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THE

London Philatelist:

THE MONTHLY JOURNAL

OF THE

PHILATELIC SOCIETY, LONDON.

Editor:

M. P. CASTLE,

VICE-PRESIDENT OF THE SOCIETY.

VOL. III.

PUBLISHED BY

THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY, LONDON.

Effingham House,

ARUNDEL STREET, STRAND, LONDON, W.C.

1894.

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THE

London Philatelist:

THE MONTHLY JOURNAL OF

THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY, LONDON.

VOL. III. JANUARY, 1894. No. 25.

A New Departure.

THE foregoing words are not perhaps inappropriate in commencing a New Year's enterprise, and they have moreover an especial significance in view of the changes that we propose to make in the future conduct of this Journal. It will be seen that an alteration has been made in the previous arrangement for chronicling the New Issues. The matter has been already alluded to in these columns, and as a slight misconception has arisen in one or two quarters we will briefly reiterate the reasons adopted for the change.

In the first place, under the circumstances of the issue of the *London Philatelist*, as the Journal of the London Philatelic Society, it has been considered that the publication of Papers and Essays upon stamps should constitute the main objective of this Journal. With the heavy expenses entailed upon the production of a magazine in order to make it typographically perfect, it is obvious that an unlimited number of pages is beyond the scope of practical finance. In such case the treatment at full length of all the new issues—their ever increasing number will be found noted elsewhere—involved the absorption of an undue portion of our space, and consequently crowded-out matter that was in our judgment of better value. The Issues and Novelties can, however, not be disregarded, and in adopting the *via media*—an epitome of the more important, under geographical divisions—our readers will hardly be able to claim that they are ignored.

Secondly. We have before alluded to the excellent work done in this respect by our leading contemporaries—English, French, Belgian, German, and American, and we are strongly influenced in the adoption of this new departure by the conviction that, in so doing, we are not now running counter

to our contemporaries, who were mostly in the field previously to ourselves. In these days every one is a student of literature, which in almost every branch is good and cheap; for the same amount that the daily newspaper costs, any collector can provide himself with a number of the best philatelic magazines published, and in so doing he will reap both pleasure and profit.

Thirdly. We are of opinion that "Discoveries and Resuscitations," with comments upon stamps not of recent issue, are more likely to be read appreciatively if separated from their brethren of recent birth, and that treated separately, as they will be under "Philatelic Notes," they may not only induce a study commensurate with the labour often involved in penning them, but may evoke further comment from those of our readers who are *au courant* on the several subjects. Other slight modifications of our programme will be noted; beyond these however this journal will not travel in the future, and will endeavour to follow faithfully the policy initiated at its inception.

As regards this policy it has clearly been shewn that it is our wish to run counter to no existing journal, nor shall we allow any personalities or adverse criticism to draw us over the border line of a friendly rivalry. As regards our main supporters—the general body of collectors and those dealers who do not have their own journals—it will be the constant aim of the *London Philatelist* to provide for both classes a fair and honest return for their expenditure. Occupying a unique position as the organ of the London Philatelic Society, there is every reason to hope that this journal will be read wherever English-speaking Philatelists are found, and we can only urge upon all our readers alike to aid us as far as lies within their power in improving the quality of the paper by their contributions and by increasing its circulation. On our part we shall be found ready to loyally exert ourselves in the furtherance of the highest aims of Philately, and if we are well supported by those most interested in it, we shall look forward not only without any misgiving, but with confidence that our humble endeavours will have conduced to strengthen the foundations of this fascinating pursuit.

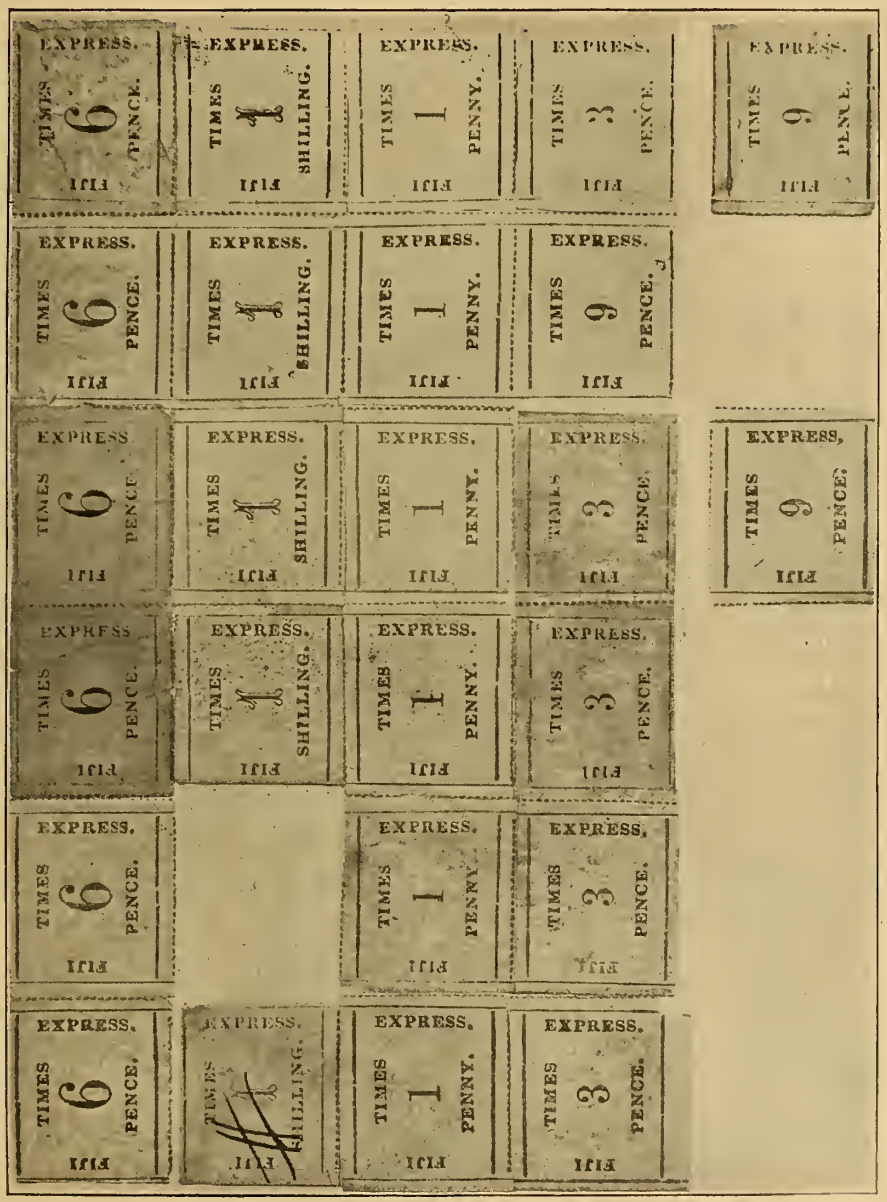
The "Fiji Times Express" Stamps.

A Paper read before the Philatelic Society, London, December 29th, 1893.

By E. D. BACON.

THOSE of my audience who were either present at the meeting of the Society on January 13th last, when I read a paper on the *Fiji Times Express* stamps, or who have perused that paper, which was published in the *London Philatelist* for January of this year, will recollect that I was able to give the reason for these stamps being brought into use, the date of their issue and discontinuance, and the method of their production.

Since writing the paper referred to, I have endeavoured to complete the history of the stamps by making up the sheet of the twenty-four varieties of type. This I have now practically accomplished, and I am glad to be able to present collectors with an illustration of the various types. The stamps on *quadrillé* paper and those on laid *bâtonné* were printed from the same setting-up, but the last three stamps of the bottom row of the sheet on the latter paper were altered from three pence to nine pence by the insertion of a numeral "9" in place of the figure "3." The stamps, as



illustrated, occupy their original positions on the sheet, and the proof that they are correctly arranged may be gathered from the following notes :

Nos. 1, 7, 13, 19 correspond with a vertical strip illustrated in Stanley Gibbons' *Monthly Journal* for January, 1893, and this strip from the margin and the absence of rouletted lines to left forms the left side row of the sheet.

Nos. 3, 4, 9, 10, 15, 21, 22, correspond with specimens in Mr. M. P. Castle's collection. His copies of 3, 4, and 9, 10, and 21, 22, are unsevered pairs, while the whole seven stamps fit together, and evidently came off the same sheet.

Nos. 5, 11, 17, 23, are a vertical, unsevered strip in the "Tapling Collection."

Nos. 6, 12, correspond with a pair in Mr. W. B. Avery's collection, and inasmuch as I have seen specimens of Nos. 2, 3, 4, and 5 showing rouletted lines at either side, No. 6 must be the right top corner stamp. No. 2, judging from the rouletted lines at either side, fits on to Nos. 1 and 3, which gives the correct position of Nos. 3, 4, 9, 10, 15, 21, 22, and consequently also Nos. 5, 11, 17, 23, the two blocks noted above.

No. 18 is the only variety of the one penny I have seen without rouletted lines to right, it therefore follows it is correctly placed.

Nos. 14, 16 appear from the rouletted lines to fit on to Nos. 13 and 15, and 15 and 17 respectively ; but I have nothing further to guide me in placing these two types thus instead of *vice versâ*.

No. 20 must be correctly placed, as it has rouletted lines at either side, and does not correspond in type with the 9d., variety 23.

No. 24 must be in its true position, as it is the only place left for this type.

No. 23. I have not succeeded in finding the corresponding type of this 9d. in the 3d. It of course exists on the *quadrillé* paper, and anyone coming across the type may recognise it from the 9d. illustrated.

Nos. 22A, 24A, are types 22 and 24, with the value altered from 3d. to 9d. In making the alteration to the latter type the letters of the word EXPRESS got somewhat shifted.

No. 8. I have not been able to find this type of the one shilling, but any collector having a variety of this value not illustrated, will know it is the missing type, and be able to place it in its correct position.

There is only one what may be called "prominent variety" on the sheet, and this is number 22, which has a comma instead of a period after EXPRESS.

The principal differences of type may be sought for in the horizontal lines at the top and bottom of the stamps. These lines are made up of several pieces, and the breaks occurring between the lines will be found in different positions on the various stamps. I must remark here, however, that all the specimens of the stamps on laid *bâtonné* I have examined are printed in heavier ink than those on *quadrillé* paper, and this sometimes causes some of the breaks between the lines, which are quite distinct on the latter stamps, to disappear on the same varieties on laid *bâtonné*.

Besides the breaks in the lines most of the varieties show differences in the position or size of some of the letters of the inscription. I give a list of these, so that collectors will have no difficulty in recognising the types, even in cases where the illustration does not show the horizontal lines very distinctly.

No. 2. Has both the letters "S." of "EXPRESS" in smaller type, and the "P." of "PENCE" has no bottom stroke.

No. 3. Last letter "S." of "EXPRESS" is smaller. The illustration of this type is taken from a specimen that has been torn across, and that has been damaged beneath the "C" of "PENCE."

No. 5. First letter "S" of "EXPRESS" is smaller.

No. 9. The top part of the first letter "I" of "SHILLING" is defective.

No. 10. Has the "S" of "TIMES," the "S" of "SHILLING," and the first "S" of "EXPRESS" all in smaller type.

No. 11. Has the letters "FI" of "FIJI" lower than the "JI," when the word is looked at in a horizontal position.

No. 12. The letters of "FIJI" vary in position the same as in No. 11, and the letter "S" of "SHILLING" is smaller.

No. 13. The first letter "N" of "PENNY" is placed higher than the "E."

No. 14. The "S" of "TIMES" is smaller.

No. 15. The "S" of "TIMES" is smaller, and the second "I" of "FIJI" is defective at the top.

No. 16. The second "N" of "PENNY" is defective at the bottom to right.

No. 17. The bottom stroke of "P" of "EXPRESS" is defective to left.

No. 18. The "S" of "TIMES" is smaller, and the first "S" of "EXPRESS" is lower than the other letters, when the word is looked at in a horizontal position. (This is not shown very clearly in the illustration.)

No. 19. The "P" of "PENCE" is defective at the top to left.

No. 20. The "P" of "PENCE" is defective at the top to left, and the "S" of "TIMES" is smaller.

No. 21. The "S" of "TIMES" and the first "S" of "EXPRESS" are smaller.

No. 22. Both letters "S" of "EXPRESS" are smaller, and there is a comma instead of period at the end of the word.

No. 23. The first "I" of "FIJI" is rather lower than the other letters, when the word is looked at in a horizontal position.

No. 24. The second "I" of "FIJI" is defective at the bottom.

With these remarks I take my leave of the "Fiji Times Express" stamps, but before concluding I wish to publicly thank all those Philatelic friends who have so kindly lent me their specimens. Without their assistance in this respect it would have been impossible for me to reconstruct the sheet of twenty-four varieties.

Stray Notes on the Postal Adhesives of Great Britain.

By HASTINGS E. WRIGHT.

A Paper read before the Philatelic Society, London, on January 12th, 1894.

We have much pleasure in calling the attention of that numerous class of our readers who are students of English stamps, to Mr. Hastings Wright's excellent paper, indicative of close and attentive study throughout, and, so to say, created by the formation of his own collection. The splendid array of stamps of which this is composed were, on the occasion of the paper being read, exhibited in the London Philatelic Society's room within glazed cases, and their study during the two days preceding and at the meeting constituted a most excellent precedent, and materially enhanced the interest and value of Mr. Wright's paper. For the benefit of those readers who were unable to be present we mention some of the principal exhibits, premising that almost every copy was in immaculate condition.—Ed.

1d., pairs of plates 82, 88, 114, 132, 225, &c.
1d., all the rare combinations of die, perforation, and watermark.
1d., L.C. with stars, imperf.
1d., brick-red, L.C., perf. 16.
1d., rose, L.C., perf. 16.
1d., Archer roulettes, used and unused.
1d., S.C., die I., imperf., on *white* paper.
1d., L.C., perf. 14; all the rare shades.
2d., S.C., perf. 14.
2d., L.C., perf. 16; thick and thin lines.
2d., S.C., perf. 16.
2d., L.C., perf. 14; thick and thin lines.
2d., no lines, pairs and singles; and pair of 2d., plate 7.
4d., S. garter, on blue.
4d., S. garter, on white, used.
4d., medium garter, on white, unused.
6d., 10d., and 1s., octagonals; all the die numbers in mint condition.
9d., plate 3, with hair lines, and plate 5 (unique), perforated, and with original gum.
2s., salmon; pairs and singles.
5s., plate 4, on blue and on white paper.
10s. and 20s., Cross.
10s. and 20s., Anchor, on white and on blue papers.
10s., current issue, on blued paper.
20s., "orbs."
Complete set of I.R. officials and Government Parcels, unused.
Pair and singles 1d. V.R.
Pairs of 8d., brown, and 1½d., dull rose, and 2 singles of ditto.

All the stamps were unused, with gum, and in mint condition. With one or two exceptions there were several pairs and singles of every variety, and all the plate numbers were complete, so that it was practically a complete collection.



In presenting these notes on the Postal Adhesives of Great Britain I would preface my remarks by saying that I address myself more particularly to those who have not yet given special attention to the stamps of this country, with a view to showing that they offer to the philatelist a subject of greater scope and interest than they have hitherto, I believe, received the credit of possessing. Those who have studied our stamps will not, I fear, find in these notes anything new. The subject has already been elaborately dealt with by eminent philatelists, whose work has beyond question done

much towards investing our stamps with more than average interest to the collector. Nevertheless, their careful study is constantly revealing fresh points on which little or no light has hitherto been thrown, and to many questions of great interest and importance no satisfactory solution has yet been forthcoming. It is not my purpose, in these notes, to deal with this branch of the subject, but I may perhaps remark in passing that in conjunction with my friend and fellow-member, Mr. Creeke, I am engaged in making a searching investigation into every obscure point with which we are acquainted, and that the very favourable conditions under which we are enabled to conduct our enquiries justify us in expressing the hope that much information will result of an important and interesting character, and various points at present shrouded in mystery solved on a satisfactory basis.

To the specialist the stamps of this country offer a field of almost limitless extent. Restricted to our postal adhesives only, finality is well-nigh impossible. I have reason to think that the great body of philatelists have hitherto been withheld from giving to the stamps of this country the attention they deserve owing to the erroneous notion that there is not much to collect. I once asked an earnest philatelist why he ignored the stamps of Great Britain. His answer was, "Well, there is not much to collect, there are but few features of interest, and I fancy if I started I should be pretty well complete in a week or two. So I prefer keeping to countries that give one some trouble." Would-be specialists of our stamps may, however, dismiss these fears as altogether groundless. The stamps of Great Britain are as eminently calculated to give the philatelist a headache, and to engender feelings of utter despair, as those of any country under the sun. There exist a score or more varieties, of which only some half-dozen sheets were ever issued. Let the specialist try to complete himself in these unused. Of the more ordinary issues there are merely some seven or eight hundred varieties, of which the major part, on a moderate estimate, exist in at least five shades, and each of these may in turn be found on two, three, or even four descriptions of paper. Arrived at this point, the specialist who revels in minute varieties, may proceed to deal with the various watermarks, of which he will find quite twenty descriptions, and these again can be met with inverted, reversed, and both inverted and reversed. They may be altogether absent, or present such an appearance as to defy all attempts to solve them. Is the collector now absolutely complete? By no means! Finality is not yet within measurable distance. He has yet to form complete sheets of all the varieties referred to, and in spare moments he can give his attention to sundry errors, of which many examples may be found. To all this may be added the envelopes, post cards, and wrappers.

