop. was issued on greyish white paper, of thinner texture, watermarked with the imperial arms in an *oval*, and in 1866 the other two values followed suit. Thus, then, we find that the series is capable of subdivision into two principal issues. Of the stamps of the first issue, or edition, the 20 kop. was printed in Prussian blue, light or dark, greenish blue, and milky blue, and is, in fact, extremely variable in shade; and the 30 kop. is found in rose and deep rose, the latter bordering on carmine. The 20 kop. of the second edition is found in ultramarine and light Prussian blue, whilst the 30 kop., changing its tint completely, becomes brick-red and vermilion in succession.

In an analytical article, published in *Le Timbre Poste* for 1869, Dr. Magnus revealed his discovery of two different types of the 20 and 30 kop., and gave their distinguishing points. The first and generally recognised type shows a clear space on either side of the tail, between it and the eagle's legs, and there are sixteen pieces in the collar which encircles the shield. In the second type the tail is more extended, and touches the legs, leaving no space whatever between them and it, and there are only fourteen pieces in the collar. Dr. Magnus, whilst throwing out the suggestion, *en passant*, that possibly the second type, which is less carefully executed, may be the work of some unsuspected forger, is inclined, on the whole, to accept it as genuine. Collectors would do well to examine their specimens, with a view to ascertain to which type they belong. The second type, on the early paper (arms in square), would appear to be commoner unused; but this is no reason for suspecting it, and we should ourselves be inclined to accept it unhesitatingly.

In 1869 the fine old first series of envelopes, which in its design and appearance had so much of individuality, if not of elegance, about it, gave place to the existing type, which has a very Germanic primness about it. The three stamps—



10 kop., brown;
20 " blue;
30 " rose—

were first printed in left upper corner of envelope; and in 1872 there was a second edition struck off, with a stamp in the right upper corner—a retrograde movement, quite opposed to the general practice at present.

Two very similar 5 kop. envelopes were issued within a short time. The first came out in 1869, and bears an inscription which is an abbreviation of that on the old St. Petersburg envelope. It was printed in maroon, and was possibly intended for local correspondence only. The second, which may be taken o form part of the general series, was issued in 1870. The stamp was then printed in left, but in 1872 it was moved to the right at the same time as the other values.



1869.



1870.

POST CARDS

It was in 1872 that Russia gave proof of her appreciation of the utility of post cards, by using first an unstamped and then two stamped ones. All three are very well executed, and worthy of a country whose stamps moved Dr. Gray to enthusiasm. The stamped cards are of the value of 3 kop. (brown on grey) and 5 kop. (green on grey), respectively, and bear the annexed design in right upper corner.

FINLAND.

In order to gain a good idea of the stamps of this province, it is necessary to abandon the usual plan of noticing the adhesives first, for not only did the envelope issues precede them, but the design for the second series of envelopes became at a subsequent period that of the first series of adhesives.

These Finnish stamps have exercised the subtle analytical and inductive faculties of the foremost philatelists, and notably of Dr. Magnus, who has contributed largely to the elucidation of the many doubtful points which are connected with the order of their emission. Indeed, merely to follow him in his researches requires a concentrated attention, without which the student will soon find himself lost in a labyrinth of fine distinctions.

The employment of stamped envelopes in the Duchy of Finland commenced on the first of January, 1845, according to the statement furnished to the editor of *Le Timbre-Poste* by the postmaster-general himself. For years it was thought by philatelists that the 10 kop. red and 20 kop. greenish black of the annexed type formed the first series, but the discovery of a 10 kop. *black* of the same design in 1870 upset these suppositions. The resuscitated stamp was found not to be from the same die as the *original* specimens of the 10 kop. red, with which it was compared, but it turned out to be almost identical with the *reprints* of that value. These reprints had been obtained from a die



which had come to light at Helsingfors in 1862, and it is now generally accepted that from this die the black 10 kop.,—the first representative of that value,—was printed at Helsingfors in 1845. It appears from the details furnished by the postmaster-general that it had a companion in the shape of the 20 kop. red, but no specimens of that denomination have hitherto made their appearance.

The first 10 kop. is badly printed, as if by hand, and it differs not only in colour, type, and execution from the 10 kop. red, but also in position. As is the case with the St. Petersburg envelope, issued in the same year, it is struck on the side intended for the address (though in the *left* lower angle, instead of the right), whilst the 10 kop. red and 20 kop. greenish black, like the Russian envelopes of 1848, are struck on the flap. That the black 10 kop was in circulation up to the 30th August, 1848, is evidenced by a postmark consisting of this date on an uncut copy which had passed the post ; and as the stamp on that copy was not itself obliterated in any way, although it had been used, it has been argued that the flap-stamped envelopes could not have been in use at the time, for otherwise this black 10 kop. would have been obliterated, *as the flap stamps always were.* It may, then, be inferred that the 10 kop. red, and 20 kop. greenish black were not employed until the latter part of 1848, or the beginning of 1849. It is probable that they were printed at St. Petersburgh by means of a hand-worked machine, and that the stamps were struck on the flap, in virtue of a decision which applied equally to the envelopes of Finland and to those of the empire issued a few months previously. The dies of these two stamps may very possibly still be at St. Petersburg. They have certainly never been reprinted from.

From what precedes, it appears to result that the issues should be classed as follows :

Type A.	1845.	10 kop.	black	}	on left lower corner
" "	"	20 "	red (?)	}	of envelope.
Type B.	1848-9.	10 "	black	}	on flap.
" C.	"	20 "	red	}	

This is a condensed statement of the present state of our information as to these early Finnish envelopes. The black 10 kopec is of the highest degree of rarity, but it is, at any rate, a known stamp ; the existence of its companion, the 20 kop. (red?), can only be conjectured, but collectors who are in possession of reprints of the 10 kop. *red*, have, at any rate, the satisfaction of knowing that they are from the die of the still more ancient stamp. Original specimens of the two stamps of the second series, though of an inferior degree of rarity, are still looked on as conferring a certain distinction on the albums in which they are found ; and even the reprints, which are of greater intrinsic value than most of their class, are difficult to secure.

The third series of envelopes was issued on the 1st January, 1850, and bore an impressed stamp of the annexed design on the flap. It consists of three values, viz. :—



5 kop. blue.
10 " rose.
20 " Russian green, greenish black, bluish green, black.

It results from Dr. Magnus's analysis that there was a separate die engraved for each value. The 5 kop. differs in many points from the other two values, and the latter differ, though in a lesser degree, from each other.

In the above engraving it will be noticed there is a dot or pearl in the large opening of each post-horn. These dots did not form part of the original design, and are *never* found in the 20 kop. They exist in the 5 kop. and 10 kop , and are said to represent the holes pierced in the plate to receive two small nails intended to keep it in its place. The introduction of the nails took place prior to 1856, when the dies were employed for the production of the adhesives issued in that year, whence it results that *all* the latter show the two pearls, whilst of the 5 kop. and 10 kop. envelopes there are two varieties viz., without pearls and with pearls. Uncut copies of the envelopes are now rarely to be met with, and it is difficult to distinguish between cut copies (of the two lower values) and adhesives. If the cut copy is without pearls, it is certainly an envelope, and one, too, of the oldest edition, but if with pearls it may be either envelope or adhesive, and the collector finds but an uncertain test in the paper of the stamp Dr. Magnus gives the following distinctive points :—

Adhesives (with pearls). Wove paper, pressed, (glossy), sometimes showing traces of gum on the back.

Envelopes (with pearls). Wove paper, *not* pressed, showing very distinctly the lines of the cloth ; or laid paper, with lines generally oblique, but sometimes vertical.

The three values have been reprinted—the 5 kop. and 10 kop. from the original dies in their primitive state, the 20 kop. either from a different die, or from the original one after it had been retouched. Numerous variations exist between the reprint 20 kop. and the original. The colours of the reprints are 5 kop. sky-blue (very pale) ; 10 kop. rose (very pale), and 20 kop. black, faintly tinted with green.

It remains to be said, with regard to the types of both 1845-8 and 1850, that copies exist of all the values (except the 10 kop. black) with one or other of the values of the type of 1860 impressed in the upper left angle. The envelopes thus stamped a second time were those which remained on hand at the post-office, and were used up in this manner.

As a rule, the value of the two stamps struck at different dates on the same envelope is the same, but there are said to be envelopes showing the 10 kop. of 1845 on the flap, and the 5 kop. of 1860 on the face, and *vice-versâ*, but these varieties are the result of mere chance.

From the envelopes of 1850 we now pass to the adhesives of 1856, which are of the same type. Of the envelopes there were three values; of the adhesives, two, viz.,

5 kop. blue ; 10 kop. rose ;

and they present no noteworthy features apart from those already referred to in describing the envelopes. They were issued on the 12th February, 1856, and withdrawn on the 12th January, 1860, on which date the third type, common to both adhesives and envelopes, was issued,



consisting of two values, viz., 5 kop , and 10 kop. There are two distinct sub-types, viz.,

(*a.*) Eight stars on shield, wavy lines of ground far apart.

(*b.*) Seven stars on shield, wavy lines of ground closer together.

The two adhesives are of sub-type *a.*, viz.,

5 kop. blue, pale blue. 10 kop. rose, pale rose.

They are generally found on tinted paper, but the 10 kop. rose was re issued in 1865 on white. The perforations are of that peculiar kind termed *serpentine*, of which the engraving gives a fair idea. Of the envelopes we get the following classification :

Sub-type (*a*). 5 kop. dark blue, light blue. 10 kop. rose.
Sub-type (*b*). 5 " dark blue, greyish blue, lilac-blue, sky-blue.
10 " carmine-rose.

In each sub-type the two values differ more or less from each other, proving that they were separately engraved.

We now arrive at the 1866 series, which with the exception of the 1 mark, consists simply of the type of 1860 with altered value. The list reads as follows :—

5 pennia	brown on lilac.	laid paper.
10 "	black on buff.	
5 "	reddish brown on lilac.	wove paper.
8 "	black on green.	
10 "	black on straw.	
20 "	blue on pale blue.	
40 "	deep rose on rose.	
1 mark	light brown.	

The issue commenced in 1866, and all the values appeared in that or the following year, those on laid paper first. The 5 pen., 10 pen., 20 pen., and 40 pen. are all of the 1860 sub-type *a.*, whilst the 8 kop. is of

sub-type *b*. The 5 kop., 20 kop , and 40 kop. show considerable variations of colour—notably the 5 kop., of which the last two examples should be taken ; the other values have been tolerably faithful to the original shade.

Extracts from my Private Note Book.

BY C. H. C.

PERU.—A recent mail from Iquique, the nitrate port of Peru, brought to friends of mine in the city what appears to be an official post card, used by the postmaster of that city. The size is a trifle under 3½ inches wide by 4½ long. The card is white, and has no printing on the front. On the reverse, however, is a notice to the effect that there is detained in the Iquique Post Office, a letter intended for the recipients of the card, but held for deficient prepayment of postage. The card then goes on to state that they can have the deficient postage paid by any correspondent resident at Iquique.