The collector will now possess at least 6,000,000 adhesives alone, arranged, let us say, in 2000 volumes, and if he still survives he may proceed to turn his attention to private issues, telegraphs, essays, colour trials, proofs, curiosities, and strive to attain finality with fiscals. I give these figures merely to re-assure the voracious collector who stands aloof from the stamps of Great Britain, for fear of there not being sufficient to satisfy the cravings of his philatelic appetite. Far be it from me, however, to advocate the pursuit of this ideal, having hitherto (and perhaps wrongly) restricted my

own collection to the varieties issued prior to 1884, the abominations of the latter issue being more than my philatelic soul could tolerate. I would here say a word with regard to the arrangement of an English collection. The usual plan adopted by philatelists is to take each series or issue separately, and arrange these in groups in strict chronological order, the result being that the stamps of each value are intermixed in a confusing manner, and the collection as a whole reduced to chaos, the chaos, I admit, being more apparent than real. Nevertheless, having tried this mode of arrangement myself, I was finally compelled to abandon it, and to adopt what is, in my opinion, the more rational method of arranging each value by itself, without regard to the chronological order of entire series or issues. This plan seems to me to lend itself more readily to the proper study of the various varieties of each value, and though I am aware many objections may be urged against it, I think on the whole it simplifies the matter, and avoids much confusion. My argument applies equally to a work of reference. Take, for example, Mr. Westoby's very useful Reference List of English Stamps. Without the collector carries in his head the date of issue of each variety and plate number, he cannot readily hit upon the particular stamp to which he is desirous of referring; and if he is a beginner, and knows but little of the subject, he may miss some varieties altogether. Some time ago I mentioned the subject to Mr. Westoby, and, if I recollect aright, he so far agreed with my views that he expressed his intention of dealing with the series of each value as a whole in any future work of the kind he might publish. I will now proceed to deal briefly with the chief points of interest attaching to the various issues.

Of the line-engraved stamps of ½d. value little need be said beyond mentioning the fact that Plate 9 was undoubtedly put to press, and specimens appear to be more common than formerly. It is necessary to examine specimens carefully, this stamp being a favourite with certain individuals who have in many instances, and with much skill, transformed Plate 3 into Plate 9. Specimens showing errors in the plate numbers have also been forthcoming, notably the numbers 12 and 13 on the same stamp. These and any others must necessarily be bad, as the imprimatur sheets show no errors of this description, and it must be borne in mind that an error of this nature is well-nigh impossible. The case is altogether different in regard to the corner lettering. Here it is conceivable a mistake might occur, and as a matter of fact the imprimatur sheets show that genuine errors of this nature do exist.

The One Penny.—It will, I think, be generally conceded that this beautiful stamp presents a subject of more than common interest, and offers a wide field for study and research. Of the line engraved series alone there exist no less than 165 known varieties, excluding shades of colour; and I venture to affirm that no other stamp in existence presents a variety of shade so beautiful and extensive. Many of these shades are so distinct in character that they undoubtedly afford some guide towards determining approximately their date of issue, and to arrange them in their proper sequence is a problem of much interest. This series is also remarkable for peculiarities of printing and perforation. Specimens may likewise be met with

showing strange hair lines, and corner letters inserted, misplaced, and double-printed, may be found in great variety. With respect to perforation, not only does this frequently present strange vagaries of position, but the area of the puncture varies so greatly sometimes on the same sheet as to present at first sight the appearance of a difference in gauge. It is clearly evident that many years elapsed before the perforating machinery was brought to perfection; though, on the other hand, I have seen on the original covers several specimens which passed through the post in 1850, perforated with a degree of perfection not afterwards excelled. These, of course, were the product of Archer's machine, and are the more interesting from the fact that it was not until fully three years after this date that the first stamps were officially perforated. With regard to the rouletted specimens much difficulty is experienced by collectors in determining the genuineness or otherwise of the many used specimens now to be met with. At present there would seem to be no reliable guide. The fact of a given specimen differing from the authenticated copies does not necessarily disprove its genuineness, inasmuch as Archer's machine doubtless underwent innumerable modifications and adjustments during the several years he was at work on it, and it is doubtful if duly authenticated specimens resulting from all these trials exist. Even on the same sheet the incisions varied considerably both in length and gauge. On the other hand, it must not be forgotten that the manufacture of spurious roulettes is a matter of comparative ease. It therefore behoves collectors when purchasing to have a suitable guarantee with every specimen. It is to be hoped that specialists will be able to throw some further light on this interesting variety, specimens of which ought on no account to be removed from the original covers.

As regards the dates of issue of the several varieties of this value much uncertainty exists, but an examination of a large number of specimens on the original covers has enabled me in several instances to assign earlier dates than have, so far as I am aware, yet been recorded. The earliest dated specimen having a perforation of fourteen is February 6, 1855 (SC. Die I.), which is eighteen days prior to the earliest date recorded by Mr. Westoby. The first appearance of this value on paper watermarked "L.C." is July 16, 1855, recorded by Mr. Levy, this date being more than eleven weeks earlier than that given by Mr. Westoby; and, strangely enough, among the imprimatur sheets at Somerset House, the first bearing the watermark of "L.C." is dated November 12, 1855. It is difficult to determine the precise date on which the perforation gauging sixteen was abandoned, though it was probably some time in 1855, despite the fact that specimens in rose-red are found with the early perforation, though the earliest recorded appearance of this colour is April 18th, 1857. These were perforated fourteen, whereas the earliest date yet recorded for specimens perforated sixteen is February 24, 1858.

These facts, coupled with the rarity of this variety, point to the conclusion that some of the old perforating machines were at this time brought again into temporary use, possibly owing to a breakdown of the regular machines.

(To be continued.)

The "City Despatch Post" of New York.

By E. D. BACON.



IT is a matter of much regret that so few collectors in this country take an appreciative interest in what are known as the private or local postage stamps of the United States. This is fortunately not the case in the States themselves, as many philatelists there confine their attention exclusively to the issues of their own country, including of course among these the labels I am speaking of. Every new variety that is unearthed (for fresh discoveries are even now occasionally made) is critically examined, and the greatest pains have been and are taken by American writers to recover every little incident connected with the history of each one of the local posts.

The adoption of adhesive stamps by Great Britain in 1840 was not followed by the United States Government until 1847. During this interval it is not surprising that many of the private local posts, of which a large number existed in the more populous towns, availed themselves of such an obviously successful means of collecting postal charges. The standard work dealing with this branch of philately is *Les Postes Privées des Etats-Unis d' Amérique*, by Mr. Ch. H. Coster, published by Mons. J. B. Moens in two volumes—the first, which treats of the adhesive stamps, in 1882, and the second, on the envelopes, in 1885.

The first of the private posts to make use of stamps for franking purposes was the "City Despatch Post" of New York, and it is the early history of this post which forms the subject of my present paper.

I have recently been in correspondence with a gentleman named Mr. Charles Windsor, who tells me that his father, Mr. Henry Thomas Windsor, was the originator and proprietor of the *City Despatch Post*, and of its stamps. Mr. Coster, in the work I have alluded to, does not mention Mr. Windsor's name, but he gives the translation of a circular which was published at the time the stamps were first issued. This circular has the name of Mr. Alexander M. Greig attached to it, who signs himself "Director." Mr. Windsor's story is shortly this: His father, who was a London gentleman, temporarily resided at Hoboken, a suburb of New York, from May, 1841, until the autumn of the following year. He had seen the successful working of Sir Rowland Hill's system in London in 1840, and introduced it into New York by starting a post known as "Greig's Post." Mr. Windsor goes on to say that his father told him that he brought the post out in January, 1842, in Mr. Greig's name, as Mr. Greig was an American well known locally, while his father was a Londoner and a comparative stranger. Mr. Windsor recollects his father telling him how he strained every nerve to get the post in full working order before Valentine's Day, which he expected would be a very heavy day, and so it turned out, for the Post was so inundated with letters that, owing to the arrangements not being thoroughly completed, so many complaints of irregularity were made, that he greatly feared it would

be the death-blow of the post. His fears, however, proved groundless, for the public continued to support the undertaking, until the Government declared it to be an infringement of its rights, and Mr. Windsor thinks the post was suspended for a short time. He further says that the citizens called so loudly for its continuance that it went on again, and about that time his father was called to London, and did not again revisit the States. Mr. Windsor possesses an entire sheet of the stamps, which was given him by his mother, who told him at the time she gave them to him that "they were some of the stamps of his father's post he had when the Government compelled him to discontinue it, considering it to be an infringement of the Government rights." The stamps in question are the three cents black on greyish paper, and the sheet contains thirty-six specimens arranged in six rows of six. Mr. Windsor, who is now 77, has further sent me a letter from his brother, who corroborates his statements.

Personally, I have no means of judging whether Mr. Windsor's story as given above is true, but I have no reason to doubt its accuracy, and I have been led to publish the account he gives in the hope that it may induce some philatelist in the States, who is interested in these local stamps, to make further investigations into the early history of the "City Despatch Post," and so confirm or otherwise Mr. Windsor's version of the founding of the Post. If the particulars given in my article turn out to be substantially correct, Mr. Windsor's father deserves the full credit of being the first to introduce postage stamps into the United States.

The Tapling Collection.

By M. P. CASTLE.

THE STAMPS OF NEW SOUTH WALES.



THE intimate relationship that must necessarily exist between this magnificent bequest to the nation, and those members of the London Philatelic Society who had the privilege of being associated with its late Vice-President during the formation of this unique collection, involves a practical obligation upon Mr. Tapling's successors to place before the philatelic world the full knowledge of the treasures thus gathered together. The prime mover in this direction must necessarily be Mr. E. D. Bacon, the Philatelic Curator, with whose energy and scientific knowledge the collection is steadily assuming a tangible reality. Secondary to this, however, much can be done for the general benefit of collectors who have not the advantage of personal access to these stamps in conveying to them some idea—not merely in the form of a *catalogue raisonnée*—of the stamps exhibited and the lessons to be gleaned therefrom. With the kind co-operation of my friend, Mr. Bacon, I propose to execute this mission in this and subsequent articles, premising merely that in order to counteract any tendency to produce "dry" reading I shall, adopting a colloquial term, intersperse my "catalogue" with remarks pertinent to the stamps under consideration.

The method of mounting and exhibiting the stamps has already been described in this journal (pp. 152 and 162, vol. ii.), and I need therefore only say that the system inaugurated by Mr. E. D. Bacon works admirably, and that if the stamps could be all visible, say in shallow glazed drawers, nothing would remain to be desired. The first portion of the stamps of New South Wales—restricted thus for want of space—has been withdrawn from view, and the second and remaining part has been but lately shown. For this reason I have somewhat delayed the previously-written description of these stamps in order to have the whole of the material before me.

Issue I. The Sydney Views.

The great interest taken by Mr. Tapling in these remarkable stamps was a matter of general knowledge—hence, with his great facilities of acquisition, it may readily be imagined that his collection was rich herein. Nor did the late Vice-President acquire these fine unused specimens without an ardent search, and, aided by Mr. Bacon, every available spot was searched that might conceal an unused Sydney.

Plate I. Unused.

On soft yellowish wove paper five copies are to be noted, in fine condition, ranging in colour from carmine to pale red; a block of four of the same of the lighter pinkish colour that is a later printing, and is more often found on the subsequent hard and slightly bluish paper—is a "thing of beauty." On the hard paper are eight specimens, all fine though less rare but varying less in shade than the former, very marked variations being little known on this paper. The variety on ribbed (hard) paper is not included in an unused state in the collection. It is however very rare, for though I happen to possess a single copy (plus, alas, a slight tear!), I do not remember to have seen another. This ribbing can also be found on the same paper with a yellowish tinge.

Used Specimens and Plate.

There are some eight or ten picked postmarked specimens, mostly of abnormal colour or brilliancy, in addition to those on the plate, which is a magnificent one, embracing—

1 Block of	8
1 „	4
1 Strip of	3
4 Pairs	8
	23 of the 25 varieties.

The largest blocks here, came to Mr. Tapling through a relative in Sydney, and are superb. I well recollect his pleasure at their receipt, a feeling I was enabled to share, as there was a block of five with others that, being duplicates, passed into my own collection. In addition to this made-up plate there is a sheet entire and uncut of this die in *bright brick-red*, somewhat darker than those usually noted as proofs, but which, from their general appearance, I take to be proof impressions. In any case this sheet is singularly beautiful, valuable, and probably unique. Mr. Tapling acquired it through a well-known London dealer, a year or two before his decease, at a price commensurate with its rarity. Had it been acquired a few years earlier it would have saved a good many hours' work for those who compiled the "Stamps of Oceania"!

A few Notes on the Official Postage Stamp Collection of the Cape of Good Hope.

By Captain NORRIS-NEWMAN.

We are much indebted to Capt. Norris-Newman for this paper, which was accompanied by a letter, from which, with our valued correspondent's permission, we make a few extracts of matters of general philatelic interest.

Dating from Cape Town, under date December 9th last, Capt. Norris-Newman writes:

"Having at last managed to spare a moment from my ordinary journalistic duties on our Eastern border and Basutoland, I have been glad to be able to devote some of my time here; first, to inspecting the official collection of the Cape Government; and, secondly, to going through the official records, in order to enable me to complete the few points necessary for writing a short pamphlet on the *History of the Cape Stamps*, as well as meeting with the philatelists here. I was agreeably astonished to find so many intelligent collectors, with collections varying from 5,000 to 10,000, some of whom are also specialists; and I venture to believe that my visit, and constant notes in the daily papers, will have done much for the advancement of our fascinating science, as well as for the elucidation of its few doubtful points in connection with some of the issues. I have been successful in obtaining a view of whole sheets of the Reprints (so-called) Wood Blocks, showing the exact position of the error on each sheet, and have secured some thereof. I shall, however, make official application for a whole sheet of each variety of the Reprints for presentation to your Society; and, if necessary, they can be overprinted 'Reprint' or 'Specimen,' which has not yet been done.

"With regard to the new design for a penny stamp I cannot speak very highly of its design or beauty. Only six copies have been sent to this country as yet (perforated 14 and gummed), of which one has been given to His Excellency the Governor, and the other five are in the possession of the Postmaster-General. Only the one value has been engraved, and will be issued when the present stock of the current issue is exhausted. The colour is the same."



URING a short holiday visit of a few weeks to Cape Town —naturally on philatelic matters bent—I was glad to be able to avail myself, through the courtesy of the present Postmaster-General, Mr. Ffrench, of the opportunity of going through the official collection in the possession of his department. The result, however, I am bound to admit, was disappointing in the extreme, as the collection was only started in 1882, and was originally arranged by a clerk in the office, who knew absolutely nothing about the subject. The stamps are pasted down most firmly on each side of the sheets, which are of thick cardboard description—badly arranged, and not even placed in issues, consecutively or otherwise—whilst, of course, as might be expected, no regard is paid to the distinction between imperforate, rouletted, and perforated varieties; and watermarks

are unthought of. The total number of stamps now arranged amounts to 3,030, from 175 stamp-issuing countries, several important countries being unrepresented; and out of the whole lot there are absolutely no rare or very old stamps, except among the Australian Colonies, which have sent reprint or sometimes proof specimens in black of their old issues, surcharged or overprinted as such. Envelopes, postcards, or wrappers are noticeable only by their absence, so that, as a matter of fact, the collection is neither representative nor up to date. In fact, nearly every private collector in South Africa has a superior one, and some have contributed stamps to the official collection to assist in filling up the very large gaps. The countries are not even arranged alphabetically or geographically, so that it puzzles me exceedingly to know upon what principle the collection has been made. With regard to the Cape stamps themselves, in which at any rate one would expect them to be complete, the whole lot number 20! including a copy of the 1d. and another of the 4d. wood blocks from the reprinted sheets on wove paper, gummed; but the originals and errors are not there; and of the other triangular stamps there is only one specimen of each, no notice being taken of the Perkins-Bacon and the De la Rue issues. The gem of the collection, in the eyes of a collector, is undoubtedly the beautiful set, unused and original, of the perforated newspaper U. S. stamp of 1874 from 1 cent to 60 dollars; whilst a few of the British Colonies have sent copies of surcharges, including those of Hong Kong, Straits Settlements, Labuan, British Honduras, and British North Borneo. Of the greatest philatelic rarities there are neither originals nor reprints of the early Mauritius, Reunion, Sandwich Islands, New Caledonia, British Guiana, or Natal, and even South African Colonies and States are not fully represented; only Swazieland, Zululand, B.C.A. and B.S.A. Co. being nearly complete. Out of the 175 countries which have sent stamps only 30 of them marked them "specimen" or "reprint," including European states, most English Colonies, Cuba, Philippine Islands, Japan, Argentine Republic, and Persia.

There are still, however, in the possession of the Department, and, I believe, unpacked, complete current sets in triplicate of all the countries under the Universal Postal Union, sent them from the International Convention at Vienna; so then, when these are opened, sorted out, and arranged, it is to be hoped that the work will be done by a philatelist, and thus help to make the official collection more complete, up to date, and useful as a reference than has hitherto been the case. In consequence of the enquiries of Mr. Bacon and myself, the Postmaster-General has started a large scrap-book in which a copy of each stamp issued by the Cape Colony is to be put, with all the notes obtainable from official sources of its manufacture, issue, changes, surcharging, withdrawal, number issued, &c.; and as time permits, enquiries are made and researches pursued through the records in the Treasury, Colonial-office, and Post-office Departments, so that in time we may hope to have a complete official record of the history of the Cape adhesives, envelopes, wrappers, and post cards.

Philatelic Notes.

NOTE.—*Under this title will be found all notes relating to postal issues other than those that are chronicled as current novelties, or which form the subject of special articles. The co-operation of Philatelists is invited in order to make this column of a varied and interesting nature.*

BRITISH EAST AFRICA.