The card seems to have come from Peru to Panama free of postage, but thence to New York regular letter rates have been charged ; owing, of course, to the fact that no postage treaty recognizing cards exist between the U. S. of America and the U. S. of Colombia.

The new 10 c. stamp for this country was illustrated in the last number of the JOURNAL, and in the present one mention is made of the label being in actual use.

Prior, however, to the arrival of a stock of these stamps in Peru, the supply of the old 10 c. became exhausted, and resort was therefore had to *half stamps* made by cutting in two, the 20 centavos of the same issue, or, sometimes, the 1 pesta yellow of the embossed series (1 pesata is equal to 20 centavos), using each half to serve as 10 centavos.

RINGGOLD, GEORGIA.—This Confederate local has recently been brought to light as something new. It was described by me in the Stamp Collector's Magazine about three years ago, viz. : on page 182 of the volume for 1873. I deem it well to mention this fact and also to state that I consider the stamp genuine beyond any doubt.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.—Mr. Furlong recently exhibited to me a 3c. green of the current issue, unperforated and having the old *grille* pattern on the back. This is the only *grilled* specimen, *unperforate,* that has ever come under my notice.

Of the Centennial envelopes I make the following varieties :

Old watermark—Green : Philadelphia type.
Red : Hartford type.

New watermark—Green: Philadelphia type.
do. Hartford type.
Red do. type.

Can any one inform me whether the green stamp of the Hartford type also comes on envelopes with the old watermaek ?

Newly Issued Stamps.

HOLLAND.—The last mail from the Netherlands brought the 2½c. of



of the new set of low values. The general appearance of the desigu would lead us to suppose that the same frame was to answer for all values, but as the groundwork is composed of the value, repeated in minute figures, after the style of the Russian stamps, this is clearly impossible. The word CENT at the bottom looks very awkward, occupying so large a space, especially as NEDERLAND is crowded into a label of the same length at top. We presume the other values will conform to this in general design. The colors are as follows:

½ cent,	brown.	2 cent,	yellow.
1 "	green.	2½ "	violet.
1½ "	rose.		

PERU.—Our attention has been called to the fact that we omitted to give the color of the new 10c. stamp of this country. It is printed in green. We understand that a five and twenty centavo stamp of similar design are in course of preparation.

FIJI ISLANDS.—A few months ago our publishers were offered a lot of labels, purporting to be stamps of the first issue of these islands (Fiji Times Express) the type is quite different to the genuine stamps and the color of the paper a deep pink, these facts were quite sufficient to condemn them in our eyes, and so we omitted to notice them, thinking that they were too bad to deceive anyone. We are sorry to see that they have been sold in Europe, and must offer an apology to our patrons on the other side for not warning them sooner. As an additional evidence of their falsity, we may add that the party offering them for sale showed a letter purporting to be from his brother, the proprietor of the express, which bore indubitable marks of forgery. It so happened as if to dispel every doubt, that Sir Daniel Cooper arrived direct from the Fiji Islands the next week, and brought all he could find of the "Fiji Times Express" stamps, which were of the old type. This proves conclusively that the new variety could not be a new issue or a revival of the old express.

HONG KONG.—The 30 cents violet is now coming over, surcharged "*Twenty-eight cents*," in italics.

MAURITIUS.—The ½ p. is now surcharged over the ten penny stamp.

A correspondent of the *Philatelist* states that a new set having the values expressed in rupees, and its fractions, will shortly be issued, the values being as follow:

2 cents,	deep red.	16 cents,	pink.
4 "	brick red.	25 "	maroon.
8 "	blue.	37 "	
12 "	vermilion.	50 "	green.

2 rupees 25 cents mauve.

All except the 2c. will be the same type as the current penny, the 2c. taking the type of the 10p. stamp.

Envelopes of the value of 8c., 25c. and 50c. will also be issued.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA.—We are indebted to the same source for the information that the *orange* 9 pence is surcharged 8 PENCE. We never saw a 9p. orange, but suppose the 9p. has been printed in orange and surcharged eight pence the same way the ten penny stamp was made.

GERMANY.—Again this country favors us with a new set of postals showing a very slight variation from those they supersede, the only difference in the new comers consists, in the word *pfennige* being spelled without the final *e*

CANADA is about to issue a 3c. stamped envelope of similar design to our own, but bearing the profile of the Queen.

VICTORIA.—Just as we go to press we received from an esteemed correspondent specimens of a new shilling stamp for this colony. The design consists of the diademed profile of Her Majesty, Queen Victoria to left on solid circular disk. VICTORIA above, ONE SHILLING below, in white letters on curved labels, the whole on an engine-turned ground; scrolled frame; watermarked v and crown.

1 shilling blue on dark blue paper.

Post Card. The new card is much smaller than the old one, and of course the stamps are of the design of the current penny adhesive. The words POST CARD are on a scroll above the British Arms, with the usual directions below—

1 penny violet on buff.

JAPAN—*Postal Cards.*—The values of the new cards noticed last month are

5 rin, orange. 1 sen, blue.

The Late Sale.

Last night (the 11th ult.) we had the pleasure of witnessing one of the largest and most enthusiastic gatherings of stamp collectors that has ever taken place. Fully one hundred representative philatelists of New York and the neighboring cities being present to purchase

some of the rarieties or splendid specimens which were sold at auction during the evening. The sale was held at the spacious rooms of the Messrs. Leavitt, and commenced at seven o'clock, sharp. Half an hour before that time all the chairs were occupied, and many remained standing during the entire evening. We annex a few of the prices realized at the sale. All the stamps are unused except it is otherwise stated Lot 2, set Angola, 98c.; lot 5, set large figure Argentine Republic, $1.73; lot 14, set 1861 Austrian Envelopes (cut), $2.00; lot 16, set of 1867 ditto, 25c.; lots 26 and 27, set first and second issue Azores, brought $1.28 each. The ½sc. violet Bergedorf brought 90c., and the 3sc. rose $1.95. The 5c. cancelled, first issue, Bolivia (lot 43), brought $8.00, the 10c. brown $9.00, the 50c. blue $6.50, while the 100c. blue only sold for $2.50, showing the effect of the large find of these stamps. The 500 blue provisional (lot 51), sold for $4.00, one dollar less than face. The 1c. and 4c. 1851 issue, British Guiana (lots 57 and 58), brought $6.00 and $10.00 respectively. The 5p. orange, Buenos Ayres, was knocked down for $7.00. Lot 87, a very fine set of the last Empire and Republic of France engraved and lithographed, perforated and rouletted, comprising fifty-three varieties, sold for $2.67. Lot 111, a complete set of Lubec adhesives and envelopes, sold for $5.40. Lot 114, a 1r. violet, 1863 Luzon, brought $5.00, while the 10c, 1854, only sold for $2.80. Sets of British colonial stamps sold at about our publishers' catalogue price, some going twenty-five cents under, and others bringing as much over. The 1861 issue, New Grenada, lots 139 to 142, realized as follows: 2½c black $4.50, 5c. yellow $1.50, 10c. blue $3.25, 20c. rose $2.00. Lot 146, 1p. violet, 1862 issue, sold for $5.00, and cheap at that. A shilling, Nova Scotia, brought $10.00. The medio peso Peru (lot 175), was knocked down at $5.25 The fine sets of Spanish West Indies brought from 60c. to $5.25 per set. Lot 237, Fernando Poo, $1.80. Set St. Helena (lot 228), $3 38. The magnificent unsevered pair of 5c. St. Louis only brought $20,50, about half their value. The 10c. brought $5.15 and $5.50 each Lot 250, the unique* newly-discovered provisional was knocked down for the ridiculously low sum of $11 00—it was well worth $50.00. Lot 297, a fine uncut set of Ceylon envelopes brought $9.00. The splendid set of War envelopes, the finest set in the world, brought $38.25. Lot 315, a fine set of 96 varieties entire Plimpton Envelopes, sold for $52.80. Lot 319, Match and Medicine Stamps, brought $9.75. This was the last lot. The entire sale realized between seven and eight hundred dollars.

* We expect to be able to give the complete history of this interesting stamp in our next.

CATALOGUE

OF A

Very Fine Collection

OF

POSTAGE STAMPS,

The Property of a New York Collector,

TO BE SOLD BY AUCTION, WITHOUT RESERVE,

AT THE

Clinton Hall Book Sale Rooms and Art Galleries,

BY MESSRS.

GEO. A. LEAVITT & CO.,

On Monday Evening, December 11, 1876,

COMMENCING AT SEVEN O'CLOCK.

CATALOGUE BY SCOTT & CO., 146 FULTON STREET.

Parties who cannot attend the sale can have their bids carefully executed by the Auctioneers, or by SCOTT & CO., New York; J. ALLAN MASON & CO., Brooklyn; J. W. HASELTINE or L. W. DURBIN, Philadelphia; J. BEIFELD or A. W. LOCKE, Chicago; and F. TRIFET, Boston.

PREFACE.

Auction Sales of Foreign Postage Stamps are not of very common occurrence; therefore, a few words to intending purchasers may not be out of place, especially as many amateurs will embrace this opportunity to add to their collections at small cost.

This collection is the property of a New York amateur leaving the city, and will be sold without reserve to the highest bidder. All the stamps are warranted genuine, and unless otherwise stated, are uncanceled, and in the finest possible condition, many of them being very rare and some unique. Special attention is directed to the splendid sets of War and Plimpton Envelopes, the unique New Orleans Stamp, the unsevered pair of 5c. St. Louis, and many other rare and desirable sets.

Orders to purchase will be carefully executed by the Auctioneers, or Messrs. Scott & Co., but it is impossible to buy for parties unless they will state a definite price, not to be exceeded, for any lots they may desire. In every case we shall endeavor to buy as low as possible, and out of the large number of lots, some will certainly go much below their value; therefore, if collectors who cannot attend the sale will send in their offers, however low, for whatever stamps they may desire, they will be likely to obtain a few lots at very reasonable prices.

CATALOGUE.