A CORRESPONDENT of Mr. D. Brosnan having taken exception to the statement that the first issue of these stamps included imperforate specimens, that gentleman applied to the Company, and we are enabled to cite the reply thereto, premising that we have seen specimens of all the values imperforate on letters duly franked thereby from Mombassa.

IMPERIAL BRITISH EAST AFRICA COMPANY, LIMITED,
2, PALL MALL EAST, LONDON, S.W.

DOMINIC BROSNAN, ESQ., *8th December*, 1893.
27, New Oxford Street, W.C.

DEAR SIR,—I beg to acknowledge receipt of your letter of 7th inst.

The imperforated stamps which you bought at a premium three years ago are perfectly genuine. They were the first sheets of the present issue of this Company's stamps; and not only *have* they been used for franking letters from East Africa, but they can even now be used for that purpose.

At the time you purchased these stamps they were on sale to anyone who cared to buy them, and indeed have long since *all* been disposed of, so that they may now be looked upon as considerably increased in value.

Yours faithfully,

E. BRADBRIDGE *(for Secretary).*

PSEUDO IMPERFORATE AUSTRALIAN STAMPS.

THERE are certain Oceanian stamps that the philatelic St. Thomas will never believe in until he sees them in pairs; *e.g.* the 5s. New South Wales, and the 1s. Queensland. Mr. D. Brosnan has shewn us lately two specimens that go far to support this incredulous attitude, one being the 5d., dark green, perforated 12, of New South Wales; and the other the 6d., yellow-green, Star watermark, square perforations, of Queensland, both of which would never be doubted as being imperforate, whereas Mr. Brosnan himself cut off the perforations! Mr. Castle has also in his collection a 1d. Star watermark, perforated, New Zealand; and a 2d., no watermark, Queensland, with margins between stamp and perforation that would satisfy the veriest craver for "large copies!" The only comfort is that specimens so providentially provided with an exuberance of margin must be very rare, hence they do not constitute a serious menace to collectors, the "moral" being to carefully consider the general surroundings of the stamps that exist only in an abnormal state as imperforate.

INDIA "SERVICE" SURCHARGES.

MR. W. H. BOLLAND has sent us some Indian stamps which, as he justly says, are not recorded in the Society's work, but have been in a friend's collection for twenty years. This of itself is no convincing proof, thirty-year-old forgeries not being unknown. The overprinted word Service is of the same width as the ordinary "large" type, but nearly ½ mm. deeper; the lettering is rough, badly set up, and worse printed. In the shape of the type, notably in the "S" and "r," they strongly resemble the *small* surcharge, a fact in their favour. The first two specimens submitted by our correspondent, the ½ anna, blue, and 8 pies, lilac, both with watermark, and dated in 1872, somewhat favourably impressed us; but the subsequent receipt of four other values—1, 2, 4, and 8 annas, with apparently the same surcharge, delicately *avoiding* the postmark, is not of a reassuring nature. We had a belief for years—founded, like our correspondent, on ancient rights of possession—that there were other than the two types of surcharged service stamp; but it is plain that considerable corroborative evidence will be required before these surcharges can be pronounced not guilty, and we should be glad to hear witnesses in the case.

THE 4 c., BLACK, OF LUXEMBURG.

A GERMAN correspondent informs the *Monthly Journal* that the 4 c., *black*, which we described lately, "is a *proof* struck by Mons. P. Bruck, in March, 1875; and on consulting (as we ought to have done sooner) the volume upon the stamps of this State, in Mons. Moens' *Bibliothèque des Timbrophiles*, we find these impressions fully dealt with and noted, both perf. and imperf. However, we exhibited our ignorance in good company!" We are much obliged to our contemporary, and can only plead as excuse that the writer's Philatelic library has not yet recovered the shock it sustained by his prolonged absence. We had, however, already informed the owner of the "stamp" in question, that in view of the prolific powers of Luxemburg we attached but a very small pecuniary value to the specimen.

NOTES ON THE WEST INDIAN STAMPS AT THE EXHIBITION OF THE LONDON PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

WE are indebted to Mr. J. A. Tilleard, whose constant attendance at the recent Exhibition of the West Indian Stamps gave him leisure to exercise his well-known Philatelic perspicuity, for some stray notes on interesting stamps present and absent that, though somewhat late in the day, will be found of interest.

"*Antigua.*—1st Issue, 1d. and 6d., imperf.; 1d., imperf. vertically. The compound perfs. of Issue III. and the half stamps of the 1d. of same issue used as ½d. were not shown.

"*Barbados.*—Strip of three 1d. on 1s. shown, but the varieties with surcharge inverted *not* there.

"*British Guiana.*—Issue VI. The 24 c. on thick paper, perforated 12, is evidently very rare *unused*, not being shown in this state. Issue X. 24 c., perf. 12, not shown. Query, Does it exist? I think not. Issue XV. A novelty was shown here, the 4 c., perf. 12½, small 2 not being shown. 1856 Issue. No specimen of the 4 c. on 'sugar' paper was shown.

"*British Honduras.*—½ of 1d., *without* surcharge, used as 1 c. shown. Issue VII. Does the 2 c., black, on 50 c., black, on 1s., grey, exist? The Postmaster says none were made in the Colony! The ½ of the 2 c., red, on 50 c., on 1s., grey, was shown cut *diagonally* and *vertically*.

"*Falkland Islands.*—In the surcharge ½ on 1d. some sheets evidently only had each third stamp surcharged. Probably for use as 2½d. stamps—*i.e.* two unsurcharged—the third surcharged ½ in each corner, and cut off with two unsurcharged attached.

"*Grenada.*—H.R.H. The Duke of York showed a specimen of the 1d. of Issue IV. with small four-rayed star watermark.

"*Montserrat.*—The 2½d., watermarked C C & Cr., imperforate, is probably a proof.

"*Royal Mail Steamship Co.*—An entire sheet of thirty stamps was exhibited.

"*St. Christopher.*—The rare 1d. on 2½d., small surcharge, was shewn used and unused, one sheet of twenty stamps only having been thus printed, according to good authority.

"*St. Lucia.*—Issue VII. I did not see the 3d. on dark blue, the existence even of which is doubted by many.

"*St. Vincent.*—Additional varieties of perforation, and specimen of the 1d. on 2½d., carmine, with single bar added to the two narrow bars, also with two bars added, wider spaced, neither variety having been yet chronicled.

"*Trinidad.*—The 1d. 'native' die seems to be scarce used, as only two specimens were to be seen; the same remark applying to the ½d. on the pale mauve stamp, watermarked C A & Cr., unused. As to the special commemorative issue of February 23rd, 1891, I note that one specimen is dated in March, the remainder having the date of H.R.H. the Duke of York's visit.

"*Turks' Island.*—The surcharges of 1881 shown by H.R.H. show that the published lists are still incomplete, and in some respects incorrect. Among these stamps the 2½d. on 6d., with small type of ½d., was shown, there being only one or two copies known, and altogether this exhibit will be found a very instructive one."

We can cordially endorse Mr. Tilleard's closing words from personal inspection.

DISCOVERIES.

ST. HELENA.—A correspondent informs the *Monthly Journal* that he possesses a specimen of the 1d. with short line, 14 mm., *imperforate*, and with good margins.

Bermuda.—The *Philatelic Journal of Great Britain* has seen copies of the 1s., green, CC and Crown, perforated 14 × 12½—a batch apparently so perforated at the same time as the 3d. value already known.

UNITED STATES COUNTERFEIT GRILLS.

AN animated discussion has arisen in the American journals as to the question whether the "grills" on the United States stamps are susceptible or not of easy imitation. Mr. E. S. Clark, of Belleville, Ontario, whom the writer had the pleasure of meeting at Chicago, contends in the *San Francisco Philatelic Facts and Fallacies*, that he has, and can produce, imitations that defy detection; while Mr. Alvah Davison stoutly controverts this theory in the columns of the *Post Office*. We can only hope, in the interests of collectors, that the latter view of the case is the correct one.

FRESH FORGERIES.

THE Philatelic Protection Association have given notice of the circulation of the following new forgeries:

NEW SOUTH WALES.

Sydney View, 1d., red; 2d., blue (beautifully imitated).

Laureated Issue, 1d., red (two shades); 2d., blue (two shades); and 3d., green.

Registration Stamps, imperf. and perf.

NEW ZEALAND.—1s., green; imperf. and perf.

CEYLON.—1861, 4d., rose, and 2s., blue.

NATAL.—1st Issue, embossed, 3d., rose.

STRAY NOTES ON TRANSVAALS: A CORRECTION.

MR. EDWARD J. NANKIVELL writes us that the summary at the end of his paper on the Surcharges of Current Issues (*L. P.*, vol. ii. p. 201) needs a little correction and revision, and should have been as follows:

1893. January,	2½d.	on	1s., green,	148,860;	surcharge in black,	in one line.
June,	2½d.	„	„	29,460	„ „	two lines.
January,	1d.	„	6d., blue,	776,580	„ „	
May,	½d.	„	2d., bistre,	299,280	„ red.	
June,	½d.	„	„	29,580	„ black.	

Occasional Notes.

H.I.H. THE GRAND DUKE ALEXIS MICHAELOVITCH.

THE election of so illustrious a member of the London Philatelic Society, may be taken as a further evidence both of the rising interest taken in Philately by all classes, and of an extending recognition of the prestige and influence of the Society. We need hardly say that the election of the Grand Duke Alexis was received with acclamation, which would be doubly renewed should H.I.H. be at some future date enabled to personally attend, it being well known that the Duke is an ardent and studious philatelist.

WEST INDIAN PHILATELY.

IT is with pleasure that we note a new addition to the list of Philatelic Societies. We take this opportunity of tendering our best wishes for the welfare of the British Guiana Philatelic Society, and trust that every member may indulge his patriotism in securing a complete collection of the stamps of that country! The proceedings of the two first meetings will be found duly noted elsewhere, and we have to thank Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. for the information.

SYLLABUS OF MEETINGS OF THE LONDON PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

ON January 19th, subject of study "Hongkong."

On January 26th, Mr. Ehrenbach will read a short paper on "The Stamps of Brunswick."

On February 2nd, subject of study, "Stamps of the Straits Settlements."

On February 9th, Mr. Castle will read a short paper on "The *Registered* Stamps of New South Wales."

A MODEST DEMAND.

A CORRESPONDENT who, like the Editor, has recently been travelling, relates the following anecdote as told to him by a passenger on the R.M.S. *Orinoco* on the voyage from the West Indies, who about thirty miles off the Azores threw overboard a corked bottle containing his name and address, and a request to anybody finding the same to give him information. He further offered a reward to the finder, if desired. After a lapse of twenty-seven days the bottle was found on the Island of Terceira, and a letter was received by the passenger claiming the reward; also a letter from the Portuguese, who translated the message for the finder, suggesting *he should also* like a present. He is a stamp collector, and writes, "I wish for my collection of postage stamps, some stamps from your country, but *not common ones.* I wish the stamps of 1847–54, 1862, 1865–67, 1872–73, 1875–76, 1878, 1880–82, 1883 surcharged, 1884–87; high values too."

This is true modesty, as our friend aptly remarks!

A RECORD!

THE occasion of the reading of Mr. Hastings Wright's very able paper on the "Stamps of Great Britain" was productive of a record as to attendance, which inclusive of the Baron de Worms and other visitors, amounted to between forty and fifty. The fine display of the English stamps of H.R.H. the Duke of York, who graciously sent them for this purpose, and of Mr. Hastings Wright's splendid collection, without doubt materially contributed to this desirable result. It is however clearly shown that nothing attracts a big meeting so much as the sight of fine stamps, and as there is no lack of these among the component members we hope that even this record will soon be "broken."

A TONGESE VIEW OF THE USES OF STAMPS.

IT will be recollected that a description was given in our last volume of a room entirely papered with unused postage stamps. At the invitation of its owner, Mr. C. Whitfield King, we recently had an opportunity of inspecting this Philatelic chamber, and can but express our complete satisfaction with the result attained. The photographs taken by Mr. King give but an inadequate idea of the effect, which is extremely beautiful, and has the appearance of a delicate mosaic, in which colour and design are most harmoniously blended. It appears that Mr. King, in his own words, "sent to the Postmaster at Tonga one of the illustrations of this room papered with stamps, who showed it to some natives who happened to be in his office. He tried to explain it, but it seems they have an idea the house is *built* of stamps. They expressed a wish to send me messages, and the postmaster, Mr. Garnier, very obligingly took them down *verbatim* in the native tongue, and translated them for my benefit. They are certainly the oddest communications I ever received, and I have had some funny ones at times, as you have seen. They are of course all sent in perfect good faith, but I must decline their invitation, either to marry any of them or be fired out of a cannon! I fear also I should not look well dancing on a rope, dressed in my paper clothes. I shall send a message in return, and a present for each of them—some coloured pictures such as are given away with the Christmas Numbers."

We have been kindly allowed by their owner to take a copy of the cards containing these curious invitations and suggestions, which are conveyed in the native and apparently mellifluous language, and translated by Mr. Garnier, and we venture to think they will be found worthy of perusal, bearing as they do the strongest stamp of originality.

"Come and see us, O Mr. Whitfield and Mr. King and Mr. Co., and dress yourselves in the clothes you make of postage stamps. Such clothes would not do here in the rain, as they would fall off you. Mr. Garnier says your paper clothes are very beautiful; but come to us, we will give you strong clothes and plenty of food."

"The new stamps have come. The likeness of Queen Makia is very good. Long may you live. Come and see us in Rarotonga."

"It is I, Kakaiia, who speaks to you. Mr. Garnier says I must send you a message over the long, long sea to the land of our Mother Victoria. She will protect

us from the power of other nations. We all love Victoria, and would fight for her. We want to be English, so do the people in Tahiti, but the French won't allow them."

"It is I, the Tropic-bird, who sends this message to you three—Come in your paper clothes. You must be like the men in the circus that is here. If you buy a circus and come here too, we will all go and see you dancing on a rope, and being fired out of a cannon, and we shall all want to marry you."

"To the man who lives over the sea in England, and has his house built of post stamps, are you not foolish to build a paper house? If a storm comes it will be blown all over the land, and you cannot gather the pieces. Come to Rarotonga that we may look on the man who lives in a paper house. Salutations, my pets!"

"Oh, Rarotonga, beautiful land! Our waters and our skies for ever blue and warm, our fruits for ever ripening; our mountains high and green, ascending towards the heavens. Come and see us here, O Mr. Whitfield and Mr. King, in our homes, and bring us a little present in your hand for writing this, and we shall give you a present in return, that you may not forget us."

"Oh, Mr. Whitfield and Mr. King, our love to you both, and to Mr. Co., send us some nice cards of the Easter time, so that we may not forget you in your paper house. This is all from your friend Vavia.

"Light in the darkness, sailor, day is at hand!
See o'er the foaming billows fair Heaven's land.
Drear was the voyage, sailor, now almost o'er;
Safe within the lifeboat, sailor, pull for the shore!
Pull for the shore, sailor; pull for the shore!
Heed not the rolling waves, but bend to the oar!
Safe in the lifeboat, sailor, cling to self no more:
Leave the poor old stranded wreck, and pull for the shore!"

Reviews.

M. MOENS' NEW CATALOGUE.*



WITH the instalment recently received by us this colossal work has achieved its consummation, and its distinguished author has earned the renown of having probably created a record as to the time involved in the production of a universal catalogue. The additions to the first volume of adhesives, already reviewed in these columns, comprise—

Envelopes and Wrappers . . .	177 pages.
Post and Letter Cards	179 „
Fiscals	352 „

Each portion of the work being illustrated with all the types described. It can therefore readily be seen that the adjective we have previously applied to this catalogue is appropriate, as also that anything like a detailed review would transgress the limits of our space. A useful feature in the envelope portion is the delineation of the several "cuts" and shapes, as also of the *pattes*, and it will be seen that the Mulready caricatures are copiously

* *Catalogue prix-courant de Timbres-poste*, &c. J. B. Moens, Rue de Florence, 42, Brussels. 1893.

illustrated. The lists of the rare German envelopes seem to embrace all that is known up to date, and will be found invaluable. There is, of course, much chronicled that it may be advisable to sell—but which it can hardly be of advantage to collect—in the guise of envelopes and bands stamped to order, as in the cases of Great Britain, Germany, and some of the Australian Colonies. These unofficial varieties have two merits, prettiness and cheapness (generally), but this exhausts the sum of their virtues. The portion dealing with the post-cards has a useful prefix in the shape of a table giving the different shapes of the two halves of the reply-cards, as well as the various methods of puncturing the letter-cards. The difficulty of cataloguing a complete list of cards—not to say collecting them – will be fully borne upon the philatelist's mind when he refers to the lists of such countries as Roumania, Finland, and Ceylon. The money-order cards and envelopes (*mandats timbrés*) have a separate department assigned to them, and there is, in fact, no domain of philately that has not been laid open to the explorations of the collector. A perusal of the work, coupled with the knowledge that each specimen catalogued can be amplified by minor varieties of shade, paper, &c., will convince the *fin de siècle* philatelist of the impossibility of *trying* to collect "all the world." The illustrations to the cards and envelopes extend to no less than 208 pages, and those of the fiscals to eighty, many of which will be found of the greatest service. It is, perhaps, to be regretted that the not superfine quality of the paper has rendered in some instances the illustrations in a defective manner. As may be remembered, this remark was made as regards the illustrations in the first volume of adhesives, the impressions in blue, by some unknown process, being in many cases utterly useless. It is a pity that so much splendid philatelic work should be marred by these typographical failures; but beyond this, and the slight errors and omissions that are incidental to most catalogues, we have nothing but praise to bestow upon the volumes that are now completed. The name and fame of the house of M. Moens have long and deservedly attained the highest esteem from stamp collectors the world over, and it has set the seal of its success by the compilation of this splendid and voluminous work. It is the veriest truism to say that no real philatelist can afford to dispense with it in his library, while it will be an enduring monument of the consummate philatelic knowledge and marvellous industry of the celebrated Brussels firm.

THE AUCTION EPITOME.*

We have received from the publisher, Mr. William Brown, the second edition of *The Auction Epitome*, compiled by Mr. S. C. Skipton. This volume consists of 143 well-printed and concisely-written pages, giving the description and prices of every lot sold by the various stamp auctioneers during the years 1890, 1891, and 1892, and is a distinct advance on Mr. Skipton's previous effort. A list of the auction sales and the principal lots is given for each year. Altogether this book will be a most useful addition to the philatelic library of those collectors who look at philately from a financial point of view—a large majority.

* The *Auction Epitome*, by S. C. Skipton. Published by William Brown, 139, Castle Street, Salisbury.

THE STAMP NEWS ANNUAL.*

The fourth appearance of this seasonable volume fully entitles it to the cognomen of "a hardy annual," and we can at once compliment the publishers upon the excellent way in which they have again sustained the reputation of its predecessors. Obviously in a publication of this nature articles of lighter vein will be found interspersed, and to these we need hardly call especial attention, beyond stating that they are all readable and mostly amusing. From a scientific aspect the most important articles are on the stamps of Greece by Lieutenant Napier, R.N. (like all this writer's work evincing great philatelic knowledge), with—may we say—a tendency to over elaborate and sub-divide the issues; the stamps of "Alsace-Lorraine," by Mr. J. W. Anheiser, giving most interesting details about these stamps, and also correcting existing erroneous ideas as to the length of the inscriptions, &c.; and the "Catalogue of English Philatelic Literature," by Mr. J. K. Tiffany. Mr. Levy has also a good article on South Australian perforations; while Captain Norris-Newman's notes from the "Dark Continent" are, as usual, full of interest; and the articles of a statistical nature, by Messrs. E. J. Nankivell and R. Pearce, are both eminently readable, despite the foregoing ominous adjective. There is one element—Philatelic poetry—which we are unable to appreciate; except that each word begins with the same initial we fail to see how they can be "mixed" to any good purpose. The preface consists of an admirably written *précis* of the Philatelic situation at the end of the year, and taken in its entirety, the Annual is worthy of that which it doubtless already possesses—a wide circle of readers.

* The *Stamp News Annual*, Theodor Buhl & Co., 11, Queen Victoria Street, London, E.C.

New Issues.

Under this head will be found notes of the new, and variations of the current issues. We do not profess to chronicle everything, but with the kind help of correspondents, are desirous that all the important novelties may be included. Speculative stamps—i.e. those not really required for postal purposes—will be considered on their merits, and Jubilee issues will not be chronicled.

GREAT BRITAIN AND COLONIES.

BRITISH BECHUANALAND.—Captain Norris-Newman writes as under, enclosing specimens of the stamps mentioned; *i.e.* 1d., current type, wmk. foul Anchor; perf. 14, the surcharge in block lower case, rather clumsily printed: "Herewith enclosed please find a couple of specimens of new Cape surcharge, with vertical surcharge reading from right to left, of which only a few sheets were printed, and none were issued, as the authorities are using up the English surcharge in preference. I have a few sheets, and there is only one error! On the third row from the bottom, in the right-hand lower pane, the second stamp from the left has defective 'i' in 'British.' The surcharging for use in the northern Protectorate above British Bechuanaland is now done away with, and British Bechuanaland stamps are used throughout the whole territory."

GOLD COAST.—Messrs. Ridpath & Co. send us a set of the Registration Envelopes with surcharges varying in length as under, the small type being scarce.

Registration Envelopes.

2d., blue;	size G;	surcharge	4 mm. high,	66 mm. long.	
,,	,, F & G	,,	,,	64	,,
,,	,, G	,,	,,	63	,,
,,	,, G	,,	,,	61	,,
,,	,, F	,,	3 mm. high,	64	,,

GREAT BRITAIN.—Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. send on the following letter referring to the recently-described Registration Cards:

"GENERAL POST OFFICE, LONDON,
January 1st, 1894.

"GENTLEMEN,—With reference to your further letter of the 28th ultimo, I am informed by the Controller of Stamps that, by mistake, 14,976 of the old pattern of Registered Lettered Envelopes, size "G," were stamped with the new die, and that all of them had been issued for sale to the public.

"The specimen envelope which was forwarded with your letter is returned herewith.

"I am, Gentlemen, your obedient servant,
"(Signed) G. D. SMYTH.

"MESSRS. WHITFIELD KING & CO."

NEW ZEALAND.—We have seen specimens of other current stamps, showing further advertisements on the reverse side. No *Philatelist* will, of course, collect such rubbish. We can only wonder that the New Zealand authorities can allow such an advertisement—of their want of money!

SAMOA.—Mr. W. A. Cooper sends us the current fourpence, with value barred out by a thick and a thin line, and surcharged "FIVE PENCE" in small block black capitals. The specimen, which seems to have done postal duty, arrived, says Mr. Cooper, by a recent mail in San Francisco. We have, however, a limited faith in the necessity for its creation.

5d., current type, surcharged on 4d., dark blue.

SEYCHELLES.—The following varieties of new values of the current type are variously announced; the second colour being that of the tablet of value; wmk. C A; perf. 14.

3 c., violet and orange.
12 c., grey and green.
15 c., olive and lilac.
45 c., brown and carmine.
Post Cards. 6 c., blue on buff.
6+6 c., „ „

SIERRA LEONE.—The *Timbre-Poste* announces cards of the current type as under:

Post Cards. ½d., green on buff.
½+½d. „ „

STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.—*Perak.* The cards for internal use, says the *Timbre-Poste*, have been issued. The design of the "stamp" is that with the tiger, otherwise they resemble the ordinary current cards.

Post Cards. 1 c., green on buff (Tiger).
1+1 c. „ „

VICTORIA.—Mention is made in various journals of a doubly-impressed envelope of the 1d. value; these are, of course, unofficially issued as their congeners in this country. *The Philatelic Record* describes a new issue of the 1d. card, having the arms larger, and without the lion, the lines of inscription varying, and the inscription DIEU ET—MON DROIT.

Post Card. 1d., light orange-brown; new type.

WESTERN AUSTRALIA.—We read in *Vindin's Philatelic Journal* that the "Internal Revenue" stamps are now allowed to be used postally, and that the 1d. has been already so seen. The collection of these is, of course, a matter of choice.

EUROPE.

BELGIUM.—Mr. J. A. Tilleard has shewn us the cards with the senseless added inscription alluded to last month.

Post Cards.
5, green on buff; *non-Sunday delivery.*
5+5 „ „ „ „
Letter Cards.
10, orange-brown on pale blue; *non-Sunday delivery.*
10+10 „ „ „ „

BULGARIA.—There are some varieties of the letter card, *i.e.*, with "3" instead of "6" in the second line of inscription on reverse. Both this and the lower values have suffered a re-set type, and appear also with larger perforations on a more highly-glazed buff surface. We are indebted to the *Carte Postale* and *Revue Philatelique* for the information.

Letter Cards.
15 stot, *orange on yellow*; "3" *on reverse.*
5 „ *pale green on buff*; *new type.*
15 „ „ „ „

GERMANY.—Mr. Ehrenbach has shewn us a pair of the current 3 pf. perforated *only* on the right-hand side, and being a corner of the sheet. The *Timbre-Poste*, alluding to the appearance of imperforate specimens of current values, states that some imperforate sheets were received by the Post-office from the printing-office in 1889, and were handed over by the former to the Postal Museum at Berlin, which institution has recently been endeavouring to make a profit thereby; and as it is stated that the Post-office allows them to pass for postage we presume they must be chronicled, however reluctantly.

3 pf., brown; *imperforate.*
3 „ „ *perf. at right only.*
25 „ orange; *imperforate.*
50 „ red-brown „

PORTUGAL.—The *Post Card* notes the issue of the 20 reis of 1887 with the Gothic surcharge "VALIDO 1893," similar to that on the 10 reis of 1890, noted previously in this journal.

Post Card. 20 reis, carmine on buff; *black surcharge.*

ROUMANIA.—Messrs. Ridpath & Co. wish us to correct the announcement made last month as regards the error on the 10 b. card. The normal spelling of the country's name is "ROMANIA," while that of the error is "ROUMANIE."

WURTEMBERG.—Mr. R. Ehrenbach has shown us the new value adhesive and card issued in order to facilitate the special reduction of 25 pc. on official intercommunication. Both are of normal and current type.

2 pf., dull blue-grey.
Post Card. 3 pf., brown on buff.

AMERICA.

ANTIOQUIA.—The 10 c. has appeared in somewhat altered type, and in a new colour.

10 c., *pale brown*; new type.

UNITED STATES.—Mr. Oliver H. New writes: "Under the heading 'New Issues' in the December number of your magazine I notice that a variety of the 6 c. adhesive stamp U.S.A. Columbus series is noted. I am very glad to find this is brought to light,

as I possess a specimen of the dull blue colour alluded to, and have never seen mention made of it before. I enclose it for your inspection, and you will see it is on the envelope as it came to me on the 19th April last."

VENEZUELA.—Mr. Walter Morley has sent us curious varieties of perforation, &c., of the 1888 to 1892 lithographed series, which are new to us. The 5 green, 25 brown, and 25 orange, whose normal state, we believe, is rouletted, seem to have been partially pin-perforated—both in very small and medium gauge—on one side or the other, or top and bottom, according to the "discretion" of the operator. The red circular surcharge with the Arms is also shown as inverted in two values.

1888–92. 5 c., green, *compound* roulette and pin-perf.
,, 25 c., brown ,, ,,
,, 25 c., orange ,, ,,
1882. 25 c. ,, engraved and perf., *surch. inverted.*
,, 1 bolivar, vermilion ,, ,,

The Philatelist notes also further varieties as follows, the first being of the 1882 issue.

25 c. on 5 c, green, Escuelas, violet surcharge.
1 bol. ,, 50 c., blue ,, ,,
1 ,, ,, 25 c., brown, Correos ,,

OTHER COUNTRIES.

AFGHANISTAN.—Two values of a new design have been issued. Within a circle there is a representation of a mosque or gateway with a flag on either side, the balance of the design being occupied with Oriental inscriptions upon a floreate background. The *Monthly Journal* thus translates the inscription, and adds that the green stamp is for letters from Cabul, and pink for those to that place: "The characters read as follows: '*Mahsūl Kāghasi dak Khana dowlat Afghanistan Miskal yak abasi.* 1310'= 'Paper Duty of the Post Office of the Kingdom of Afghanistan—per miskal, one abasi. 1310.' A miskal = 54 grains troy, or rather less than one-eighth of an ounce avoirdupois. The year 1310 commenced July 26, 1892, and ended July 14, 1893; so these stamps were probably issued during the first half of the current year."

1 abasi, black on *green.*
1 ,, ,, *pink.*

BHOPAL.—Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. send us the new 8 anna stamps, one sheet (10 varieties) perforated, and the other imperforate, of current design.

8 a., *dark blue-green, wove paper;* perf. 7 (about).
8 a. ,, ,, imperf.

EGYPT.—The 1 piastre envelope is noted by the *Timbre-Poste* as follows:

Envelope. 1 p., blue on *blue laid* paper, 146×111 mm.

FRENCH COLONIES.—Monthly bulletin!

New Caledonia.—Two new surcharges.

Obock.—2 francs, black, triangular; of Camel Type (Messrs. W. King & Co.).

Tahiti.—Many new surcharges.

Vathy (Turkish Asia).—Six new surcharges.

Zanzibar.—Five new surcharges.

LIBERIA.—Mr. H. L. Hayman, in sending us specimens, writes: "I enclose the Liberian registration stamps, which will supersede the registered envelopes now in use. There are four varieties for the individual counties as designated on the stamps. The permanent set of postage due stamps will be issued in a few days," which we now have.

The registered stamps are of fancy design, oblong in shape, with a large "R" to left, and No.—— to right, and overprinted in black "10 CENTS 10."

10 c., green on salmon, for Harper.
10 c., vermilion on yellow, for Monrovia.
10 c., pink on blue, for Robertsport.
10 c., blue on rose, for Buchanan.

The Unpaid Letter Stamps are of simple design—an oval with network, within a circle inscribed "Postage due, Republic of Liberia," the value being in each case superimposed in large figures and small capitals in the centre. The paper of both sets is wove, and the perforation varying.

2 c., black and orange on straw.
4 c. ,, carmine ,, rose.
6 c. ,, brown ,, buff.
8 c. ,, blue ,, blue.
10 c. ,, green ,, pink.
20 c. ,, violet ,, grey.
40 c. ,, brown ,, white.

We sincerely trust that this Republic—being well set up with a handsome new set of stamps—will "rest and be thankful!"

NOVA POTUCA.—This pseudo issue is a myth!

MOROCCO.—Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. send us an envelope apparently franked by an octagonal violet hand-stamp, with Moorish inscriptions, on a ground of colour, and write: "The enclosed envelope bearing a blue octagonal hand-stamp was posted at Morocco City for Mogador. This stamp is used by the Moorish Government in a courier service between the above-named two cities, and marks the first step towards the establishment in Morocco of a Government postal service. We do not know its value, but have written for particulars and translation."

TIMOR.—The 300 reis of Timor, with embossed head, has been surcharged "TIMOR 30. 30," in large black type. (*Monthly Journal.*)

30 reis, orange, *black surcharge,* on 300 reis of Macao.

Philatelic Societies' Meetings.

THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY, LONDON.

Honorary President.—H.R.H. Duke Alfred of Saxe-Coburg Gotha.
Hon. Vice-President.—H.R.H. The Duke of York, K.G.

Council for the Year 1893-94:

President.—The Earl of Kingston.
Vice-President.—M. P. Castle.

Hon. Secretary.—D. Garth.	*Hon. Assistant Secretary.*—J. A. Tilleard.
Treasurer.—C. N. Biggs.	*Librarian.*—T. Maycock.
E. D. Bacon.	T. Wickham Jones.
A. W. Chambers.	E. J. Nankivell.
E. B. Evans.	R. Pearce.

At the tenth meeting of the season 1893-94, held at Effingham House, Strand, on Friday, the 15th December, 1893, the business of the evening consisted of the revision of the Society's reference lists of the stamps of the new British Companies in South, Central, and East Africa, which were proceeded with and completed.

The eleventh meeting of the season was held at Effingham House on Friday, the 29th December, 1893, at 7.30 p.m. The Vice-President occupied the chair, and the following members were also present; viz., Messrs. E. D. Bacon, C. N. Biggs, R. Meyer, H. R. Oldfield, W. Silk, T. Maycock, A. G. E. Driver, G. B. Routledge, R. Pearce, E. J. Nankivell, J. A. Tilleard, and F. E. Horton.

The minutes of the last meeting having been read and confirmed, the Assistant-Secretary reported the receipt, from Messrs. Theodor Buhl and Co., of a copy of the *Stamp News Annual* for the Society's library, which was directed to be acknowledged with the thanks of the Society.

The committee appointed on the 9th December, 1892, to investigate the question of the dates when the various imperforate stamps of New Zealand were in use, brought up their report, which was read by Mr. Maycock, who acknowledged the assistance derived from most of the principal dealers, who had placed their stocks at the disposal of the committee. A list compiled by a leading philatelist in New Zealand was appended to the report, which will prove of considerable assistance in elucidating the difficult questions referred to the Committee.

On the motion of the Vice-President, seconded by Mr. Tilleard, a hearty vote of thanks was accorded to the Committee for the able manner in which they had fulfilled their task, and it was directed that the report should be published in the *London Philatelist*, in the hope that collectors possessing dated copies of the stamps in question may be induced to send particulars to supplement the information already obtained.

His Imperial Highness The Grand Duke Alexis Michaelovitch, proposed by H.R.H. The Duke of York, and seconded by the Assistant Secretary, was unanimously elected a member of the Society. In proposing the name of the Grand Duke, Mr. Tilleard explained that it was understood that His Imperial Highness preferred to seek election as an ordinary member, an honour which was highly appreciated by the members present.

The next business on the agenda consisted of Mr. Bacon's motion in regard to the appointment of an Expert Committee. The objects of the motion, which was seconded by the Vice-President, were explained by Mr. Bacon; and after some discussion it was resolved: "that, taking into consideration the enormous increase in the number of highly dangerous imitations of postage stamps that have appeared of late years, and bearing in mind that one of the objects of the Society is 'the detection and prevention of forgeries and fraud,' an instruction be given to the Council to

appoint an Expert Committee, who shall adjudicate upon any stamp or stamps submitted to them for their opinion, such Committee to be empowered to charge a fee for each specimen examined, with the object of defraying expenses incurred in connection with its work, and to make whatever arrangements it thinks best for the carrying out of this resolution in the most effective manner."

Mr. Bacon then read his paper on the "Fiji Times Express Stamps," illustrated by engravings of a re-constructed plate, which were handed to the members to enable them to follow the paper. The various types with their positions on the plate were fully explained; and, on the motion of the Vice-President, seconded by Mr. Biggs, a cordial vote of thanks was accorded to Mr. Bacon for his most interesting contribution, which with his consent it is proposed to publish in the *London Philatelist.*

In the course of the evening Mr. Maycock showed a photograph, sent by Mr. H. J. Knowles, of Wellington, New Zealand, showing the unused stamps of that Colony in his collection, comprising many stamps very difficult to obtain in an unused condition, and including the 1s. stamp on blue paper.

AT the twelfth meeting of the season, held on Friday, the 5th January, 1894, the business was confined to the settling of the reference list of the Stamps of Malta, which was completed.