1	Set Alsace and Lorraine,	9	varieties
2	Set Angola, 1869 issue,	6	"
3	Set Antigua	4	"
4	Set 1858 Argentine Confederation, small figures,	3	"
5	Set " " " large "	3	"
6	Set 1862 Argentine Republic,	3	"
7	Set 1864 " " head Rivadavia	4	"
8	Set 1867–73 " " various heads,	7	"
9	Set 1850 Austria,	5	"
10	Set 1858 "	6	"
11	Sets 1861–3 "	10	"
12	Set 1867 "	13	"
13	Complete set, all issues, Austrian newspaper stamps,	14	"
14	Set 1861 Austrian envelope stamps;	8	"
15	Set 1863 " "	5	"
16	Set 1867 " "	5	"
17	Set 1850 Austrian Italy,	5	"
18	Set 1858 "	6	"
19	Set 1861 "	5	"
20	Set 1863 "	5	"
21	Set 1867 "	9	"
22	Set 1861 " envelope stamps,	8	"
23	Set 1863 " "	5	"
24	Set 1867 " "	5	"
25	Set 1858 " newspaper stamps, and Danube Steam Nav. Co. stamps, one canceled,	6	"
26	Set 1868 Azores,	8	"
27	Set 1871 "	8	"
28	Set 1851–7 Baden	8	"
29	Set 1860–2 "	6	"
30	Set 1862–8 " and unpaid letter stamps,	12	"
31	Set 1859–63 Bahamas,	6	"
32	Set 1852–75 Barbadoes, one canceled,	10	"
33	1 Kreutzer (black), Bavaria,		

34	Set 1849–58 Bavaria,	6	varieties
35	Set 1862 "	6	"
36	Set 1867–8 "	12	"
37	Set unpaid and returned letter stamps,	7	"
38	Set 1849–70 Belgium,	31	"
39	½ Schilling (violet) Bergedorf,		
40	3 " (rose) "		
41	Set Bergedorf and Bremen,	9	"
42	Set 1865–74 Bermuda,	13	"
43	5c. violet 1867 Bolivia, canceled,		
44	10c. brown 1867 "		
45	50c. blue 1867 "		
46	100c. " 1867 "		
47	500c. " 1867 " provisional.		
48	50c. yellow, and 5c. green, 1867, and 5c. 1868 Bolivia,	3	"
49	Set 1843 Brazil, large figure, two used,	3	"
50	Set 1844–6 Brazil, italic figures,	4	"
51	180 reis 1845 " "		
52	Set 1850–61 " including 280 and 430 reis,	8	"
53	Set 1866 "	8	"
54	Set 1867 " envelopes,	3	"
55	Complete set British Columbia and Vancouver's Island, a very fine set, scarce,	10	"
56	Set British Honduras,	4	"
57	1c. (carmine) 1851 British Guiana, canceled, but in fine condition, very rare.		
58	4c. (blue) 1851 British Guiana, canceled, but in splendid condition, large margin, very rare.		
59	Set 1860 British Guiana,	8	"
60	Set 1852 Brunswick, canceled,	3	"
61	Set 1853–65 "	12	"
62	1 and 2c. 1858–9 Buenos Ayres, canceled, rare,	2	"
63	5 p. (orange) 1858 " " very rare,		
64	Set 1859–63 " "	4	"
65	Set 1861–74 Corrientes,	3	"
66	Set Canada nearly complete, including ½p. perforated, and very fine 10 p.	31	"
67	4 pence blue wood block Cape of Good Hope.		
68	Splendid set of 16 varieties Triangular Cape of Good Hope, and 7 1863-76 issue, a very desirable lot	23	"
69	Fine set Ceylon including the 1s. 9p. 2 canceled	23	"
70	Splendid lot unperforated Ceylon including 1s. 9p.	10	"
71	Another fine lot Ceylon, unwatermarked	7	"
72	Fine lot Confederate, including TEN cent, 2c., green, Knoxville and 4 New Orleans, 3 canceled	39	"

73	Set Danish W. Indies, and 3 Costa Rica,	12	varieties
74	Complete set Deccan all issues,	10	"
75	Denmark, including 2 sk., 1857,	30	"
76	Set Dominica,	3	"
77	Set Lagos,	6	"
78	Set Gold Coast,	3	"
79	Lot Dutch W. Indies,	15	"
80	Set Ecuador, 3 canceled,	6	"
81	Set 1865, Egypt,	7	"
82	Set 1867, Egypt, and some of 1872,	15	"
83	Set 1865, Egypt, unperforated,	7	"
84	Set four Fiji islands,	4	"
85	Lot Finland,	11	"
86	First French Republic and Empire, 1 canceled,	17	"
87	Very fine set last Empire, and Republic, engraved and lithographed,	53	"
88	Set French colonies, 1860-72.	9	"
89	Set Guatemala 1871-75, last set unperforated, very rare	10	"
90	Sets Gambia, Grenada and Honduras, 1 used,	6	"
91	Set Germany, including envelopes,	58	"
92	Lot English, including fine specimen of the first 10p.	13	"
93	Greece, including a very fine set of the first issue	17	"
94	Set Hamburg,	36	"
95	Very desirable set of Hanover, fine original impressions, 1 canceled,	22	"
96	Set Heligoland and Holstein,	19	"
97	Complete set first four issues Holland, including the unpaid stamps,	20	"
98	1872 Holland and Hong Kong,	13	"
99	Set Hungary including lithographs,	21	"
100	Set 1873 Iceland,	7	"
101	Set Ionian Isles, scarce,	3	"
102	Lot India, including 1 provisional,	9	"
103	Set 1856-63 Italy,	17	"
104	Set Italian official stamps,	8	"
105	Set Italian unpaid letter and newspaper stamps,	15	"
106	Set first two issues Japan,	8	"
107	Set third issue Japan, no letters, scarce.	17	"
108	" " " " with letters,	18	"
109	Set Jamaica,	7	"
110	Set Liberia including those with outer lines, one used, rare	6	"
111	Complete set Lubec,	18	"
112	10c. 1854 Luzon, very rare,		
113	2r. " " " " used		

114	1r. 1863, Luzon, violet very rare,		varieties
115	Two 5c. and a 10c. 1859 Luzon,	3	"
116	Set 1864 Luzon,	4	"
117	Set 1868 Madeira,	9	"
118	Set 1871 "	9	"
119	Fine used specimens 1855–8 Mauritius, rare,	3	"
120	Lot 1856 Mauritius, rare,	4	"
121	Set 1861-70 Mauritius and 3 1861, one used, a desirable lot	15	"
122	Set Mecklenburg Strelitz	7	"
123	First set Mexico, one used, rare,	5	"
124	Set 1861-7 Mexico, a very fine lot,	12	"
125	Set 1867 engraved head Hidalgo, a fine and rare set,	4	"
126	Set Mexico Maximilian Eagle,	8	"
127	Set " " head engraved and lithographed	7	"
128	Set Mexican, 1868, and three others	11	"
129	Set Modena, two used,	15	"
130	Set Naples, one canceled,	9	"
131	Lot Natal,	9	"
132	Set Nevis,	8	"
133	Lot New Brunswick, including the celebrated Connell essay, two canceled,	8	"
134	2p. and 8. *scarlet* Newfoundland, rare,	2	"
135	Set 1857–60 Newfoundland,	8	"
136	Set 1866–73 "	12	"
137	1859 issue New Granada, rare,	3	"
138	Set 1880 issue New Granada, a fine set,	6	"
139	2½c. 1861 New Granada, very rare.		
140	5c. " " yellow, used.		
141	10c. " " blue, rare.		
142	20c. " " rose, rare.		
143	10c. 1662 " blue, used.		
144	20c. " " rose, used, rare.		
145	50c. " " green, used, rare.		
146	1p. " " violet, used, very rare.		
147	1863 issue " used,	3	"
148	Set 1864 " 3 used, a fine set,	5	"
149	1865 issue "	5	"
150	Set 1867 " a very fine set,	5	"
151	10 Pesos 1867 " used, rare.		
152	Set 1869–70 " one used,	5	"
153	Set 1870–2 " 5p. and 10p., used,	6	"
154	Lot various " including 50c. Sobreport stamp used, a good lot,	15	"
155	Set 1868–9 Antioquia, including the 1 peso, a very fine lot	6	"

156	5c. green 1868 Antioquia, used, rare.		varieties
157	Lot 1874 issue, "	5	"
158	Lot Bolivar,	5	"
159	Lot 1870 Cundinamarca,	2	"
160	Set 1870–1 Tolima, including the rare 5c. type printed,	5	"
161	Set New South Wales, view Sydney, used,	4	"
162	Lot " " 1852–61 issue, 7 used,	14	"
163	Lot 1859–71 New Zealand,	11	"
164	Set 1859–68 New Zealand unperforated, a splendid set, and very desirable,	6	"
165	Set Nicaragua	6	"
166	Lot North German Confed.,	16	"
167	Complete set Norway, a beautiful set, in fine condition,	30	"
168	1 sh. violet Nova Scotia, very rare,		
169	Lot 1857 issue, 3 used,	4	"
170	Set 1860–3 issue, a fine set.	6	"
171	Lot Oldenburg, 7 used,	16	"
172	Lot " envelopes,	7	"
173	Set Orange Free States,	3	"
174	Set 1852–9 Parma, 3 canceled,	15	"
175	Medio Peso, Peru, orange, used, very rare.		
176	Lot Peru, 5 used,	16	"
177	Set 1853 issue, Portugal, very fine.	4	"
178	Lot 1855–62 Portugal,	10	"
179	Lot 1866–70 "	13	"
180	Complete set Prince Edward's Island.	14	"
181	Lot Prussian,	21	"
182	Pair Reunion Island, *reprints*,	2	"
183	Set Romagna,	9	"
184	Complete set Roman States, 2 used,	32	"
185	Set Roumania, 5 *reprints*,	46	"
186	Set Russia, 2 used,	22	"
187	Set Salvador, 2 used,	6	"
188	Lot Sandwich Islands, including a fine set of the plain figure series, 1 used, a desirable lot,	17	"
189	Beautiful set 1857 issue, Saxony,	4	"
190	Set 1854–63 Saxony,	13	"
191	Fine set Saxony envelope stamps,	10	"
192	Set Schleswig and Schleswig-Holstein,	14	"
193	Complete set Servia, one used,	19	"
194	Set Shanghai,	10	"
195	Set Sicily,	7	"
196	Set Sierra Leone,	7	"
197	Lot South African Republic,	7	"
198	First five values, 1854 issue, Spain, rare,	5	"

199	Fine set 1857–59 issue, Spain,	5	varieties
200	Set 1860 issue, Spain,	6	"
201	Set 1862 "	6	"
202	Set 1864 "	6	"
203	Set 1865 "	6	"
204	Set 1866 "	7	"
205	Set 1867 "	10	"
206	Set 1869 " including the rare 19c. brown and two sets of official stamps,	13	"
207	Set 1870 Spain,	15	"
208	Lot 1872 Spain, including 10 p.,	13	"
209	Set 1874 Spain, except 10p.,	14	"
210	Second set 1874 Spain,	10	"
211	Set Don Carlos,	5	"
212	Fine lot of Spain, various issues, some very rare,	30	"
213	Set 1855 Spanish West Indies, rare,	4	"
214	Set 1856 " " very rare,	3	"
215	Set 1857 " "	4	"
216	Set 1864 " "	4	"
217	Set 1866 " "	4	"
218	Set 1868 " "	4	"
219	Set 1869 " "	4	"
220	Set 1870 " "	4	"
221	Set 1871 " "	4	"
222	Set 1873 " "	4	"
223	Set 1874 " "	4	"
224	Set 1875 " "	4	"
225	Set 1876 " "	4	"
226	Lot different issues Spanish West Indies, some very rare; a good lot,	12	"
227	Fernando Poo, rare.		
228	Set St. Helena, including 5s.,	9	"
229	Set 1860 St. Lucia,	5	"
230	Set 1860–71 St. Vincent,	7	"
231	Lot St. Domingo,	10	"
232	Lot 1867–8 Straits Settlements,	13	"
233	Complete set 1855–66 Sweden,	18	"
234	10c. Geneva Switzerland, very rare.		
235	Set 1862–75 Switzerland,	19	"
236	Set 1858 Tasmania,	11	"
237	Red, violet and brown, blue paper, Trinidad, two used, rare,	3	"
238	Lot 1854–59 Trinidad, including red lithograph, three slightly canceled,	10	"
239	Set Turks Island,	3	"