THE thirteenth meeting of the season was held at Effingham House, on Friday, the 12th January, 1894, at 7.30 p.m., and proved to be one of the most successful meetings ever held by the society. The members present were the Vice-President, and Messrs. D. Garth, C. N. Biggs, T. Wickham-Jones, E. D. Bacon, R. Ehrenbach, R. Meyer, F. West, Gordon-Smith, W. T. Wilson, W. J. Hardy, W. Silk, T. Ransom, W. N. Usher, G. H. Rayner, L. S. Wells, P. de Worms, C. J. Dann, F. E. Horton, W. Barnard, B. W. Neave, G. B. Routledge, W. Simpson, G. Churcher, C. J. E. Mumby, A. B. Creeke, R. Pearce, E. J. Nankivell, H. F. Lawe, F. A. Philbrick, Q.C., T. Maycock, J. A. Tilleard, Hastings, E. Wright, and W. T. Willett.

The following gentlemen were also present as visitors; namely, Messrs. W. J. Middleton, W. J. Ebbetts, E. A. Fitch, E. W. Fitch, L. G. S. Raynor, J. W. Jones, D. Duncan, and Baron de Worms.

The chair having been taken by the Vice-President, the minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed.

Before proceeding to the business of the meeting the chairman congratulated the Society on the large attendance of members, and on the great interest which was evidently taken in the study of the stamps of our own country.

Mr. Hastings E. Wright then read a paper upon "The Stamps of Great Britain." After explaining some of the principal difficulties to be encountered in the collection of these stamps, and that in view of a more extended work on the subject, which was in course of preparation, the paper had been confined to notes intended only for the guidance of collectors in forming a collection, Mr. Wright went through the various issues *seriatim*, explaining the chief varieties to be sought for by a student of English stamps. The paper was illustrated by a very choice selection from his own fine collection, kindly lent by Mr. Wright, and left by him for exhibition in the Society's rooms during the past two days. After a discussion on the points raised by the paper, in which several of the members present took part, a hearty vote of thanks was, on the motion of Mr. Philbrick, seconded by the Vice-President, accorded to Mr. Wright for his most interesting paper, which with his consent it is proposed to publish in the *London Philatelist.*

The remainder of the evening was occupied in the inspection of a beautiful collection of the Postage and Telegraph Stamps of Great Britain, recently acquired by the Honorary Vice-President, comprising upwards of eight hundred stamps in an imperforate state, kindly sent by His Royal Highness for production at this meeting.

The Assistant Secretary stated that he was the bearer of a message expressing the great interest taken by His Royal Highness The Duke of York, in the work of the Society, and the pleasure which it afforded to His Royal Highness to be able to co-operate in the work by the loan of stamps from his collection.

On the motion of the Vice-President, seconded by Mr. Wright, it was resolved, "That the cordial thanks of the Society be accorded to the Hon. Vice-President, H.R.H. The Duke of York, for the great interest evinced by His Royal Highness in the Society's operations, and for so graciously placing at the disposal of the Society the magnificent collection of stamps, which the members have been privileged to inspect at this meeting."

MANCHESTER PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

President.—VERNON ROBERTS. | *Vice President.*—F. BARRATT.
Hon. Sec.—W. DORNING BECKTON. | *Assistant Hon. Sec.*—C. H. COOTE.
Hon. Treasurer.—G. B. DUERST.
Hon. Librarian.—J. H. ABBOTT.
E. P. COLLETT. | W. GRUNEWALD.
G. F. H. GIBSON. | W. W. MUNN.

THE sixth meeting of the session was held at the Blackfriars Hotel on Friday, the 8th of December, 1893, the Vice-President occupying the chair, supported by the Treasurer, Hon. Secretary, Messrs. Munn, Collett, Grunewald, Petrie, Beazley, Blocky, Pemberton, Batty, Fildes, Ranck, Gibson, and one visitor.

The minutes of the last meeting having been read and confirmed, the Hon. Secretary read the correspondence, including a letter from the Philatelic Society of South Australia.

A sub-committee was formed to report and carry out, if advisable, arrangements for the Annual Dinner of the Society before the close of the year.

Mr. Duerst then read a paper on the stamps of Prussia, informing the members that when the postal authorities determined to issue stamps, the King of Prussia drew a design for the stamps, which consisted principally of the Arms of Prussia. The authorities did not consider the design satisfactory, and prevailed upon the King to allow his portrait to appear upon the stamps. On the succession of King William I. the design was altered to the Eagle of Prussia, which remained on the design until the foundation of the German Empire. Mr. Duerst read the decree authorizing the use of the octagonal envelopes cut for adhesive purposes, but pointed out that the cut envelopes were not sold to the public, but had to be placed on the envelopes by the officials of the Post Office, by whom alone they were allowed to be used as adhesives, and principally for registered letters.

Mr. W. Dorning Beckton showed the 2 sgr., blue, 1861–64 issue, rouletted horizontally, and undoubtedly perforated vertically.

The Hon. Treasurer then referred to the paper read by him last session on the stamps of Heligoland, and an epitome of which had been included in the publication of the Society. Since reading the paper he had had the opportunity of examining entire sheets of all the values, including entire sheets of the originals, and three different printings of the reprints of the schilling issue. He pointed out that the latter fact was not generally known. The perforation of all the three reprints and the originals are identical. Of course, it is established that the 2s. and 6s. do not exist perforated as originals. The rouletting of the originals and the reprints is likewise no guide. The first reprinting was done at Berlin, where the stamps were printed, and it is difficult to distinguish these, the most dangerous reprints, from the originals; the paper is slightly thinner, and the tone of the colours slightly different. The second set of reprints were done at Lubeck, the paper in this instance being appreciably thinner, and the gum whiter. If these reprints are placed face downwards, all the lettering can be read from the back of the stamp. The third reprints were manufactured at Hamburgh on still thinner paper, very different indeed from the originals; the gum is thin and pure white, while the embossing is not nearly so good. These last reprints are the common ones, and not at all dangerous.

The meeting closed with the customary votes of thanks.

W. DORNING BECKTON.

DAISY BANK, SWINTON PARK.

BRIGHTON AND SUSSEX PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

Honorary President.—BARON DE WORMS.

Committee for the Year 1893:

President.—M. P. CASTLE. | *Vice-President.*—J. H. REDMAN.

Hon. Sec. and Treasurer.—A. DE WORMS.

W. T. WILLETT. | H. STAFFORD SMITH.

J. W. GILLESPIE. | R. J. WOODMAN.

THE fourth meeting of the season was held at Markwell's Hotel, Brighton, on Monday, December 4th, at 7.45 p.m. Present—Messrs. M. P. Castle, W. T. Willett, O. Pfenninger, J. W. Gillespie, H. Stafford Smith, P. de Worms, A. de Worms, W. H. G. Cruttwell, and one visitor, Mr. F. Williams. The President in the chair. After the minutes of the previous meeting had been read and confirmed, the Secretary intimated that the Rev. Rogers and Mr. Escolme both tendered their resignations as members of the Society, which were accepted with regret. Contributions towards the "Forgery" collection were received from several members, and were accepted with best thanks. The President presented to the Society's library a bound copy of the "Philatelic Chronicle and Advertiser," vol. i., from the proprietors, and the "Auction Epitome," vol. ii., from Mr. W. Brown, of Salisbury. A cordial vote of thanks was accorded to the donors, which the Secretary was requested to convey. The President also exhibited the second portion of his collection of Victoria, containing all issues from 1854 to 1862, and giving at the same time a graphic description of the numerous varieties of watermarks, perforations, etc. Among the most notable specimens were the specially-fine "Emblem" series, many being unused; also a copy of the "Registered," unused. A vote of thanks was passed to the President for his very interesting notes.

THE fifth meeting of the season was held at Markwell's Hotel, Brighton, on Monday, December 18th, at 7.45 p.m. Present—Messrs. W. T. Willett, O. Pfenninger, J. W. Gillespie, R. J. Thrupp, P. de Worms, and A. de Worms. In the absence of the President and Vice-President, Mr. Willett took the chair. The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, the Secretary read a letter from the Assistant-Secretary of the London Philatelic Society, conveying the best thanks of its members for the picture presented to them by this Society. Mr. E. Mainwaring, proposed by Mr. G. G. Hodgson, and seconded by the Hon. Secretary, was duly elected a member of the Society. Mr. Willett then presented a very fine album for the Society's collection of "Forgeries"; also an interesting proof of the notorious forgery of the Indian 1 rupee. A cordial vote of thanks was passed to Mr. Willett for his gift, proposed by the Secretary, and seconded by Mr. R. J. Thrupp. The Secretary showed his collection of Antigua, Montserrat, and British Honduras, and read some notes on the same, for which he was accorded a vote of thanks.

THE BRITISH GUIANA PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

A MEETING of the above Society was held on the 7th November, 1893, when the following members were present: Messrs. J. Rodway, President; T. A. S. Quail, Vice-President; J. Markland Lovell, Secretary; F. das Neves e Mello, Treasurer; E. McLeod, M. P. Jorge, and A. Pinaud, Councillors; John Dalzell, J. Weber, W. Kaufmann, E. N. Clarke, W. Armstrong, G. P. W. Greig, J. Rodrigues, J. A. Santos, D. Prince, and Clinton Greig.

The minutes of the meeting held on the 7th November were read and confirmed.

The proof sheet of the rules was read, and an addition made admitting members under the age of sixteen, providing their application is signed by a guarantor.

A report of the Council was submitted to the members, showing the revenue and expenditure of the Society up to date.

The President then announced the resignation of Mr. Norman A. Foster, Secretary,

and the appointment of Mr. J. Markland Lovell as Secretary, and Mr. W. C. De Silva as Librarian.

It was moved by Mr. T. A. S. Quail, and seconded by Mr. F. das Neves e Mello, that the Secretary be instructed to write Mr. Norman A. Forster thanking him for his services rendered during his short term of office, asking him to canvas for members in New York, and sending him some application forms and a few copies of the rules.

The President then gave a lengthy address on the working of the Post-office from the first settlers to the present time, which proved very instructive.

Mr. Quail then addressed the meeting on the stamps of British Guiana from the first to the present issue, showing the value of a complete collection of British Guiana stamps.

Several collections were exhibited, showing some rarities, among them being a Lady McLeod, on original cover—a fine specimen.

Mr. Lovell exhibited a set of Columbian envelopes, unused, and a complete series of the Columbian souvenir postal cards; also the two last issues of Barbados complete.

There being no other business on the agenda, the meeting terminated.

AT a subsequent meeting of the above Society, Mr. J. Rodway presiding, there were present: Messrs. T. A. S. Quail, Vice-President; F. N. Mellow, treasurer; W. H. C. De Silva, Librarian; A. Pinaud, B. V. Abraham, jun., J. M. Lovell, Secretary; and Councillors W. Abraham, U. R. White, G. Hughes, D. Prince, W. H. Hinds, W. P. Kaufmann, A. Rodway, J. Webber, and E. Savory.

After an interesting paper on the Postal Reform of England had been read by Mr. Quail, the Secretary also read a paper on the Reminiscences of Philately, which was loudly applauded, and

Mr. B. V. Abraham had great pleasure in thanking the gentlemen for their instructive and interesting papers. He also asked that the manuscripts be handed over to the Society for further reference. The gentlemen gave them over to the Society.

The most interesting business of the meeting was the sale of stamps conducted by the President for the benefit of the Society.

Several stamps were exhibited by the members.

The Market.

MR. D. A. VINDIN.

THE above name is well known on both sides of the Great Waters as a prominent dealer in Australian stamps, and we are glad to find that Mr. Vindin has now settled down in business in London. Like so many others, the Strand has seemed to him the Philatelic Highway, and accordingly he has taken an office close to Waterloo Bridge. The rooms, on the first floor, are not only luxuriously fitted up, but have excellent accommodation and light for the examination of stamps. We can only hope that Mr. Vindin may import large quantities of Australian stamps, and rapidly dispose thereof.

EXPENSIVE STAMPS.

WE are informed that a fine copy of the 81 p., Roumania, was recently sold to a customer of well-known name by Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Limited, for the sum of £66. In view of the £100 recently paid for the Cape error *se-tenant*, this amount is not so astonishing. Allowing for the value of the pair, the relative rarity of the two stamps is certainly not on a par, the European being far away the least frequently met with. The quondam head of the firm above named must however still remember with a sigh the days when he sold the "woodblock errors at 42/- per dozen"! It is a pity that the old stamps were not, like old wine, laid down and bricked up to ripen for posterity. They would have paid better!

AUCTIONS.

MESSRS. VENTOM, BULL, & COOPER.

THE following were the most noticeable lots at the sale of November 8th:

	£	s.	d.
Oldenburg, 2nd issue, ⅓ gr., black on green	3	5	0
Oldenburg, another, unused	2	12	6
Tuscany, 60 crazie, red (fair)	4	10	0
„ 3 lire, yellow (medium)	18	15	0
Ceylon, 8d., brown, impf. (very fine)	11	0	0
India, ½ anna, red	6	10	0
British Columbia, 2½d., pink, imperf., unused	17	10	0
New Brunswick, "Connell," unused	12	5	0
„ 1s., violet	7	5	0
Baton Rouge, 5 c., green on red, on original envelope	6	0	0

	£	s.	d.
Baton Rouge, another	6	0	0
Lenoir, 5 c., blue and orange	7	15	0
Mobile, 3 c., black, unused	4	10	0
British Guiana, 2 c., black on yellow, grape borders	5	15	0
British Guiana, 4 c., black on blue, heart border	5	7	6

And at the sale of November 28th :

	£	s.	d.
Great Britain, 1d., V.R.	9	9	0
New Brunswick, 1s., violet	7	0	0
„ "Connell," unused	11	5	0
Newfoundland, 1s., vermilion	9	10	0
„ 6d., vermilion (fine copy)	5	0	0
Nova Scotia, 1s., violet (fine copy)	9	9	0
Turks Islands, 1s., prune	4	10	0
Bolivar, small type, 10 c., green	4	0	0

At the sale of December 14th and 15th :

	£	s.	d.
Great Britain 4d., small garter, unused, fine	9	0	0
Austria, Mercury, yellow, unused	3	17	6
Spain, 1852, 2 reales	5	10	0
Geneva, 10 c.	15	0	0
Turks Islands, 1s., prune (a rising favourite—deservedly)	5	12	6

A good lot of Australians were also disposed of at somewhat uneven prices.

Messrs. Cheveley & Co.

The sale of November 22nd and 23rd by this firm was noticeable by the inclusion of the collections of the late General Mainwaring and Mr. Krichauff (South Australian Departmentals), and other well-known philatelists, and from Messrs. Cheveley's remarks, as under, some idea of its importance may be gathered : "Allowing for unsold lots, the amount actually realised was a trifle over £1700—the highest total of any stamp sale yet held in England. We need scarcely tell you that the £100 which we obtained for the pair of blue woodblocks containing the error was also the highest sum yet realised on a single lot, the previous 'record' being our £64 for the strip of three 2d. Queenslands in Hammersley's collection. It may be well to point out, in explanation of the low price of £26 for the single *red* woodblock error, lot 296, that we discovered, and announced at the sale, what had escaped our notice when lotting them up by gaslight, namely, that this stamp was cracked in the centre and mended. We 'broke the record' in several instances, notably with a 3 centavos (Eagle) Mexico at £5, and a Nevis CA, 6d., green, at £3 12s. 6d., and £8 5s. for a 6d. beaded oval Victoria."

	£	s.	d.
Labuan, "6," in red, on 16 c., blue	12	10	0
Ceylon, 2s., blue, imperf	4	10	0
„ CC, 2 rps. 50 c., unused	3	3	0
Cape, woodblock, error, 4d., red	26	0	0
Mauritius, 1848, 1d., red	3	10	0
Mauritius, 2d., blue, 2 at	6	6	0
„ „ „ fillet	13	10	0
Natal, 1s., green, "Postage," capital "P" and small letters, unused	11	10	0
Cape, woodblocks, error, pair of 1d. and 4d., blue	100	0	0
Vancouver, 1856, large oblong	7	10	0
New Brunswick, 1s., violet	7	15	0
Vancouver, 5 c., rose, imperf.	8	10	0
Newfoundland, 1s., vermilion, on laid paper, unused	11	0	0
United States, 1869.	3	0	0
Nova Scotia, 1s., violet	8	0	0
Mexico (Eagle), 3 c., brown, unused	5	0	0
Nova Scotia, 1s., plum	8	0	0
New Zealand, 2d., pelure, imperf., unused	4	4	0
New Zealand, 1s., no wmk., pin perf.	4	4	0

The South Australian Departmentals certainly achieved a record, the highest price attained, being for 3d., blue and black, N. T., £6 6s., while the lots realising £3, £4, and £5 were very numerous. *Tempora mutantur!*

At the sale of December 12th :

	£	s.	d.
Zurich, 4 rappen (poor)	5	10	0
Levant, 10 p., blue and brown, a pair, used (on piece of letter)	7	0	0
New South Wales, 1d., Plate I., a pair (very fine)	5	10	0
South Australia, 3d., red on blue, unused (and very cheap)	4	0	0

On January 17th and 18th, appropriately called the "Jubilee Sale," an especially fine lot of stamps were submitted, and as will be seen from the few only of the desirable among rare specimens that our space allows for quotation, there were "gems" in each quarter of the globe. Messrs. Cheveley's reputation will be enhanced by this successful auction, and we wish them, on behalf of our readers, an even better result when their centenary sale takes place.

	£	s.	d.
Great Britain, 8d., brown, strip of three, with gum intact, unused	16	0	0
Ditto, 2s., salmon, a block of six, unused	18	0	0
Tuscany, 3 lire, yellow, "a matchless specimen"	25	10	0
Ditto, 60 crazie, very fine specimen	6	0	0
„ 9 crazie on white, unused	5	0	0
„ 2 soldi, "a brilliant unused specimen"	14	0	0
Vaud, 4 c., fine	13	0	0
Zurich, 4 rap., very fine	8	5	0
British Guiana, circular issue, 4 c., lemon-yellow, corner mended, but fine	25	0	0
Ditto, same issue, 8 c., green, cut round, on original envelope	13	0	0
Canada, 12d., black, very slightly mended	23	0	0
Antioquia, 1st issue, 2½ c., blue; fine	12	0	0
Ditto, 5 c., green, unused, fine	11	0	0
„ same issue, 10 c., lilac, "somewhat faded"	13	10	0
„ 1 peso, rose-red, fine	5	10	0

	£	s.	d.
Nevis, 6d., lithographed, unused	5	2	6
„ ditto	4	12	6
„ used	3	12	6
„ 1s., pale green, entire unused sheet	9	15	0
„ a similar sheet, in full green	11	0	0
„ CA, 6d., green, fine, used	3	3	0
Peru, medio peso, rose, very fine	11	10	0
„ ditto	11	15	0
United States 1869, 15 c., brown and blue, inverted centre; fine	17	0	0
Ditto, 24 c., green and lilac, with inverted centre, very fine	18	10	0
St. Louis, 5 c., black, very slightly mended	6	6	0
Ditto, 10 c., black, very fine, on original letter	8	15	0
Cape, woodblock, 4d., deep blue, a superb unused specimen, with large margins	10	0	0
Mauritius, 1848, 1d., red on bluish, very early, showing all lines, fine	6	6	0
Ditto, 2d., no margins, but superb colour, and earlier state of the plate	5	0	0
„ 1d., red on white, "superb specimen"	4	15	0
„ 1848, 2d., blue, early state of plate, showing traces of vertical lines, a fine specimen of the "Penoe" error; very large margins	10	0	0
„ a very fine dark shade	5	5	0
Cape, woodblock, errors, 1d., blue, slightly mended	26	0	0
Ditto, 4d., red, "very slightly damaged"	18	10	0
Natal 1s., green, with curved surcharge in black	5	10	0
Nevis, No. 2, fine, deep yellow-green shade, unused and gum	3	3	0
Ditto, lithographed, perf. 15, 1d., red, entire unused sheet, with original gum	2	18	0
„ a similar sheet; darker shade	3	7	0
Newfoundland, 1s., orange-vermilion, "very fine, fair margins"	7	10	0
Ditto, vermilion, cut close right, otherwise fine	7	5	0
Beunos Ayres, 5 pesos, orange, "grand colour"	11	10	0
New Brunswick, the "Connell," original, perforated, unused	20	10	0
Buenos Ayres, steamship, 3 pesos, green, fine	3	12	6
Ditto, 4 pesos, scarlet, fine	9	0	0
British Columbia, 2½d., pink, imperforate, fine, unused	15	10	0
British Guiana, 1862, 4 c., blue, on original envelope, fine	8	10	0
Ditto, same issue, 2 c., yellow, with pearl border, cut a little close, but fine	3	5	0
„ another, with grape border, slight tear at one corner, but a good specimen	3	3	0
„ same issue, 1 c., with grape border, medium	5	5	0
South Australia, the extremely rare 2d. (first type), perforated, unused (a curious price for a unique stamp)	4	4	0
Victoria, 6d., orange, serrated at top and sides, serpentine at bottom	8	0	0
New South Wales, 3d., Sydneys, fine strip of three	4	7	6
Ditto, emerald-green, pair	4	7	0
„ 2d., Plate I., very fine	3	3	0
South Australia, 10d., yellow, surcharge inverted	6	10	0
New Zealand, a complete set of the "Duty Stamps," 45, "Specimen"	25	0	0
West Australia, CC, 2d., mauve, error, unused	10	0	0

MR. HADLOW.

AT the sale of December 8th:

South Australia 1d., green, pair, imperf.	2	12	6
New Zealand 2d., lozenge watermark, perforated twice (cheap)	2	10	0
Western Australia 6d., bronze, rouletted (medium)	3	7	6
New South Wales, Sydney 2d., Plate V., unused	4	12	6
New South Wales, Sydney, pair 1d., used	3	0	0
South Australia, P.S., 10d., yellow	5	10	0

To Correspondents.

COMMUNICATIONS.—*All communications on Philatelic matters or Advertisements should be addressed to the Editor of* THE LONDON PHILATELIST, Kingston Lodge, Richmond Place, Brighton. *No anonymous contributions can be noticed.*

SUBSCRIPTIONS.—THE LONDON PHILATELIST *will be sent, post free in Great Britain or the countries of the Postal Union, to any subscriber, on receipt of* 6s. *Subscribers' remittances should be sent to* The Publishers, EFFINGHAM HOUSE, ARUNDEL STREET, STRAND, LONDON, W.C., *of whom also bound copies of Vol. I. can be procured. Half morrocco, gilt edges,* £1 1s., *postage* 9d. *Abroad extra.*

"X."—Many thanks for note as to the omission, which we have rectified as far as possible.

W. D. B.—We hope that the answer to your complaint will be found in the present number.

POST CARD.—See editorial communications.

MR. W. H. BROUSE.—Your valued contribution will appear in our next number, with illustrations of the stamps referred to, if we can procure same.

THE

London Philatelist:

THE MONTHLY JOURNAL OF

THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY, LONDON.

VOL. III. FEBRUARY, 1894. No. 26.

The 25th Anniversary of the Philatelic Society, London.

WITHIN a very few weeks from the appearance of these lines the London Philatelic Society will have achieved the first quarter century of its existence, April 8th, 1869, being the date of its formation. There can be no fitter occasion for a philatelic rejoicing or festival than the commemoration of the oldest Society in the stamp world of Great Britain, and we trust that—subject to the omission of the word jubilee, and its philatelic concomitants—every means will be adopted to duly celebrate the event. We understand that the matter has already been brought before the Council, and we are confident that a well-devised scheme will meet with wide support not only from members, but from all who have an interest in the pursuit. One of the features of the celebration should certainly be an Exhibition, which should be inclusive of the finest quality that the Society can shew, and it is therefore obvious that no time is to be lost, and that the arrangements should be promptly entrusted to an able and energetic committee. In these days a certain degree of publicity is necessary to the successful issue of all undertakings, and with such a thoroughly legitimate opportunity there is every incentive for the London Philatelic Society to "fall in with the prevailing spirit," with the probable result of an increased sphere of usefulness and influence to start it on the second quarter of a century of its existence.

The Pence Issue of Canada.

By W. H. BROUSE.

A Paper read before the Philatelic Society, London, on February 23rd, 1894.

I HAVE carefully read such philatelic articles or publications relating to British North American stamps as have come under my notice, but have as yet not come across anything relating to the difference in Canadians that is to be found in the 7½d. Canadian currency (6d. sterling), green, and the 10d., blue, and so concluded that it may have passed my observation, or, if not, has not as yet been "written up." Will you therefore pardon a short note on the subject?

Of the 10d., blue, there are three distinct varieties in design, viz.,

First (*a*) the long and narrow;
Second (*b*) the long and broad; and
Third (*c*) the short and broad.

The outside edges or ornaments are in all three cases the same, but the difference lies in the fact of the oval or frame around the head having been, as the case may be, elongated or contracted, or sometimes widened out.

The extreme variation in length is about one-sixteenth of an inch, and in width about one-thirty-second of an inch, which is considerable in a postage stamp. I doubt very much if this happened through intention, but rather think that it is the result of what might be termed 'engravers' license.' However, whatever it may be, the result is that there are three distinct varieties.



a *b* *c*

It will, I think, be found that the earlier one of these is the long and narrow, on thinnish paper; then the long and broad (which is the most common), on thicker paper; and lastly, the short and broad, on medium paper. The latter is the scarcer, and consequently the more valuable.

I have for a long time known of the above differences, and at first thought it only an optical delusion, owing to some of the copies having had their sides closely trimmed, but on closer observation the distinct differences, as I have mentioned, were manifest. What is said of the 10d. may also be said of the 7½d. (but to a lesser degree of variation), only the latter are generally

found in the long and broad frame or oval. A slight difference also occurs in the 6d., violet; no variation appears in the length of the stamp, though I have two specimens in which the oval or frame shews a contraction in width to the extent of about one-forty-eighth of an inch, and is quite noticeable.

This may be "piper's news" to some of the members of the Philatelic Society, London, but to others it may be of interest, and for that reason I beg your indulgence.

Mr. Castle, in reading the foregoing paper at the meeting of the London Philatelic Society, shewed specimens of the stamps described by Mr. Brouse, and added a few remarks as under.

"I venture to think that the modest disclaimer on the part of Mr. Brouse, in his closing sentence, is hardly borne out in view of the interesting communication he has made. To me the information was certainly novel, and I could hardly credit that there should exist such differences in size until I had verified the fact by examination of specimens. Owing to the kindness of Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Limited, and Mr. W. H. Peckitt, I was enabled to inspect a number of these pence issues, and I have tabulated the measurements as nearly as I can:

HALFPENNY.

	Size.	Paper.
(*a*)	22 × 18½ mm.	Medium thick.
(*b*)	22½ × 18 „	„

THREEPENCE.

(*a*)	22 (full) × 18 mm.	Very thin wove.
(*a*)	22 × 18 mm.	„ laid.
(*b*)	22½ × 17½ „	Thin.
(*c*)	22¾ × 17½ „	Thick.

SIXPENCE.

(*a*)	22 × 18 mm.	Thin wove.
(*a*)	22 × 18 „	„ laid.
(*b*)	22¾ × 17¾ „	Thick.

SEVENPENCE-HALFPENNY.

	Size.	Paper.
(*a*)	22¼ × 18½ mm. (bare)	Medium thick.
(*a*)	22½ × 18½ „	„
(*a*)	22¾ × 18 „	„
(*a*)	22¾ × 18½ „	„

TENPENCE.

(*a*)	22¾ × 17½ mm.	Thin to very thin.
(*b*)	22½ × 18 „ (full)	Thick.
(*b*)	22¾ × 18½ „ (bare)	„
(*c*)	22 × 18 „	Thin.

"The varieties of the Tenpence are those described by Mr. Brouse as (*a*) long and narrow, (*b*) long and broad, and (*c*) short and broad. I may add that in the case of this value I have examined and measured some forty



a



b



a



b



c

copies, including a strip of three, as also a proof on very thin India paper, which corresponds exactly in measurement with variety (*b*) on the thick paper ($22\frac{3}{4} \times 18\frac{1}{2}$ mm.). It is obvious that to be absolutely accurate beyond a half mm. with an ordinary gauge is hardly possible, but in several of the given cases I have averaged the sizes of several that very closely approximated.

"As will be seen, I have gone somewhat beyond the lines of Mr. Brouse's paper in including the ½d., 3d., and 6d., the variation in the former being slight, but in the two latter noteworthy. The question how these varieties have arisen is an interesting one, nor can I see that they can be accounted for by shrinkage of the paper, as in the case of the 10d. proof above cited, which is on all fours with the ordinary stamp on thick paper. In the case of the strip of this value I found all three stamps measured the same, and the fact remains that variety (*c*) is short *and* broad. In any case the existence of these varieties is palpable, the question of their origin a genuine philatelic problem, and I think that the thanks of us all are therefore due to Mr. Brouse for his interesting paper."

Stray Notes on the Postal Adhesives of Great Britain.

By HASTINGS E. WRIGHT.

A Paper read before the Philatelic Society, London, on January 12th, 1894.

(*Continued from page 9.*)

THE 1½*d. value.*—There are few varieties of this value and none of great interest, though the first design struck in dull rose is a curious example of a stamp, prepared and approved upwards of ten years prior to its actual issue to the public. When so issued the colour of the impression was changed to lake-red, the first stock having been destroyed.

The 2d. value.—The line-engraved series of this value rank in degree of interest with the one penny, though their greater rarity renders an exhaustive study somewhat more difficult. Some combinations of water-mark and perforation are of extreme rarity unused, and the specialist need not be in the least degree apprehensive lest he should complete this series with undue ease. Before he achieves this his patience will have been put to a severe test, and his pocket will probably have suffered heavily. For the first issue of this value—the variety without white lines—two plates were constructed, impressions from which were intended to be identical. Specimens differ, however, and it has been sought to show that certain characteristics are peculiar to impressions from Plate 1. I am however by no means sure that these may be absolutely relied upon as a guide in determining the plate number. Impressions from Plates 3 and 4 formed the next issue of this value, and these were also supposed to be identical,

but differences may be detected in the lettering, though here again it is doubtful to what extent these variations may be depended upon as a means of distinguishing impressions from either plate. All the succeeding values were surface printed.

The 2½d. value.—No less than twenty-three plates were constructed for this value, which is remarkable for affording the only instance of an unbroken series of plates being put to press and impressions from all duly issued. Impressions from Plate 1 were struck at first on fiscal paper, watermarked with small anchor, and paper so watermarked continued to be used for this value until and after Plate 3 was put to press, when a specially prepared paper was used, watermarked "orb." The fiscal paper contained ingredients which imparted to it a blue tinge, consequently impressions from Plate 1 are found on blued paper. It has hitherto been thought that the whole of the paper watermarked anchor used for this series was of this description, but I am inclined to the opinion that the special postage paper afterwards prepared for this issue was at first watermarked anchor, because it is otherwise difficult to account for the fact that specimens of Plates 1, 2, and 3 are not only found on white paper, but in the case of the two latter are never found on blued paper. Plates 4 and 5 were constructed and approved prior to the change of watermark from anchor to orb, and consequently the official impressions are on anchor paper. Though no perforated specimens are known they presumably exist, and should therefore be found, Plate 4 at least, and possibly Plate 5, having been put to press before the orb paper was supplied. As the printing of this value was very rapid, even the production of a single week would have been considerable. It is therefore the more remarkable that no copies have yet been discovered.

The 3d. value.—The first impressions were struck from Plate 2, but after a stock had been prepared and specimens sent to the various postmasters, it was decided to alter the design by removing the pattern from the spandrels. The plate so altered was re-registered, but continued to bear the original number 2, and impressions were issued to the public. Plate 3 bearing a small white dot on either side was approved, and a few spare sheets struck for the purpose of registration appear to have been perforated and issued, but the plate was never really put to press. Only one perforated specimen is known. There is little of special interest attaching to the remaining plate numbers of this series, except with regard to Plate 18, impressions from which were first in rose, but this was afterwards altered to lilac, and Plate 21 of the 6d. value was issued in this colour at the same time, both stamps being surcharged with a large numeral of value in red. It has been thought by many that this surcharge was in consequence of an error on the part of the contractors in printing two different values in the same colour, and that to avoid confusion both were surcharged or overprinted as stated. It has even been said that the contractors duly delivered the stamps before they were over-printed, that they were refused, and ordered to be destroyed owing to the error of colour, but were ultimately accepted by the Inland Revenue Authorities on the contractors undertaking to overprint the stock at their own expense. This explanation is not the

true one, the real facts being that these stamps were part of a scheme under which all the current values up to and including that of one shilling were to be of a uniform colour—lilac—each being surcharged with a large numeral of value. The 3d. and 6d. values were approved and issued, but before the remaining values came into use a series of new designs was decided upon. Three varieties of surcharge on the 6d. are known, namely, the normal with two stops under the d, and with only one dot, and again with no stops. To these might be added a fourth variety, in which the space between the stops and the bottom of the "d" differ to the extent of 1 mm.

The 4d. value.—This series commenced on thick glazed safety paper, more or less blue according to the proportion and distribution of the chemicals it contained, hence it was sometimes of a uniform and deep blue, and at other times nearly or quite white. The first watermark employed was "small garter," soon afterwards superseded by the "medium garter." This continued in use but a short time, the design of "large garter" being finally adopted and adhered to throughout the remainder of this series. Though this watermark is larger than the medium garter, the difference is not readily perceptible, and collectors frequently mistake one for the other. In the medium garter the band forming the design is considerably wider than in the case of the large garter. By noting this rather than the size of the watermark, the two designs may always be easily distinguished. The watermark of medium garter is found both on the blued safety paper and on the ordinary thin white paper afterwards adopted, but no safety paper was watermarked with large garter, this design not being in existence until after the use of safety paper had been abandoned. Hence we may infer that specimens of this value on so-called blued paper watermarked with large garter, are not a genuine variety, the blue tinge probably resulting from absorption of colour from the wrapper to which the stamp had been affixed, or, as illustrated by a recent instance, due to a deliberate attempt to deceive collectors. With regard to Plates 3 and 4 the latter is distinguished by diagonal lines across the outer corner of each letter block, and by two fine vertical lines to the right and left of each of the lower corners. Specimens showing the diagonal lines, but only one vertical line on each side are to be met with, and these have been designated errors, the assumption being that Plate 3 had been altered to Plate 4. This is not so, only one plate of each having been constructed, and the apparent error is due solely to bad printing—both vertical lines are in the plate, but owing to their minuteness did not always appear in the impression.

The 6d. value.—The first impressions were struck on safety paper similar to that on which the 4d. small garter appears, but it is extremely doubtful whether any copies were officially issued. Used specimens on paper of the ordinary texture, but slightly blued, are frequently met with and usually prized as a rare variety, but I am inclined to the opinion that these should be placed in the same category as the 4d. large garter on blued paper.

When Plate 13 was approved the registration sheets were struck in buff, the colour of the stamps of this value then current, and a few spare sheets were perforated and issued, though only one specimen (used) has yet been

found. When this plate was put to press the colour of the impression was changed to green-grey.