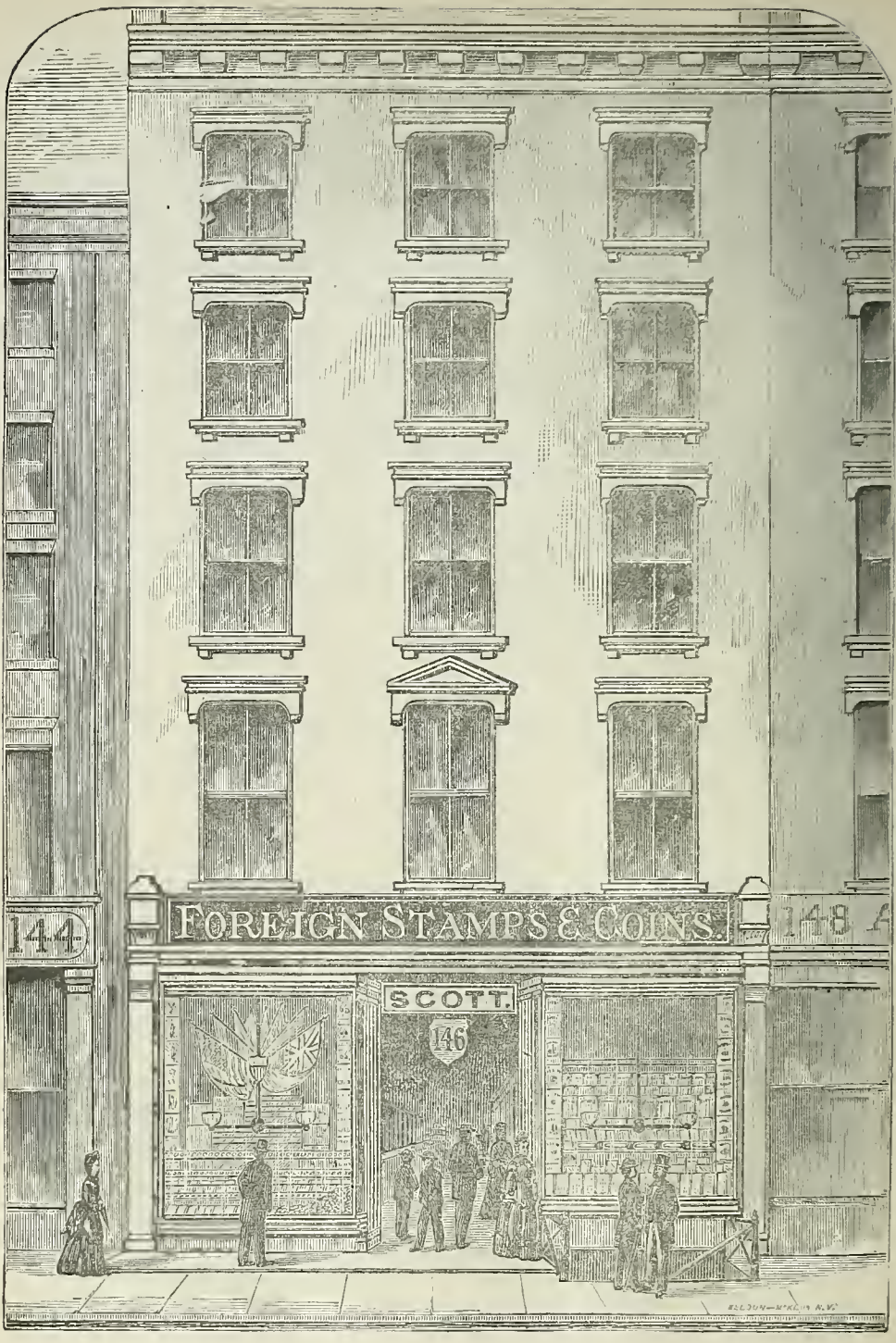
240	Lot Turkey, various issues,	13	varieties
241	Set Turkish newspaper stamps,	6	"
242	Lot fine used specimens Tuscany,	12	"
243	Unsevered pair 5c. St. Louis stamps, the only pair in this condition known to the writer, used, but in splendid condition, extremely rare,	2	"
244	10c. St. Louis, used, but in fine condition, very rare,		
245	Another variety of the same, very rare.		
246	Two 5c. Providence and 5c. New York,	3	"
247	Set 1847 U. S., and three used 5c.,	5	"
248	Set 1857 issue, U. S.,	8	"
249	Set 1861 "	12	"
250	Lot 1869 "	9	"
251	Set 1871 "	10	"
252	Set 1871 " proofs,	10	"
253	Fine set proofs, 1869, issue U. S.,	10	"
254	5c. provisional U. S., believed to be New Orleans. This is a very interesting stamp, and when its history is discovered, will be priceless as it is unique, used. All the particulars known to the owner will be made known to the purchaser,		
255	Lot various issues U. S. Face value of unused, $1.25,	28	"
256	Set 1853 U. S. envelope stamps on white and buff paper, very rare,	8	"
257	Set 1857 U. S. envelope stamps, on white and buff paper, very rare,	10	"
258	Set 1861 U. S. envelope stamps,	6	"
259	" " " " rare,	4	"
260	2c. U. S. "postage" on buff and orange paper, very rare,	2	"
261	Set 1864 U. S. envelope stamps,	16	"
262	Set 1870 "Reay" U. S. envelopes on white paper, including the 10c. black, now rare and getting scarcer,	11	"
263	Set 1870 "Reay" U. S., on lemon paper, except the 90c.,	10	"
264	" " " on manila, orange and salmon paper, except the 30c.,	10	"
265	Complete set of the 1874–5 issue U. S. envelope stamps, known as "Plimptons." This splendid set contains fine specimens of every die, some of them being of excessive rarity. These are on every variety of paper authorized by law, and are probably the finest cut set of these interesting stamps in the country,	69	"
266	Set Executive Department stamps,	5	"
267	1c., 2c., 10c., 24c. and 90c. State Department stamps,	5	"
268	1c. to 24c. Justice Department stamps,	8	"
269	Set Interior " "	10	"

270	Set War Department Stamps,	11	varieties
271	" Navy " "	11	"
272	Lot Treasury " "	8	"
273	Set Post Office " " except 10c.,	9	"
274	" Agricultural " "	9	"
275	Four canceled sets, 1847, U. S.,	8	"
276	Sheet of six varieties, Providence,	6	"
277	Pair 5c. New York, slightly canceled,	2	"
278	Set Wells, Fargo & Co. express stamps,	11	"
279	Lot 1856–9 issue Uruguay, rare,	5	"
280	Fine set 1862 " "	5	"
281	Set 1864 Uruguay and envelope stamps, 2 used,	6	"
282	First three sets Venezuela,	11	"
283	Fine set La Guaira,	8	"
284	Set 1874 Venezuela,	7	"
285	" Virgin Isles,	5	"
286	" 1856–7 Western Australia, very rare,	4	"
287	" 1860 " " a fine set,	4	"
288	" 1862 " " "	5	"
289	" 1865–71 " "	6	"
290	Lot 1851–69 Wurtemburg,	19	"
291	Set Montenegro,	7	"
292	Miscellaneous lot of used stamps,	25	"
293	Similar " "	23	"
294	" " unused stamps,	25	"
295	" " "	25	"
296	" " "	23	"
297	Complete Set uncut Ceylon Envelopes, a beautiful Set, rare,	15	"
298	Suberb Set uncut English compound Envelopes,	13	"
299	Set uncut Hamburg Envelopes,	7	"
300	Set Mecklenburg Schwerin Envelopes,	8	"
301	Set India and band 9d Mauritius Envelopes,	5	"
302	Lot entire Envelopes, Russia, Finland, Brunswick, Switzerland, South African Republic, Switzerland,	19	"
303	Magnificent set uncut War Department Envelopes, in perfect condition. This is, with one exception, the finest set in the world, and is well worth the attention of advanced collectors,	34	"
304	Superb set 1853 uncut U. S. Envelopes, including six 6c., four 10c.. &c.,	22	"
305	Lot 1, 3 and 4c. 1856 uncut U. S. Envelopes, including the rare 1c. on orange,	22	"
306	Lot 1861 uncut U. S. Envelopes, including eight 10c., a 20c. and the rare 2c. " Postage " on orange,	16	"

307 Lot uncut 1864 issue U. S. Envelopes, and 3c. letter sheet, 27 varieties
308 Lot uncut 1861, including 2c. "Postage" on buff and 40c. word "Specimen" on envelope, but not near stamp, 6 "
309 Set 1870 U. S. Envelopes, "Reay" salmon paper, above 6c. extra office size, marked "Specimen" on Envelope 11 "
310 Same as last, official size, 9 "
311 Same as last, lemon paper, 11 "
312 Same as last, white paper, not marked "Specimen," 10 "
313 Same, extra official, marked "Specimen," 10 "
314 Lot 1c. to 6c. various sizes and colors U. S. Reay Envelopes, 16 "

Any collector purchasing Lots 309 to 314, will possess nearly a complete Set of all sizes and colors of Reay Envelopes.

315 Splendid Set of entire Plimpton Envelopes, including nearly every variety of die, color and size, and including most of the rare ones, such as 7c. first die, 10c., &c., &c., 96 "
316 Set essays Austrian Envelopes, 12 "
317 Lot cut U. S. envelope Stamps of various issues, including 24c., 40c., and 2c. "Postage" 1861 issue, 26 "
318 3c. 1861 U. S. letter sheet and two Japan Envelopes, 3 "
319 Fine collection of used Match and Medicine Stamps, including many rare ones, 150 "


FOREIGN STAMPS & COINS
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SCOTT
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THE

AMERICAN JOURNAL

OF

PHILATELY.

ILLUSTRATED.



VOL. X. 1876.

A GENUINE FOREIGN STAMP PRESENTED TO THE SUBSCRIBER WITH EACH NUMBER.

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No. 121. January 20.

THE

American Journal of Philately.

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The pages of the Journal will continue the same size as before, but they will be added to from time to time so as to accommodate all the writings of American Philatelists, and reprints or translations of every article relating to stamps published anywhere in the world, that are readable or contain any useful information By these means our subscribers will get delivered free of postage, for ONE DOLLAR PER YEAR, a large number of valuable original articles, and all the contents that are worth reading of *L'Ami des Timbres, Le Timbre Post. The Philatelist, Illustrirtes Briefmarken Journal, &c., &c.*

The very valuable and interesting History of Postage Stamps, by Overy Taylor will be continued monthly till finished.

The advertising pages will be found interesting to Stamp Collectors.

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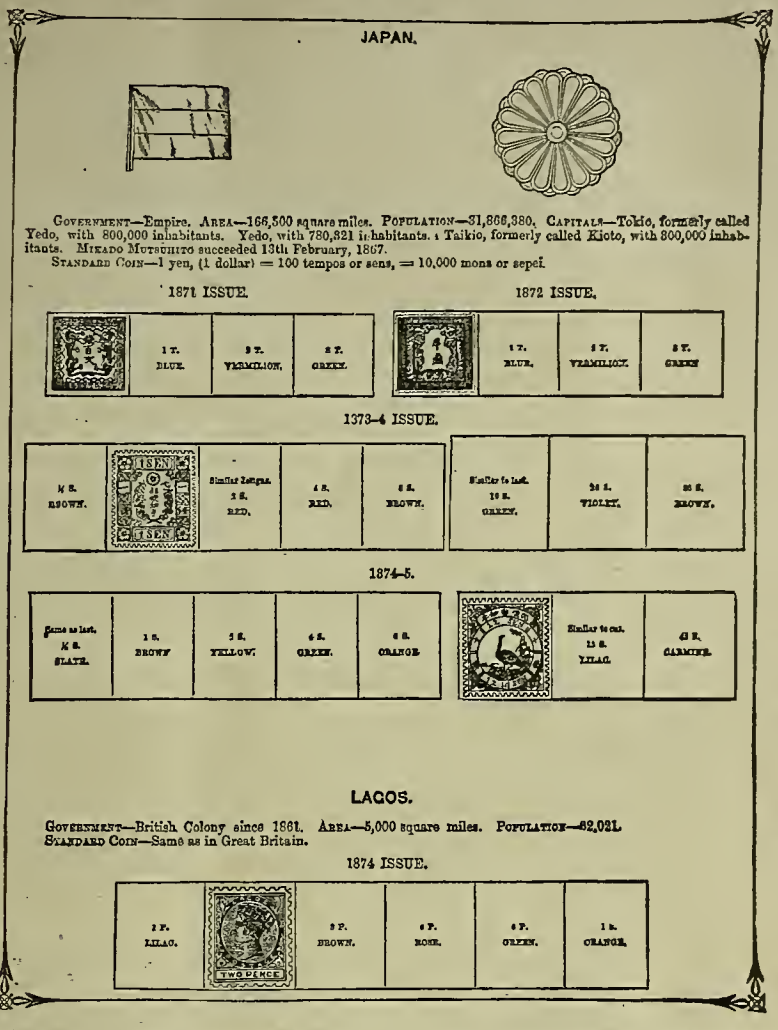
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NOTE—As these extraordinarily low prices are designed to benefit Collectors, J. W. S. & CO., must decline to supply dealers at these rates, or to sell more than one set of a kind to any one Collector.

ALL WARRANTED GENUINE ORIGINAL IMPRESSIONS.

No. 1.—ALSACE & LORRAINE These interesting stamps were used by the Germans during their occupation of French territory. The complete set consisting of 1c. olive green, 2c. brown, 4c. grey, 5c. green, 10c bistre, 20c. blue, 25c. brown, all unused and in perfect condition. Price 25c. the set.

No. 2.—CANADA. The New Registration stamps by the beauty of their execution and the novelty of their shape are a pleasing addition to any album. The complete set uncancelled and in perfect condition consisting of the following values, 2c. orange, 5c. green, 8c. blue. Price 25c. per set.

No. 3 —GERMANY. The great victories achieved by this power over the French were commemorated by a change in the armorial bearings on the stamps of the new Empire. The complete set of postage stamps which will bear record of this important event to future ages consists of the following values 1k green, 2k. orange, 3k. rose, 7k. blue, 9k. brown, 18k. straw, and is offered in a perfectly new and uncancelled condition for 25c. per set.

No. 4.—MEXICO. The many changes which have taken place in the government of our next door neighbor are clearly recorded on its stamps. The earliest stamps issued by the republic bear grateful tribute to the memory of the priest Hidalgo who first organized revolution against Spain. He was executed July 27th, 1811 * We offer the following bearing his potrait, 1r. yellow, 1r. green, 2r. green, 2r. pink cancelled, but in fine condition. Price 35 cents the four.

No 5.—The advent of Maxmilian was marked by a new issue of stamps; design, eagle on cactus bearing a serpent, the omen seen by the Aztecs in 1325, when looking for a site for their capital, the present city of Mexico, thus utilizing the arms of the country as a support for his crown, and familiarizing the people with the emblem of royalty. The set of stamps all in beautiful condition and unused, consisting of the following values: ½ r. lilac, 1 r. blue, 2 r. orange, 4 r. green, 8 r rod. Price $1.00 per set.

No 6.—Two years after, this series was replaced with a set bearing an excellent portrait in profile of the unfortunate gentleman who was so soon to loose his life. (Maximilian was executed June 19th, 1867). This beautiful set consisting of the following values: 7c. lilac, 13c. blue, 25c. buff, 50c. green. All uncancelled. Price $1.50 per set.

No 7.—The reestablishment of the republic is commemorated by a new set of stamps, fine used copies of the complete set, consisting of 6c. buff, 12c. green, 25c. pink, 50c yellow. 100c. brown Price 40c.

No. 8 —In 1872, we find another change. Complete sets of this issue, consisting of the following values: 6c. green, 12c. blue, 25c. red, 50c. yellow, 160c. lilac, all used but in fine condition. Price 30c. the set.

No. 9.—In 1874 These were replaced by a superbly executed set, consisting of the following values, 5c. brown, 10c black, 25c. blue, 50c. green, 100c. carmine and two envelopes, 11 used but in fine condition. The set of 7. Price 40c,

No. 10.—The Revenue stamps of Mexico are remarkable for their large size, beauty of engraving, and brilliant colors and as they give an excellent portrait not depicted on the postage stamps of Jose, M. Morelos the successor of Hidalgo in the war against Spain, are a desirable addition to a collection. The set of five stamps price 25c.

No 11.—HUNGARY. One of the first acts of the Hungarian patriots on obtaining an independ ant government for their country was to issue a set of stamps, bearing the national arms in conjunction with the portrait of their king, the Austrian Emperor, we offer the complete set of the 1871 issue, consisting of the following values, 2k. orange, 3k. green, 5k red, 10k. blue, 15k. brown, 25k. violet, (horn) red cancelled but in fine condition price 25c. the set.

No. 12.—UNITED STATES. The abolition of the franking privilege in this country is commemorated by the issue of nine additional sets of postage stamps we are now offering one of these (Department of the Interior) complete, consisting of the following values 1c. 2c. 3c. 6c. 10c. 12c. 15c. 24c. 30c. and 90c. vermilion all cancelled but in fine condition, price 25c. the set.

For continuation of these wonderfully cheap sets, see November 1875, Journal.

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VOL. X. 1876.

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Commodus, 161—192	50	100
Septimus Severus, 193—211	50	
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Julia Mammea mother of Alex. Severus 233		100
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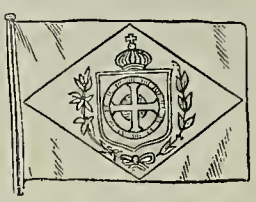
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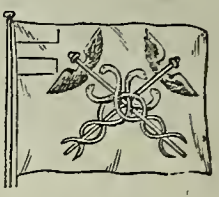
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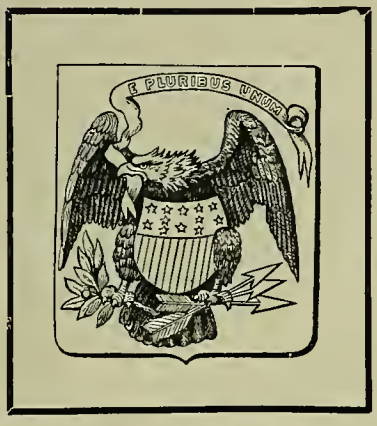
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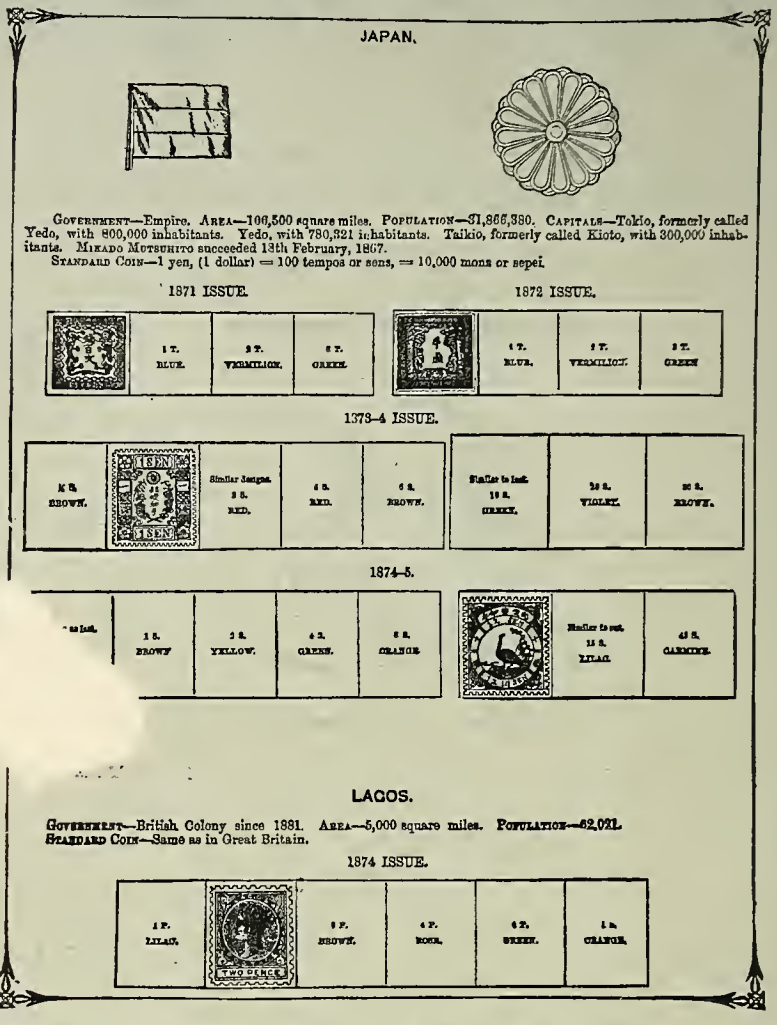
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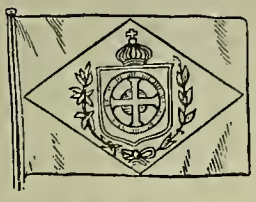
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21. Belgium—Leopold I.
24. Brazil—Dom Pedro II.
5. Brunswick—William.
47. Confederate States—Jeff. Davis.
3. Denmark—Frederick VII.
37. " Christian IX.
2. France—Napoleon III.
46. Great Britain—Victoria
14. Greece—George I.
19. Hanover—George V.
16. Hesse—William III.
39. Italy..Victor Emanuel II.
32. Mecklenburg Schwerin..Frederick Francis.
34. Mecklenburg Strelitz..Frederick William
7. Mexico..Maximilian I.
20. Modena..Francis V.
41. Naples..Ferdinand II.
4. Norway..Charles XV.
18. Oldenburg..Peter.
31. Parma..Robert I.
17. Portugal..Maria II.
40. " Pedro V.
30. " Louis I.
34. Prussia..William I.
23. " Frederick William IV.
35. Roman States..Pius IX.
12. Roumania..Couza.
38. Russia..Alexander II.
29. Sandwich Islands..Kamehameha III.
36. Sandwich Islands..Kamehameha IV.
22. Sandwich Islands..Kamehameha V.
9. Saxony..Frederick Augustus
33. " John
41. Sicily..Ferdinand II.
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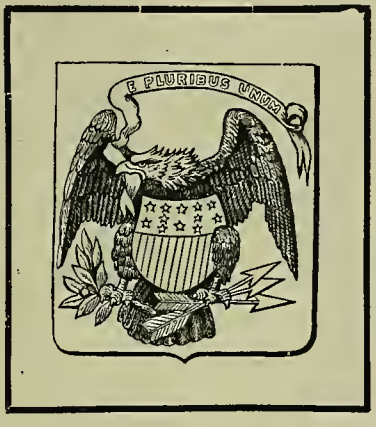
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NEW YORK CITY.