The 8d. value.—Only one variety of this value was issued. The first stock printed for issue was in pale brown-red, and a supply in this colour was sent to the General Post-office for issue, but the day before this was to have taken place attention was called to the similarity of colour to that of the then current value of 2½d. Fearing confusion might arise therefrom the stamps were recalled, and the entire stock destroyed, except a few sheets. A fresh supply was prepared, the colour being yellowish-orange, and these were issued in due course. A second plate was constructed but not required, though a few spare sheets struck from it appear to have been issued with the ordinary stock.

The 9d. value.—Impressions from Plate 2 exist in two distinct shades, which I have designated first and second printings. Plate 3 bore the distinguishing mark of diagonal hair lines across the four corners, and these lines are peculiar for their width and distinctness, the hair lines in the 4d. 6d. and 1s. values being extremely fine and often barely discernible. Impressions for registration were struck from Plate 5 on paper watermarked "Emblems," and 5 sheets were perforated and issued with the ordinary supply of this value. The specimen in my collection is at present the only one known.

The 10d. value.—There is little of special interest attaching to this series beyond the discovery of two used copies struck from Plate 2, which was not put to press, though a few spare sheets were perforated and issued with the ordinary supply from Plate 1.

The 1s. value.—The first impressions were struck on glazed safety paper similar to that employed for the first issue of 4d. value, and a few sheets may possibly have been issued, but the general issue was on paper of the ordinary description watermarked "Emblems." Impressions from the first plate constructed for this value do not bear the plate number, but in all subsequent plates this was inserted in small blocks on either side of the head. By some inadvertence the second plate was numbered 1, and the third bore the numeral 2, in addition to which hair lines were inserted in the four corners, this being the only instance of these distinguishing marks appearing on a stamp also bearing the number of the plate. When the fourth plate was constructed the error in the numbering was corrected, consequently no specimens exist bearing the numeral 3. It is doubtful whether any copies from Plate 2 (really Plate 3) were issued to the public.

A curious variety exists in connection with impressions from Plate 4. The letter K in the lower left-hand corner of certain specimens may be found surrounded with a small white circle, the cause or purport of which is not readily apparent. No trace of this circle can be discerned on the imprimatur sheet, hence we are led to infer that it was occasioned by damage or alteration to the plate while it was at press.

The 2s. value.—Three plates were constructed for this issue, only the first being put to press, impressions from which exist in three distinct shades,

which I have distinguished as first, second, and third printings. Plate 2 was spoilt, and only registration sheets were struck from Plate 3, though some of these were undoubtedly issued in a perforate state, a used copy having been recently discovered. The last impressions from Plate 1 were struck in light brown-red.

The 2s. 6d. value.—The first issue of this value was on fiscal paper, watermarked large Anchor. Consequently the early specimens are found more or less blued.

The 5s. value.—Plates 1 and 2 were put to press with paper watermarked Cross, plate 3 was spoilt, and plate 4, though registered in 1874 on paper watermarked Cross, was not actually put to press until 1882. It is therefore probable that specimens from this plate may be found watermarked "Cross." When put to press in 1882 the issue was on fiscal paper watermarked Anchor, and specimens are generally deeply blued, though they may be also met with on paper absolutely white. The first impressions of the current design were also on fiscal paper.

The 10s. and £1 values.—Only one Plate was constructed for each of these values, the first issue being on paper watermarked "cross," and afterwards on fiscal paper watermarked "anchor." The latter are always more or less blued, though in some specimens it is hardly perceptible. The design for the £1 value now current was at first adopted for the Telegraph stamp of this value, and the Plate was numbered 1. Plate 2 was constructed bearing "Postage" in place of "Telegraphs," the impression being on paper watermarked "crown." Four years after the date of first issue a supply was accidentally printed on paper watermarked "orb," the error not being detected until a portion of the stock had been issued.

The £5 value.—Only one plate has been constructed for this value, which was at first employed for telegraphs. On the suppression of the telegraph stamps the word "Telegraphs" was cut out of the plate, consequently the word "Postage" and the design on each side has now to be inserted by a second printing. Owing to this the position will often be found to vary slightly, and the colour to differ in shade from the stamp itself. The first issue of this value for postal purposes was on fiscal paper watermarked Anchor, and more or less of a blue tint.

It is hardly necessary for me to add, in conclusion, that in the preceding remarks I have touched but superficially a wide and, in many respects, difficult subject, to do full justice to which demands the most careful and elaborate treatment. This it has received in the splendid work compiled for this Society by Messrs. Philbrick and Westoby, a work which the student and specialist will find of the utmost value and assistance while pursuing his course amid the intricacies of this interesting branch of philatelic study.

Half Hours with the Australian Stamps.

By M. P. CASTLE

(*Vice-President, the Philatelic Society, London*).

THE FIRST TWO PENCE OF VICTORIA.

THE few notes that I have made on the above subject hardly deserve the designation of Half Hour, but perhaps looking to the difficulty of the subject and the scant information I can add, more appropriately merit the appellation of a *mauvais quart d'heure*. I have had the pleasure of reading them quite recently to a meeting of the London Society, when to a certain extent the forenamed deficiency was minimised by the fact that I was enabled to show in re-arranged form the various specimens in my collection of Issues I. and II. of that country.

By a reference to the *London Philatelist* for April of last year, pp. 77–80, and May, pp. 100–105, it will be seen that I then endeavoured (the article was written in October, 1892, prior to my departure abroad) to arrive at some general scheme for the classification of the various marked shades, minor varieties of impression, and different dies that are to be found in this series. I may be further permitted perhaps to very briefly recapitulate the distinctive features as regards the earliest issued of these stamps, in order that the relative importance of the additional dated specimens recently noted may be put in evidence. Thanks to the information acquired by Mr. David H. Hill, the President of the Victorian Philatelic Society, we learnt that this issue was engraved on steel dies prepared by Mr. Thomas Ham, of Melbourne, and subsequently lithographed by him and by Messrs. Campbell and Fergusson, of the same city, under several contracts or printings. Taking into consideration such facts as to dates that we knew, the various postmarks and the relative spacing of the stamps, I formed my hypothesis as to the order of issue to a considerable extent on the absence or presence of a thin rectangular outer line or frame encircling the stamp. For the purposes of these notes it will be only necessary to refer to the 2d. value, and it may be remembered that a substantial portion of my previous paper was occupied in the endeavour to forecast the order of issue of the three varieties of the die. To very briefly summarise the arguments I adopted, I may say that I held beyond doubt the "fine border and background," for the reasons then stated, to be the first issued of that value. I assigned as its immediate successor the coarse background and fine border *without outer line of colour*, spaced at ¾ to 1 mm. apart, and of a grey to lilac-grey tint. I may here remind my "audience" that the absence of these border lines, in my humble judgment, constituted one of their strongest claims to be the first issue. A specimen of this latter had been seen dated February 11th, 1850, thus

allowing but a short life, as might be anticipated from its rarity, to the fine border and background 2d. On the forenamed grounds I assigned as the immediate successor to the latter, the specimens just described, still without outer line, but with the coarse background, and I hypothesised to the effect that the engraver or Government, being anxious as to the wear of such a delicate engraving, had at a very early period decided to strengthen the die by recutting the background. I may here say that I was privileged recently to inspect in the Tapling Collection a specimen of the first twopenny printed on thickish card in black, and being evidently a proof impression. Fully alive as I am to the great excellence of the work of Messrs. Perkins, Bacon & Co. and other noted engravers, I can only say that I have never seen any work that in my opinion could surpass this specimen for beauty, delicacy, and clearness of impression.

Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Limited, have recently shown me five specimens of the first 2d. with fine borders and background, all cancelled with the butterfly obliteration, and postmarked as follows on the entire letter sheets—

(*Illustration, a.*)	January 31, 1850,	V7	and butterfly,	lilac.
	February 2	„	V23	„	„ grey.
	„ 10	„	V4	„	„ lilac-grey.
	„ 13	„	V	„	„ „
	March 25	„	V	„	„ grey.

These specimens, three of which I am now enabled to submit in my own collection, formed to my mind a conclusive proof of the correctness of the surmise generally entertained of later years, and propounded by myself in the preceding paper, that these stamps were the *first* issue of this value ; but at the same time I felt a vague uneasiness in the reflection that the later of these dates considerably overlapped that of the specimen with the altered background previously mentioned.

Within a few days of my inspection of these stamps I received Mr. Vindin's *Philatelic Monthly Journal* of September 23rd, and I found the following piece of information. At the monthly meeting of the Philatelic Society of Victoria, held on September 5th (Mr. David H. Hill in the chair, and fifteen members present), "Mr. Rundell exhibited one of the old 'Butterfly' obliterating stamps [*sic*], and a 2d. half-length with coarse background and fine borders, postmarked January 27th, 1850, being the earliest dated stamp of this description known." It is evident that in such company there could be no doubt as to the authenticity of the stamp or correctness of the date, and we are therefore face to face with the fact that this variety of the die has been seen dated four days earlier than the earliest of my recently acquired specimens of the fine background, which I fondly thought had achieved a record as to dating back. Not only this, but it bears a cancellation almost two *months* precedent to the latest of the fine background. (March 25.) It is quite possible now that earlier dates for both values may be found, in which case we shall have to recognise the fact that both types were used simultaneously instead of immediately after each other. I have, of course, yet to learn whether the specimen shown at the Melbourne meeting was of the same sub-variety as that I had ventured to assign as the second issued, *i.e.*, without border, spaced ¾ to 1 mm. apart, and grey or grey-lilac. (*Illust., b.*) If

it should be the next variety according to my theory *with* outer line frame, closer printed and of a generally more brownish-grey tint, it is apparent that a hole will have been made in my attempted classification. In such case I must appeal to the mercy of the Court, and plead that I did my best under trying circumstances! If, on the contrary, and as I anticipate, the new-found specimen is variety 2 (without frame), it will be conclusive evidence of the *issue* of both varieties 1 and 2, at the same date. I have emphasised the word "issued," as it does not appear so likely that they were *printed* simultaneously. The original die, as we know from recent reprinted specimens, still exists in its third state of alteration, and the questions thus remaining for solution are—

When were the two lithographic transfers of varieties 1 and 2 effected?

What number of copies of variety 1 were so lithographed before the alteration to the matrix?

For what reason was this alteration (not improvement) effected?

It seems now probable that the alteration of the die—I may add parenthetically that I have utterly failed to find any difference in the engraving of the two varieties except as to the background—was effected at some time previous to their date of issue, January 5th, 1850, and that hence, as I partly previously "guessed," the fine background was already obsolete on its day of birth.



a



b

Practically the same state of affairs obtained as regards the first 2d. Sydney view with the vertical background, and it is a curious and perhaps suggestive coincidence that each of these 2d. stamps had the shortest lives, and were the most delicately engraved of any of their respective series. "Whom the gods love die early," and it may well be that their producers were frightened that their delicate offspring were ill-calculated to bear the burden of a postal life, and despatched them in order that a hardier and stronger successor might take their respective places.

I do not pretend to have added much to our previous knowledge, but I am in hopes that the ventilation of the subject may be the means of elucidating still further the question, through the exertions of the President and members of the Victorian Society. I need else hardly apologise for bringing these notes before the London Society, as the first 2d. stamp of Victoria has always been one of the most mysterious of philatelic existences, while the unique appearance and quaintly interesting portrait of Her Majesty on these stamps, that are rapidly approaching their jubilee, must always tend to invest any paper relating to them with the interest of any intelligent or scientific section of the philatelic world.

Philatelic Notes.

NOTE.—*Under this title will be found all notes relating to postal issues other than those that are chronicled as current novelties, or which form the subject of special articles. The co-operation of Philatelists is invited in order to make this column of a varied and interesting nature.*

A GOOD EXAMPLE!

COOK ISLANDS.—Messrs. Whitfield, King & Co. write: "We have received an official intimation that the whole stock of the stamps of the first issue which remained on hand when the current series were issued were destroyed on November 28th last, in the presence of the British Resident, the Public Auditor, the Chief Postmaster, and others. You may rely on this being correct." A splendid example for other peccant colonies—English and French!

DISCOVERIES.

BADEN.—A very interesting stamp has been recently exhibited, discussed, and duly accepted at a meeting of the Berlin Philatelic Club. It is a 9 kr. of the first issue of Baden—1851 figure in centre—printed in *green* instead of the normal rose colour, and presumably an error in impression for the 6 kr., green. This is a veritable "bolt out of the blue," and it seems marvellous that such a variety should have escaped notice for forty-three years. It, however, had a critical ordeal to pass through at the hands of the Berlin Philatelists, whose judgment is to be relied on, so collectors of old Germans have now another *rara avis* to secure!

GREECE.—Lieut. Napier sends the following information as to the Greek stamps: "In March, 1890 (Moens), the 1 l. and 2 l. of the old type were brought out again and officially perforated 11½ (Moens' last edition, Nos. 233, 234). For some reason these were never chronicled by the *Philatelic Record*, the only paper I have files of. In addition to these two we may now add the old type 5 lepta, on white paper, without figures on back, similarly perforated 11½. I have a used copy on original, but the date is blank. It is undoubtedly the official perforation, and most likely was done when they did the other two."

GREAT BRITAIN.—Mr. Stafford Smith has apparently discovered, according to the *Philatelic Record*, a copy of the 2 shillings, blue (1867), plate 2; but we think the "discovery" will require considerable confirmation, as we remember that the specimen in question was heavily obliterated in the crucial portion of the stamp. Nor is the variety a likely one to exist, for well-known reasons. We hope that some of our enthusiastic Great Britain collectors will be enabled shortly to fully report upon this apparently illegitimate offspring.

Mr. Walter Morley writes that the following is a variety of some interest that he believes has not been hitherto chronicled: "Small size envelope with silk thread, Dec., '80; white seal to flap, with doubly-embossed head."

LIBERIA.—Mr. M. Giwelb has shewn us a specimen of the 3 c. of 1881 (with landscape) printed, in a rather blurred manner, in *rose-red* instead of in the normal black. Paper and perforation are exactly alike in both cases. Whether it is an essay or proof or an error is the debatable question.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA.—Mr. Giwelb has discovered a fresh variety—the 3d. black surcharge on blue (1870) with a double impression of the overprint, one above and one below. The type must have been evidently too widely spaced. Perhaps the row above these failed to catch the surcharge at all, thus constituting the scarce variety that has been so long known. We have examined the specimen in question, and there can be no doubt as to its authenticity. The owner of a 4d., blue, S. Australia would be, moreover, hardly likely to inflict a surcharge or two thereon to make it *more* valuable!

TASMANIA.—We are also indebted to Mr. Giwelb for the sight of a very curious stamp or portion thereof. This is the fiscal issue, with the St. George and Dragon—the reprint of the 1d. in a dull lake colour in a vertical "pair," the top stamp being perfect, and the underneath one with the design extending only to the line of perforation, *i.e.* about one-fifth of the stamp being shewn, with nearly the whole of the word Tasmania. Below this there is the white margin of the sheet, and the appearance of the bisected stamp is bizarre in the extreme. We presume the plate was partly cleaned off for reprinting. Mr. F. Basset Hull can perhaps enlighten us hereon.

Occasional Notes.

SYLLABUS OF MEETINGS OF THE LONDON PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

FRIDAY, February 23, Mr. Castle will read a short paper, by Mr. W. H. Brouse, on the "First Issue of Canada."

March 2, Subject of study, "Straits Settlements."

March 9, Mr. Ehrenbach will read a paper on "The Advantages of collecting stamps in Pairs and Blocks."

March 16, Subject of Study "Labuan."

OUR NEW DEPARTURE.

WITHOUT the faintest wish to indulge in that process of self-laudation that consists in inflating a certain wind instrument, we are constrained to acknowledge the very many favourable criticisms that have been received as to various recent changes in this journal, notably with regard to the elimination of New Issues as the prominent feature of the monthly contents. Among a very large number of communications there is not a dissentient voice. One of the best-known philatelists of Europe, after sending con-

gratulations, adds, "I am very glad to see the New Issues take second place. I would rather see them omitted always—a list being published in December."

With all deference to our friend, we think that "there is safety in the middle course," as adopted by us, of winnowing out the chaff from the wheat. Of the former commodity there is no lack, and our sieve has required a vigorous shaking at the commencement of the new *régime*. The great fancy labels of Obock, briefly alluded to elsewhere, are only fit for wall paper, while the new triangular stamps of Liberia bear truthfully their own character in the inscription on the central design of the stamp (the characters being small we may have misread them), "The love of £ s. d. brought us here." The bogus Melilla of Spain and the speculative jubilee trash of Shanghai have not passed through our editorial sieve!

A LONG INCARCERATION!

THE authorities in Toronto appear determined to inspire honesty into the stamp trade. We read in *Mekeel's Weekly Stamp News* of the 4th inst. that a "gentleman" was convicted of obtaining money from stamp collectors by false pretences, and sentenced to "fifty years'" imprisonment. Some of the gentleman's old stock-books will be worth looking through when he comes out of prison.

PRESENTATIONS TO THE TAPLING COLLECTION.

GREAT BRITAIN.—A fine unused specimen of the 2d., Plate 5, water-marked large Crown, *perforated 16*.—Mr. Walter T. Willett.

An unused specimen of the 10d., octagonal, Die 2.—Mr. Hastings E. Wright.

Unused imperforate copies of the 1d., Die II., 1855, printed in black and in rose-red on paper watermarked *large Crown*, the watermark on the former stamp being inverted.—Mr. E. D. Bacon.

An entire sheet of the All Souls College, Oxford, stamp.—Rev. A. C. Headlam, the Bursar of the College.

A complete sheet of the Lincoln College, Oxford, stamp.—Mr. James Williams, the Bursar of the College.

A sheet of the St. John's College, Oxford, stamp.—Mr. W. J. W. Glasson, the Bursar of the College.

Entire sheets of the 1d., 3d., 4d., 6d., and 1s. stamps, formerly used by the Company.—The National Telephone Co., Limited.