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A

Descriptive Price Catalogue

OF THE

REVENUE STAMPS

OF

ALL NATIONS.



PUBLISHED BY

J. W. SCOTT & CO.,

75 & 77 NASSAU STREET, NEW YORK,

46 LEADENHALL STREET, LONDON, E. C., ENGLAND.



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POSTAGE STAMPS.

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In the present state of knowledge concerning revenue stamps, it is simply impossible to make the book perfect, nor would it be advisable to do so, if the necessary data were at hand as the supply of these labels is, at present very limited, which would in that case, make it impossible to fill the album. Perhaps the greatest charm in collecting revenue stamps consists in the uncertainty and romance connected with it; nearly every amateur having specimens in his album which are totally unknown to his brother collectors, and there being no definite value or degrees of value yet established; but, of course, this state of things is rapidly passing away, and ere many years, or even months have elapsed, collectors will awake to the knowledge that they have some priceless varieties amongst their revenue stamps, which, perhaps, have only cost them two or three cents.

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We are pleased to announce to Collectors, that a new edition of our Revenue Stamp Catalogue, is now ready and can be obtained of all respectable booksellers, and Stamp Dealers, throughout the world.

This valuable aid to the study, of fiscal stamps accurately describes over two thousand American and Foreign Revenue Stamps, many of which have never been noted before It is the only work on the subject, ever printed in the English language.

The feature of this edition is a complete list of Beer stamps, priced at current market rates.

Large Octavo 24 pages, and wrapper containing revenue advertisements, price post free, 25c.

Wholesale $1.75 per dozen, $7.00 per half hundred, $12.00 per hundred.

PRICE 25 CENTS.

5000 Sold in Two Months. Printers Certificate can be seen in Store.

32d EDITION NOW READY!!! CONTAINING ALL THE NEW ISSUES, SUCH AS SPAIN, FRANCE, ICELAND, NORWAY, JAPAN, &c.

32d EDITION NOW READY!!! IT SPEAKS FOR ITSELF AND NEEDS NO QUACK MEDICINE CERTIFICATES.

THE

AMERICAN JOURNAL

OF

PHILATELY.

ILLUSTRATED.



VOL. X. 1876.

A GENUINE FOREIGN STAMP PRESENTED TO THE SUBSCRIBER WITH EACH NUMBER.

TERMS:

SUBSCRIPTION IN THE U. S. AND CANADA EXCEPT NEW YORK CITY $1.00 PER YEAR POST FREE NEW YORK CITY AND FOREIGN COUNTRIES $1.25. SINGLE COPIES 10 CENTS.

NEW YORK:

SCOTT & CO.,

146 FULTON STREET.

No. 128. August 20.

IMPORTANT TO STAMP DEALERS.

Messrs. SCOTT & CO. having just received 25,000,000 Continental Stamps, are selling them at the following very low prices :

10 cents per 100.	$ 30.00 per 100,000.
75 cents per 1,000.	$125.00 per 500,000.
$ 5.00 per 10,000.	$200 00 per 1,000,000.
$17.50 per 50,000.	

Postage or expressage to be paid by purchaser.

Dealers wishing to avail themselves of these extraordinarily low prices, should send on their cash, with orders, immediately, before they are all gone, as it is very doubtful if such an opportunity will ever be given again.

HOLIDAY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Interesting Relic of the Revolution.

British American "Stamp Act" Stamps of 1765.

"THE STAMP ACT."—The successful resistance to the enforcement of this Act (which was ordered to go into effect Nov. 1, 1765) has generally been considered the thin end of the wedge which ultimately separated the American Colonies from Great Britain,

The "stamps for the tax on Newspapers and Pamphlets," were Half-Penny, Penny and Two Pence, and those for "the tax on Almanacs," were Two Pence, Four Pence, and Eight Pence. They were engraved on copper by Thomas Major, who supplied eight plates for each denomination. Each plate comprised 25 stamps and these were individually numbered from 1 to 200. They were printed in sheets of 50, the color of all being reddish brown as is here reprodnced.

As the stamps for the taxes of One Shilling and upwards were impressed in relief on parchments (called "stamped paper"), photographic fac similes of them cannot be reproduced.

Having at considerable expense obtained the privilege of photographing the original sheet of stamps (now in the office of the British Board of Inland Revenue), prepared by King George III., to tax the American Colonies, we are now prepared to supply the public with copies at 25 cents each, or the set of six values, Price $1.50.

Every American should procure a Copy at once

THE GREATEST CURIOSITY
OF THE
CENTENNIAL YEAR,
WOODEN MEDALS,

These beautiful Medals are struck out of solid walnut and are one of the curiosities of the age. The designs are :

Profile to left of George Washington.
Profile to right of A. T. Goshorn.
Profile to left of Geo. J. R. Hawley.
Independence Hall.
Main Building Centennial Exhibition.
Memorial Hall.

Put up in appropriate cases. Price $1.00 the set post free, or 25 cents each singly.

Having the exclusive agency for the sale of these medals. We are selling them wholesale, at rates which give a good profit to retailers.

SCOTT & CO.,
146 FULTON STREET,
NEW YORK CITY.

SELTZ'S

American Boys Theatre.

THE VERY BEST AMUSEMENT FOR BOYS AND GIRLS.

These splendid plays consist of sixteen large sheets, which contains all the scenes and side wings used in the performance of the different plays, and all the various characters in every different position.

Full directions for mounting the characters, building the stage, acting the play, and a correct book of words accompanies every play.

The following plays are now ready :

THE MILLER AND HIS MEN.
SIR LAUNCELOT AND GUINEVERE.
THE PIRATES OF THE FLORIDA KEYS.
THE BOY SAILOR ; OR, THE PIRATE'S DOOM.
RED HEADED JACK, THE TERROR OF LONDON.
THE RED SKELETON ; OR, THE DEAD AVENGER.
THE FIEND OF THE ROCKY MOUNTAINS, (PANTOMIME).

Price 25 cts. each complete play, or beautifully colored, price 50 cts. The above are the only correct plays published, and the only ones giving directions for building mounting and performing, so be careful to get SELTZ' AMERICAN BOYS THEATRE. Sent, post free, by the publishers, **SCOTT & CO.**, 146 Fulton Street, or can be had through all Booksellers and the American News Co.

☞ $1 50 will be paid in trade in the above to any paper publishing this advertisement, to occupy 4x4 inches

---

ENTIRELY NEW EDITION

OF THE

Coin Chart Manual,

CONTAINING

FAC SIMILES of all Gold and Silver Coins in Circulation throughout the World, and giving their Accurate Specie Value.



(CHILI SILVER) 1 Peso. Value, 98c.

The Publishers beg to announce to Bankers, Brokers, and Merchants generally, that they have just issued an entirely new edition of this standard work, now in the Forty-first year of publication ; it has been carefully revised by an eminent authority on all matters relating to the Coinage of the world, and contains hundreds of illustrations of new coins, carefully copied from the originals, not given in former editions.

A critical examination, comparing it with other works on the same subject, will at once establish its superiority over all formerly issued, while the accuracy with which the specie value of the Coins is given, will at once recommend it to the favorable notice of Bankers and Brokers.

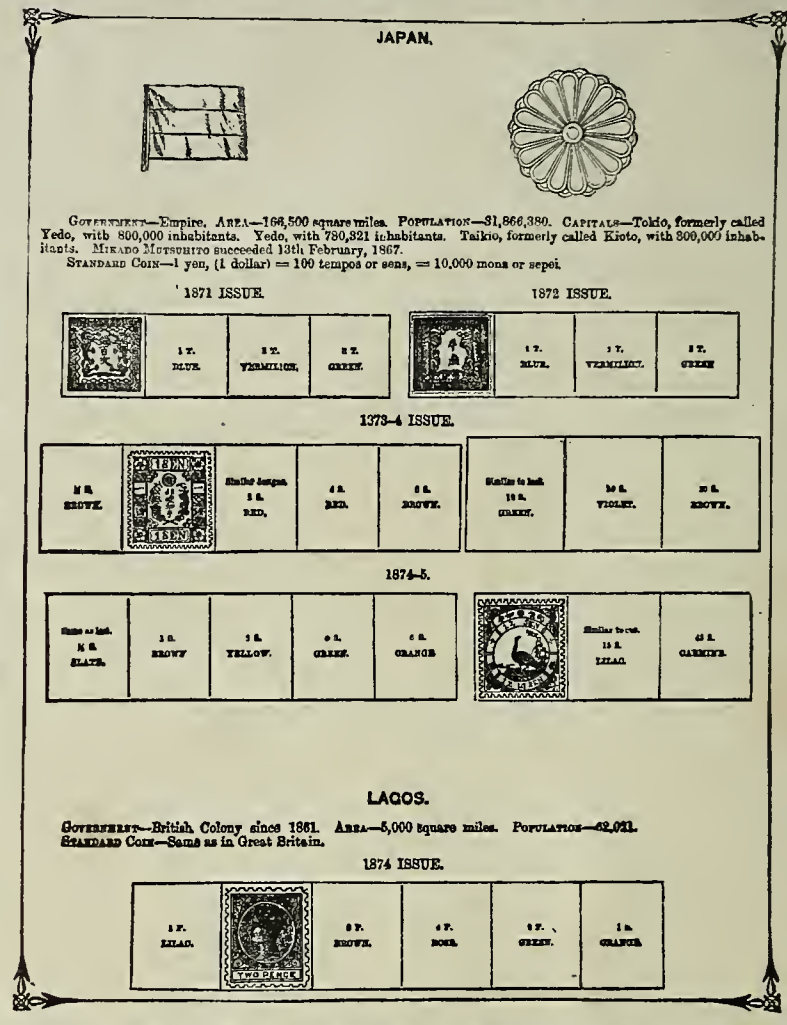
PRICE 50 CENTS, POST FREE.

The International Postage Stamp Album.

Illustrated with a specially engraved map of the world showing the location of every stamp issuing country.

THE EVENT OF 1878!!

NOW READY FOR DELIVERY.



The above *fac-simile* of the International Stamp Album although reduced to one quarter the size, gives a fair idea of the appearance of this new album. The pictures illustrating the designs of every series, make the inserting of the stamps in their proper places so plain, that the youngest child can not possibly make a mistake. *It contains a space for every stamp* including some series which have been announced, but not yet issued, such as Finland, Phillippine Islands &c., ample space for new issues, and is printed, even the cheap editions, on the heaviest paper.

PRICES:

Boards, Half Cloth,	$1.50, post free,	$1.75.
Cloth, Magnificently gilt,	2.50, " "	2.75.

PRINTED ON ONE SIDE OF THE PAPER ONLY.

Cloth, Magnificently Gilt, Clasps, &c.	6.00, post free,	6.50.
French Morocco, Full Gilt, Clasps, &c.,	8.00, " "	8.50.
Half Morocco, Library Style, Gilt, Clasps, &c.,	10.00, " "	10.50.

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NEW YORK:

SCOTT & CO.,

146 FULTON STREET.

No. 129. September 20.

SELTZ'S

AMERICAN BOYS' THEATRE.

THE MOST POPULAR AND ENTERTAINING AMUSEMENT OF THE DAY.



VIEW OF PLAY IN WORKING ORDER.

Full directions for making a stage, mounting the characters, and performing the piece, accompany every play.

Boys, if you want three months steady amusement for 25 cents, buy one of Seltz's splendid plays.

Boys, if you want to make money spend 25 cents on one of Seltz's beautiful plays, fit it up and then give evening performances to your schoolmates, charging 5 cents admission.

Boys, if you want to make money out of these magnificent plays and do not want to give performances, take an agency for their sale. You can sell hundreds every month at a large profit.

Without counting the endless pleasure to be derived from acting or witnessing the performance of ***Seltz's American Boys' Theatre,*** the fitting up, mounting and performing these plays will be found to give more pleasure and profit for the money, than the same amount expended in any other way. All the marvellous scenic effects of the modern stage can be successfully imitated, by any boy of ordinary ability, on these miniature stages, by the exercise of a little study and patience. They have been proved of incalculable benefit in developing a boy's talent, in the various faculties called into play. His mechanical invention is brought out in constructing his theatre; his artistic genius is improved in carefully coloring the characters and scenery, and his elocution perfected in reading the speeches of the different actors.

Collectors of Foreign Postage Stamps or Coins, send three-cent stamp to ***SCOTT & CO., 146 Fulton Street, New York City,*** for circulars.

ATTENTION!

Seltz's American Boys' Theatre,

THE MOST INTERESTING AND INSTRUCTIVE AMUSEMENT OF THE DAY.

Three Months Pleasure for 25 Cents.

The following Plays, complete in 16 sheets of scenes, characters, wings and book, now ready

PRICE, 25 CTS. PLAIN, 50 CTS. COLORED.

The Miller and his Men.
Sir Launcelot and Guinevere.
The Pirates of the Florida Keys.
Redheaded Jack, the Terror of London.
The Boy Sailor; or, The Pirate's Doom.
The Red Skeleton; or, The Dead Avenger.
The Fiend of the Rocky Mountains. (Pantomime.)

Scott & Co. have a large stock of

STAGES AND SETTINGS

All made expressly for the above.

Stages, 22x12x15 in	price,	$1 00
Oil Footlights	"	50
Gas Footlights	"	1 50
Rubber Gas Tubes to connect with burners, per foot	"	15
Set Cards for Mounting Play	"	25
Proscenium, colored	"	10
16 Sheets extra side wings, for deep scenes, plain	"	25
16 " " " " " " fancy	"	50
Slides, per doz	"	35
Long Slides, per doz	"	45

Scott & Co. would caution the public against purchasing worthless imitations, as the plays of SELTZ'S AMERICAN BOYS' THEATRE are the only miniature theatricals ever published, giving full directions for working, &c. Every piece of this admirable series is put together and tested by professionals before being issued to the public, insuring the correct working of every piece.

Published only by SCOTT & CO., 146 Fulton Street, New York, where everything connected with the plays can be had, wholesale and retail. The plays can also be had of all Booksellers and Newsdealers, in the U. S., and wholesale of THE AMERICAN NEWS CO. Be sure and ask for, and take none but SELTZ'S EDITION.

CENTENNIAL MEDALS.

MESSRS. SCOTT & CO., beg to offer the following splendid assortment of CENTENNIAL MEDALS to the notice of Collectors :

OFFICIAL MEDAL.—" These United Colonies are, and ought to be, free and independent States." Bronze ; size 36. Price $2.00, in velvet case

Obverse, same as last piece ; size 24. Price $3.00 in velvet case.

" " gilt, size 24. Price $1 00.

WASHINGTON.—" George Washington, Praes. Prim Rer. Conf. Amer., MDCCLXXXIX." Albata ; size 33. Price 50c.

"George Washington." Albata ; size 26. Price 25c.

" George Washington, born Feb. 22, 1732 Died Dec. 14, 1799." Reverse Liberty Bell. Albata ; size 23. Price 25c.

Same as last, Reverse Independence Hall. Albata size 23. Price 25c.

" The Centennial year of our National Independence, 1876," Eight different reverses of the battles fought in 1776. Albata ; size 21 Price 25c. each.

" 100th Anniversary of the Declaration of Independence, July 4, 1876." Albata; size 21. Price 25c.

" SEE HOW WE PROSPER."—" In honor of the Catholic visitors to the International Exhibition, Philadelphia, 1876," Bust of Pope. Albata ; size 27. Price 50c.

" English visitors," head Queen. Albata ; size 27. Price 50c.

" French visitors," head MeMahon. Albata ; size 27. Price 50c.

" German visitors" head Emperor. Albata ; size 27. Price 50c.

" George Washington, a Century adds lustre to his fame." Albata ; size 27 Price 50c.

The above beautiful set of the handsomest Centennial Medals yet produced, sent post free for $2.50.

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Same. Albata ; size 26. Price 50c.

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" Centennial 1776, 1876." Rev. American Flag. Albata ; size 16. Price 10c.

" Libert Bell, 1776 " Albata ; size 14. Price 10c.

" Liberty Bell." 1776, 1876. Albata ; size 12. Price 5c.

MINUTE MAN.—" What a Glorious Morning for America. Lexington, &c " Albata ; size 28 Price 1.50.

(" Two) Minute Man, 1875, (Satirical.) Silver plated. Size 40. Price $1.00.

☞ Post free, 5c. each extra.

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Special attention paid tomaking up complete sets of Centennial Medals.

CENTENNIAL PACKET.

In accordance with a very generally expressed wish, we have put up a packet of 10 varieties of Centennial medals.

PRICE $1.00. POST FREE, $1.10.

We are also offering the following beautiful Medals at the annexed extremely low prices :

" Abraham Lincoln," 15th April, 1865, Martyr to Liberty. By the celebrated artist, Huges Bovy, Oval ; size 14 by 12. Bronze or gilt. Price 15 cents.

" Gen. U. S. Grant." " Patient of toil, serene amidst alarms, inflexible in faith, invincible in arms." By the same artist. Size 37. Price $1.00.

" Lieut. General T. J. Jackson Stonewall." Born 1821. Died 1863. Albata ; size 32. Price $1.00.

We can supply any of the Medals advertised in this page, at the usual trade discount, by the doz. or 100.

Address all orders SCOTT & CO.,

146 FULTON STREET, N. Y.

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NEW YORK:

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146 FULTON STREET.

No. 130. October 20.

IMPORTANT TO STAMP DEALERS.

Messrs. SCOTT & CO. having just received 25,000,000 Continental Stamps, are selling them at the following very low prices:

10 cents per 100.	$ 30.00 per 100,000.
75 cents per 1,000.	$125.00 per 500,000.
$ 5.00 per 10,000.	$200 00 per 1,000,000.
$17.50 per 50,000	

Postage or expressage to be paid by purchaser.

Dealers wishing to avail themselves of these extraordinarily low prices, should send on their cash, with orders, immediately, before they are all gone, as it is very doubtful if such an opportunity will ever be given again.

ALBUM FOR BEGINNERS,

KNOWN AS

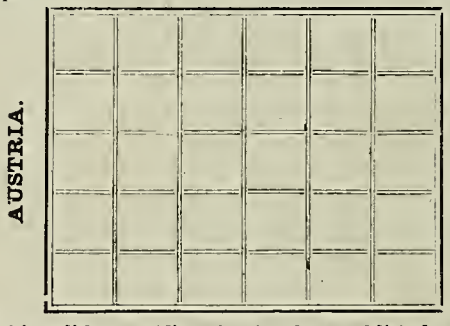
"THE PHILATELIST" AND "AMERICAN."

These neat little albums are specially designed for beginners or young persons, and are well calculated to contain a collection of a thousand stamps, squares being provided for nearly fifteen hundred.

The size of the Album is large octavo, containing from 48 to 100 pages, according to price Each page is surmounted by the name of the country whose stamps it is intended to contain, and contains 30 spaces, giving accommodation to that number of stamps on a page, and when neatly filled has a beautiful and rich appearance.

We confidently offer this book to our customers as a marvel of cheapness; it being far superior to any Album ever before published at the price.

*Flexible covers, price only - - - - - - - - - - - -	$ 25
Half Cloth, with description of every stamp, - - - - - - - - - -	50
Cloth, gilt lettering, - - - - - - - - - - - -	75
" " " guards, &c., with additional spaces for revenue stamps, - - -	1 00
*An Illustrated Descriptive Guide, to facilitate arranging stamps in this Album is published 48 pages; price - - - - - - - - - - - -	25



Specimen page of Album for Beginners, reduced to one-sixth original size.

A new edition of this well known Album has just been published, and more than sustains its former reputation. The pages have been entirely remodeled, making room for thirty five stamps on a page, thus providing spaces for several hundred additional stamps. The list of the stamps is embellished with well executed engravings of nearly every postage stamp. Notwithstanding the great improvements in this edition, the price still remains the same, and will be sent post free to any address on receipt of price.

THE GREATEST CURIOSITY
OF THE
CENTENNIAL YEAR,
WOODEN MEDALS,

These beautiful Medals are struck out of solid walnut and are one of the curiosities of the age.

The designs are:

Profile to left of George Washington
Profile to right of A. T. Goshorn.
Profile to left of Gen. J. R. Hawley.
Independence Hall.
Main Building Centennial Exhibition.
Memorial Hall.

Put up in appropriate cases. Price $1.00 the set post free, or 25 cents each singly.

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☞ $1 50 will be paid in trade in the above to any paper publishing this advertisement to occupy 4x4 inches

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THE MOST SUITABLE PRESENT FOR ANY ONE COLLECTING STAMPS IS ONE OF SCOTT'S STAMP ALBUMS,

Prices 25c., 50c., 75c, $1.00, $1.50, $2.50, $3.00, $3.50, $5.00, $6.00, $10.00. $15.00. $25.00, and $50.00.

J. W. SCOTT & CO., respectfully call the attention of purchasers to their magnificent assortment of Albums &c., suitable for

BIRTHDAY PRESENTS,

Any of which will be sent by mail on receipt of price or by Express, C. O D.

For the convenience of those who may desire to include a selection of Foreign Postage Stamps in their present, we will, by adding the price of the packet, carefully arrange any of our 25c, 50c, $1.00, $2.00, $5.00 or $10.00 packets, or other stamps in the Album, free of charge.

☞*All goods carefully packed to ensure their arrival in perfect condition.*
"Order early to make sure of getting the book in time."

Confederate Money.

50 cents, 1, 2, 5, 10, 20, 50 and 100 dollars.

The above set of Confederate Bills, all *warranted genuine*, and in good condition, will be sent to any address in the U. S. or Canada, on receipt of 50c. or abroad by adding postage.

J. W. SCOTT & CO.,

146 *Fulton Street,*

NEW YORK CITY.

The above firm is prepared to purchase for cash, bills of the following denominations: 50 cents, 1, 2, 5 and 1000 dollars, for which the highest prices will be paid.

THE

Revenue Stamp Packets.

NOTE.—These packets are composed entirely of revenue stamps, and every stamp in them is warranted genuine. A three cent stamp must always accompany all orders for return postage.

Packet No.

1 Contains 25 varieties of United States Document Stamps. All of the first issue and some quite scarce, - - - - - - Price 25c.

2 Contains 20 varieties of United States Document Stamps, all of the two colored series and including a $2 one, - - - - - - Price 25c.

3 Contains 15 varieties of United States Match Stamps, including Washington M. Co., Wm. Gates, D. M. Richardson, etc. - - - - - - - - Price 25c.

4 Contains 15 varieties of United States Medicine Stamps, including I. S. Johnson, R. V. Pierce, etc. - - - - - - - - Price 25c.

5 Contains 15 varieties of Canada Revenue Stamps, including some obsolete ones, - - - - - - - - - - Price 25c.

6 Contains 15 varieties of Foreign Revenue Stamps, including Italy, Austria, Great Britain, Bremen etc, - - - - - - - Price 25c.

7 Contains 10 varieties of Foreign Revenue Stamps, including Jamaica, India, Denmark, etc., - - - - - - - - - Price 25c.

8 Contains 40 varieties of Mixed United States Revenue Stamps, including some of all issues, - - - - - - - - - Price 50c.

9 Contains 50 Mixed Revenue Stamps, including many obsolete and rare, - Price 50c.

10 Contains 25 varieties of United States Proprietary Stamps, including Match, Medicine, and Playing Card Stamps, - - - - - - Price 50c.

11 Contains 25 varieties of Canada Bill Stamps, including some of each issue, - - - - - - - - - - - Price 50c.

12 Contains 100 Revenue Stamps, including Canada, United States, England, France, etc., - - - - - - - - - - - Price 1.00.

13 Contains 50 Revenue Stamps, including Italy, Germany, Spain, etc., - Price 1.00.

14 Contains 25 rare Revenue Stamps, including Peru, Mexico, etc., - Price 1.00.

15 Contains 25 rare United States Proprietary Stamps, including Radcliff, Giggs & Scott, Ætna Match Co., etc. - - - - - Price 1.00.

16 Contains 20 rare Canada Revenue Stamps, including Quebec and other Law Stamps, - - - - - - - - - - Price 1.00.

17 Contains 100 varieties of United States, Match, Medicine Proprietary, and Playing Card, Stamps, including many rare ones. Price, $5.00.

—o—

DEALERS' PACKETS.

NOTE.—These packets are only suitable for dealers, as they contain duplicates.

Packet				
A. 1.	100	First issue Revenues, - - - - - - - - - - -	$	50
B. 2.	250	" " " - - - - - - - - - - - -		1.00
C. 3.	500	" " " - - - - - - - - - - - -		1.75
D. 4.	1000	" " " - - - - - - - - - - -		3.00
E. 5.	100	Second and Third issues United States Revenues, - - - - - -		75
F. 6.	250	" " " " - - - - - -		1.75
G. 7.	500	" " " " - - - -		3.00
H. 8.	1000	" " " " - - - - - - -		5.50
I. 9.	100	Canada Bill Stamps, - - - - - - - -		75
J. 10.	100	" Law Stamps, - - - - - -		7.00

—o—

WANTED TO PURCHASE,

For which the very highest prices will be paid, FOREIGN REVENUE STAMPS of all kinds. U. S. PROPRIETARY STAMPS, SOUTH AMERICAN STAMPS; also, the following U. S. DEPARTMENT STAMPS:

AGRICULTURE, EXECUTIVE, JUSTICE and STATE.

Any stamps of the 1847 or 1869 issue, and 24, 30 and 90c. stamps of any issue, U. S. 50c. per 100 will be paid for well mixed MATCH, MEDICINE or PLAYING CARD STAMPS 25 cents each will be paid for CLEAN COPIES of the AUGUST, 1873, JOURNAL. From one to ten dollars paid for U. S. and CONFEDERATE STATES LOCALS, on the original letters.

Collections and small lots of Stamps purchased on favorable terms.

Address

J. W. SCOTT & CO., 146 FULTON ST., N. Y. CITY.

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NEW YORK:

SCOTT & CO.,

146 FULTON STREET.

No. 131. November 20.

AUCTION SALE

OF

AMERICAN AND FOREIGN

POSTAGE STAMPS.

SCOTT & CO.

Are pleased to announce to their customers, that they have had a

FINE COLLECTION OF POSTAGE STAMPS,

The property of a well known Amateur, placed in their hands, to sell at

PUBLIC AUCTION.

This splendid collection has been selected with great care, and contains many rare and valuable Stamps besides fine specimens of all those usually found in good collections.

THE SALE WILL TAKE PLACE IN

The Clinton Hall Book Sale Rooms and Art Galleries,

GEO. A. LEAVITT & CO.,

On Monday Evening, Dec. 11th, commencing at 7 o'clock.

Catalogues can be obtained of, and bids received by, the Auctioneers, and SCOTT & CO., 146 Fulton Street, New York City. No bids received from strangers unaccompanied by 25 per cent. of the amount of such bids.

COMMISSION FOR PURCHASING 10 PER CENT. ON ALL ORDERS.

Buyers are particularly requested to state their limit on any lots they may desire. We shall in all cases endeavor to purchase at the lowest figure possible.

JUST PUBLISHED,

IMPERIAL OBLONG 8vo. pp

THE

PERMANENT POSTAGE STAMP ALBUM.

SCOTT & CO., having purchased the entire

AMERICAN EDITION

of this well known Album, are now enabled to offer it in very superior binding, at the annexed extremely low rates.

HALF CLOTH, VERY STRONGLY BOUND, - -	$1.00
FULL CLOTH, GILT GUARDED, - - - - -	1.50.

The style of this book is too well known to need any extended description, but we may add, for the guidance of new collectors, that the size of the page is 10½ x 7 with the name of the country above the spaces, each page accomodating 32 stamps. The ample provision made for future emissions, justly entitles it to the name of THE PERMANENT. A column on the left of each page gives a list and description of the stamps numbered to correspond with the spaces provided for them

For sale wholesale and retail by SCOTT & CO; and can be had of all respectable Stamp Dealers and Booksellers in the United States, Canada, Mexico and the West Indies

PLIMPTON'S! PLIMPTON'S! PLIMPTON'S!

Cheap Set of 1874-5 *U. S. Envelopes.*

If you want to have a complete set of United States Stamps, now is your chance to procure them before they are all gone.

For the benefit of those who wish to hunt up these rare Envelopes themselves, Scott & Co., have put a sample set of one variety of every die from 1c. to 10c. Each stamp having the number of the die marked on it, by the aid of this lot many collectors will be able to find the complete set among the various country post-offices, which heretofore they have been unable to do, for want of being able to distinguish the different dies, and thus, perhaps, lost the chance of getting five dollar stamps for a few cents.

This set consists of the following: 1 cent, Dies A and B; 2 cents, Dies A, B and C; 3 cents, Dies A and B; 5 cents, Die A; 6 cents. Die A; 7 cents, Die A; 10 cents. Dies A and B.

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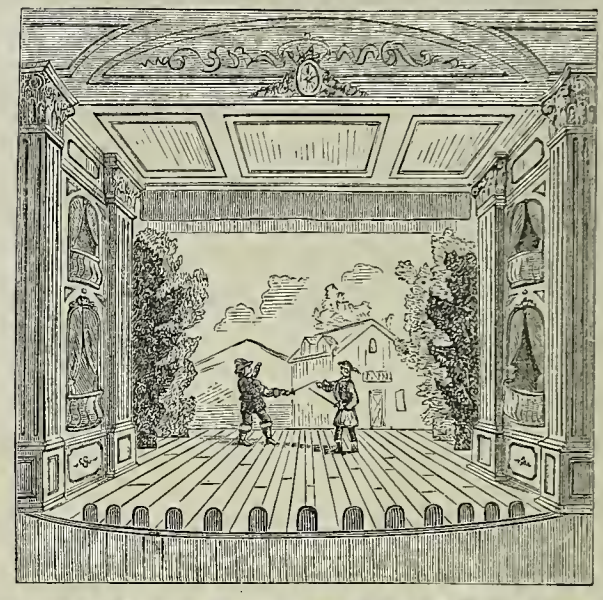
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