Several unused specimens of the current ½d. and 1d., with marginal letters, not in the "collection."—H. L'Estrange Ewen.

GREAT BRITAIN AND COLONIES.—A number of proofs in black of various stamps.—Herr P. von Ferrary.

BERMUDA.—Three post cards.—Mr. G. Campbell.

BRITISH BECHUANALAND.—A block of four one penny, carmine-rose, Cape of Good Hope surcharged "British Bechuanaland" in two lines vertically, reading downwards.—Mr. G. Campbell.

CEYLON.—The 2 cents and 4 cents watermarked Crown CC, *perforated 12½*; and the same two stamps, with the 8 cents and 32 cents (also watermarked Crown CC), *perforated 14 × 12½*.—Mr. W. Hadlow.

NATAL.—The 4d., watermarked Crown CC, *perforated* 12½.—Mr. E. J. Nankivell.

PATRIOTIC FAVOURITISM.

THE old adage that "every one thinks his own coat the blackest" not infrequently has its parallel in stamp collecting *côteries*. We have recently heard of an English collector who made efforts to purchase European stamps, and in response thereto received a large number of Russian locals from a resident in that country at 10s. to £6 each, but whose owner was willing to take part in cash and the remainder in "fine picked Australian stamps" of the early issues, at *half catalogue prices*, against the rural Russians at full ditto. Our informant adds that no business ensued!

THE NEW DESIGNS FOR THE FRENCH STAMPS.

THE following paragraph appeared in the columns of the *Illustrated London News* of January 20th last:

"Postage stamp collectors will probably be the first to rejoice in the news that the French Government has consented to make a new issue. As there still remains a certain regard for artistic work even in official circles in France, public competition (limited to natives) is invited by the Minister of Posts and Telegraphs—a step which in this country would be regarded as the height of absurdity. The only restrictions imposed by the Minister are that the stamps shall be of a certain size, that they shall conspicuously announce their respective values, and that they shall bear the words 'Postes' and 'République Française.' With these limitations the most absolute freedom in the design is allowed to the artists, who will not be asked to trouble themselves about the colouring. One uniform design will be adopted for the whole postal service, and the colour of the stamp—a matter reserved to the discretion of the Post-office—will be an additional indication of the face value of the stamp. A prize of 3000f. will be awarded to the successful competitor, and two consolation awards of 1500f. and 1000f. will be made to the next in order of merit. It is further clearly announced that the Government lays no claim to the designs which are not adopted; and thus the undignified squabble that went on in this country between the Treasury and certain artists with regard to the new coinage cannot happen in France."

THE NEW ISSUES OF 1893.

FROM a calculation of the aggregate of stamps, envelopes, and cards issued during the past twelve months, we find that 1200 varieties would have to be acquired to achieve the possession of them all. Shades and varieties of perforations would add vastly to this number, and their collection, as is now frequently the case—used and unused—would necessarily double the total. It would not therefore be far wrong to estimate that to have a "fine" collection of 1893 issues only would absorb some four or five thousand specimens! Here is a new groove for the specialist, but we would rather prefer the issues of 1843!

Reviews.

THE STANDARD POSTAGE STAMP CATALOGUE.*



E have received from Mr. W. T. Wilson, 6, Westminster Road, Birmingham, who has been appointed sole agent for the sale in this country, the two sizes of the above-named catalogue, the smaller one, intended for pocket service, being a reproduction from the other by the process of photo-lithography. The appearance of the typography, perhaps, leaves something to be desired; but it is evident that the work, extending to 546 pages, will be of undoubted service to collectors. The plan of inserting the illustrations with the text, and giving every stamp an index number corresponding with the accompanying *fac-simile*, is one that has the obvious advantage of saving the time of the person consulting the book. As far as can be judged from a cursory examination the lists are brought right up to date, and advantage has been taken of all recent philatelic research in making them as complete as possible. In patriotic fashion the United States take precedence of the rest of the world alphabetically. The enumeration of the U.S. Government stamps, envelopes, cards, locals, and Confederate issues being a full one (some fifty pages), and, having regard also to the fact that almost every stamp is priced, would alone constitute the catalogue a most desirable acquisition to any collector. The fact that the prices quoted are those "at which, used and unused, they can be obtained of the publishers" should bring a volume of trade to the enterprising publishers, and in fact we have seen quite a number of the unused specimens cited at prices that make us eager to mail our cheque to New York. The pricing of unused stamps in very many countries has yet to be learnt, and it is therefore not surprising that the assessments, as so often happens in life, should vary from the actual value. The word "New" heading each column, we venture to think, is not an improvement on "Unused." A stamp that was issued fifty years since can hardly be so termed, it is rather old, but unused. The small defects in no way militate against the catalogue, which is highly to be commended and recommended to the great community of philatelists who use the Anglo-Saxon tongue, as a most convenient and easily-referred-to Catalogue. The Pocket Edition, which is similar in size to Messrs. Senf's work, will be found very handy, and will doubtless be well "thumbed" by collectors on both sides of the Atlantic.

* The *Standard Postage Stamp Catalogue*, illustrated with the types of all the stamps, &c. The Scott Stamp and Coin Company, 18, East Twenty-third Street, New York.

THE ENVELOPES OF LÜBECK AND THURN AND TAXIS.*

Owing to a variety of circumstances our review of these now widely-known works has been interrupted, but we hope to shortly pass in review all that have been issued since our previous remarks. (Vol. i. p. 298.) A brief philatelic-historical preface is given in both works, which will be found singularly interesting, while both are equally furnished with exact representations of the entire envelopes, shewing both inscriptions and "pattes" in full. The work on Lübeck is divided into four divisions, *i.e.* (1) 1863, with stamp to left in large and small size; (2) 1865, with stamp to left, small size in five values; (3) 1865, the ½ sch., as last; and (4) 1866–7, the 2 and 4 similar, but having a final "E" to the word "schilling" in the inscription. The Lübeck Post Office was closed on the 31st December, 1867, and the 49,712 remaining copies of the envelopes and 578,000 of the adhesives were sold to a Paris dealer for about £90. (A very good sale too—for the dealer in question!) The well-known rarity of the larger size of the first issue is easily accounted for by the statistics given of the very small quantity printed. The work on the Thurn and Taxis envelopes is divided into the following: (1) Oct. 1, 1861, lilac inscription, large and small sizes, complete; (2) 1861 (end), coloured inscription, both sizes, complete; (3) 1863 (commencement), the same, but with "long gum"—only the 3 and 9 kreuzers and 1 silbergroschen so existing. We well recollect the hopeless labours we underwent in bye-gone days with the idea of having both sets of these rare large-sized coloured inscriptions, with short and long gum. Needless to say, we never came across the missing values with the latter, and Mr. Lindenberg is doubtless fully justified in ruling their non-existence. Their omission, and the elimination of so many of the "overpasted" envelope remainders, should render the task of collecting the German envelopes less Herculean; and it is to be hoped that this information will give a strong fillip to their collection. (4) 1865–6. The Frankfort issues with rayed "patte" in small and ladies' size (*Damenformat*). The chapter dealing with these is full of interest, treating exhaustively on the several printings, colours, and errors of impression. The same amount of care bestowed by the Berlin authorities in the production of these envelopes was not continued by their successors at Frankfort, as there seems to have been a plentiful crop of misprints, some of them rare and others comparatively common. The writer was living in Frankfort during the years 1866–7, when these envelopes were in issue, and was then, as now, a collector, but not endowed with sufficient philatelic prescience to seek out and lay by the many varieties that could have been purchased for a halfpenny each at the Post Offices. (5) This chapter is devoted to local town envelope for Stuttgart, etc., issued in 1847 in two sizes, bearing the inscription to left within an oblong octangular frame "Frankirter Stadt Brief"—a still very scarce envelope, and unknown until a few years since. The number of each envelope issued is also given, and collectors will be much interested in conning these statistics that ratify the rareness of the lilac inscriptions and large size of the subsequent issue. Mr. Lindenberg is performing a most valuable work in giving the history of the envelopes of his country, and the philatelic world is

* *The Envelopes of the German States.* No. 3, Lübeck; No. 4, Thurn and Taxis. By C. Lindenberg (Landgerichtsrat). Dr. H. Brendicke, 61, Potsdamer Street, Berlin.

to be congratulated upon the fact of the task having fallen into such able hands.

THE POSTAGE STAMPS OF BRUNSWICK.

Die Postwerthzeichen des Herzogthums Braunschweig,* by Ludwig Berger. —The above-mentioned book, which appeared at the extreme end of 1893, is one of the most interesting and, at the same time, one of the best illustrated works Germany has produced for some time in philatelic literature. The author, Mr. Ludwig Berger, is President of one of the Brunswick Philatelic Societies, and has been able, through his connections with past officials, to inspect a vast amount of official papers, although those documents relating to the issue of stamps were no more to be found. He commences by giving an exhaustive history of the Brunswick Post up to the creation of the North German Confederation that is most interesting, continuing with a full reference list of the adhesive stamps, embossed envelopes, postal orders, etc., touching also on the frank stamps, proofs, etc. Nearly every detail is to be found in this section of the book as to date of issues, varieties, and quantities of stamps issued and distributed to the various offices. After then making a few remarks on correspondence, which was despatched free of charge and on the various postmarks in every detail, the rouletted issues are treated of in a lengthy chapter, a part of the book which ought to be welcomed by every philatelist. The writer points out so conclusively that some values which have always been sold at high prices, could not have existed, that it should prevent collectors from buying these worthless varieties. A few remarks as to the selling of the remainders and the old Post Office collection, and a condensed reference list of all issues, conclude this little work. The illustrations, which include views of the old Postal Buildings in addition to those of the stamps, are excellently produced, while the whole book bespeaks a thorough knowledge of the subject, and as a conscientious and minute study of the stamps of a country the work is entitled to take high rank in philatelic literature.

STAMPS AND STAMP COLLECTING.†

This work is a compilation, revised and extended, of a most useful series of articles that have appeared latterly in the *Monthly Journal*. With such a well-known name as Major Evans as author, it goes without saying that the book is most carefully compiled, and includes much of interest. It is a species of philatelic dictionary of technical terms, and gives a variety of information that should render it indispensable to every aspiring philatelist. Under the specific headings of "Paper" and "Type" will be found elaborate descriptions of all that appertains to these important items in a stamp collector's life. The book is well illustrated with types of stamps bearing the various Oriental inscriptions, the various founts of printers' type, the Roman alphabets, and other useful items. The use of sundry stamps for the initial letters is a pleasing and successful innovation, and the general excellence of type and paper redound to the credit of the printers—Messrs. Brendon and Son.

* *The Postage Stamps of the Duchy of Brunswick*, by Ludwig Berger: Brunswick.

† *Stamps and Stamp Collecting: a Glossary of Philatelic Terms*, by Major E. B. Evans; Messrs. Stanley Gibbons Limited, 391, Strand, London, W.C.

New Issues.

Under this head will be found notes of the new, and variations of the current issues. We do not profess to chronicle everything, but with the kind help of correspondents, are desirous that all the important novelties may be included. Speculative stamps—i.e. those not really required for postal purposes—will be considered on their merits, and Jubilee issues will not be chronicled.

GREAT BRITAIN AND COLONIES.

BRITISH CENTRAL AFRICA.—The *Stamp News* informs us that the 2d. Registration Envelopes issued last year have been altered to fourpence by obliterating the "TWO" of Two Pence on the stamp, and surcharging beneath in block letters the word "FOUR."

Registration Envelope.
2d., blue, surcharged FOUR in black (two sizes).

BRITISH NORTH BORNEO. — Messrs. Hilckes, Kirkpatrick & Co. submit information as follows. "The following various perfs. are noted by us :

Perf. 14.	Perf. 15.	Perf. 13½ × 14½.
1 cent ...	2 cents ...	6 cents
6 „ ...	3 „ ...	
8 „ ...	18 „ ...	
12 „ ...	24 „ ...	„

NATAL.—From the *Monthly Journal* we learn that the 1½d. post card has been made to do duty for ½d. by covering the word "Penny" with a *brown* "slab"; also that the current 1d. cards have been altered by the addition of the words "UNION POSTALE UNIVERSELLE" along the top, and the name being placed above the Arms instead of below.

Post Cards. ½d. (1d. of 1½d. blocked out), brown on buff.
1d., carmine on buff; *new variety.*
1d.+1d. „ „ „

NEW ZEALAND.—The current 2½d. has appeared with the new perforation.

2½ pence, ultramarine; *perf.* 10.

NIGER COAST PROTECTORATE.—Messrs. Clarke & Co. have kindly sent us specimens of the new issue for this colony. The values are six in number (see page 168, vol. ii.), printed from a steel plate on white wove unwatermarked paper, and perforated 15. The old name of Oil Rivers has been now erased, and the above designation visibly substituted at the top of the stamp. The stamps are finely engraved in sheets of sixty, and have a decidedly handsome appearance.

Messrs. Ridpath & Co. have also shewn us the new Registration Envelopes of the current Great Britain type, with stamp to right on face, surcharged in black block capitals "NIGER COAST PROTECTORATE."

Reg. Envs. 2d., blue, black surcharge; three sizes.

OIL RIVERS.—Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. write: "The new Niger Coast stamps were to have been brought into use on January 1st, but towards the end of December the 1/- Oil Rivers stamps were completely exhausted, and a provisional issue was made, consisting of the 2d. Oil Rivers stamp overprinted One Shilling. This overprint is in violet ink, and is apparently done by hand, one stamp at a time. The entire issue was 480 stamps. We received a letter yesterday franked with three of them. Of the *halfpenny* Oil Rivers post cards, the entire issue was 2,400 cards (£5 worth)."

Mr. C. W. Perryman also writes hereon;

"The new issue, 'Niger Coast Protectorate," were to be issued on the 1st January; but in December they ran short of a few of the old values, and used up the balance stock by surcharging.

"The 1/-, 1st issue, was made into a 20/- stamp, surcharged both in *black*, also in *red*, and also in *violet*.

"The 5d., 1st issue, was made into a 10/- stamp, surcharged in red.

"The 2d., 1st issue, was made into a 5/- stamp, surcharged in violet.

"The 2d., 1st issue, was made into a 1/- stamp, surcharged in violet, also in red and black.

"The 2½d., 1st issue, was made into a 'halfpennny' stamp, surcharged in red; two types of surcharge.

"I understand they were made in November, the high values being wanted for heavy mails from the Niger coast.

"I might add that of the other ½d., provisional, already chronicled, surcharged in

red (and in mauve), on the 1d., there were 960 stamps so surcharged, *i.e.* eight sheets of 120 each."

We must confess to a limited faith in the necessity for the creation of all these varieties; and as there will probably be others, and possibly confirmatory evidence, we adjourn our full acceptance and chronicle of this somewhat alarming list of novelties. The word just used is fully justified, bearing in mind the dangerous system of creating high values by surcharging low ones.

Messrs. Ridpath & Co. send us further a note of three sizes of Registration Envelopes with a minor variety, so that, as a whole, "Oil Rivers-cum-Niger" will present an inviting (?) field for specialising—not speculating collectors!

QUEENSLAND.—The *Monthly Journal* notes the following varieties:

Adhesives. 2/6, scarlet; no wmk.
10/–, brown ,,

The latter we have always been expecting to turn up, but the 2s. 6d., as the other varieties cited, have long been known to us. Can these be a separate issue, or only specimens either escaped the later watermark, or having it invisible in the thick paper? Our contemporary also mentions a "2s., in pale red," which is new to us.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA.—*Vindin's Philatelic Monthly* chronicles the 3d. and 1s. with OS in *thin* capitals.

Official Stamps. 3d., olive-green; OS in thin caps.
1s., brown ,, ,,

EUROPE.

AUSTRIA.—A series of Unpaid Letter Stamps came into use on February 1st. All values are printed in the same colour, but the figures denoting the value are added separately from remainder of design and in a deeper shade.

We understand from an official decree that "these stamps will be used exclusively for insufficiently paid or unpaid letters, and that they will not be sold to the public nor dealt with by the public in an unused state." Of course none will leak out!

Unpaid Letter Stamps.

1 kr., brown.	10 kr., brown.
3 ,, ,,	20 ,, ,,
5 ,, ,,	50 ,, ,,

BELGIUM.—The *Timbre-Poste* chronicles an error in the 10 c. Sunday Letter Card with the word "Kaartbrief" reading *Kaartbriej.*

Letter Card.
Variety (*Kaartbriej*). 10 c., orange-brown on azure.

AMERICA.

SALVADOR.—The *Timbre-Poste* chronicles a surcharge of 1 centavo on the current 2 centavos with an accidental (!) error on the 88th stamp—*un centavo.*

1 c on 2 c., black on red-brown.
Variety (*un centnvo*).
1 c. on 2 c, black on red-brown.

UNITED STATES.—The Columbian issue is not yet played out, as the Postmaster-General has ordered (December 29th last) the further delivery of 165,000,000 to complete the 2,000,000,000! The figures are imposing in their vastness, and suggest the reflection that, as hundreds of thousands of people are hoarding the remnants of these thousands of millions of stamps, it *may* yet be a distant time before any of the Columbian attain to the rarity of a Post-office Mauritius!

OTHER COUNTRIES.

CUBA.—The following changes in colour have appeared:

Adhesives.	*Current type.*
1 c. de p.,	sky-blue.
2 ,,	rose.
$2\frac{4}{5}$,,	violet.
20 ,,	light brown.
$\frac{1}{2}$ m. de peso,	rose.

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC.—The *Timbre-Poste* chronicles a surcharge of *5 centimos* on the 5 centavos, blue, 1880, in numerals and thin letters on white wove paper.

Adhesive. 5 on 5 centavos, black surcharge on blue.

FRENCH COLONIES.—*Obock.* We have received from Messrs. Clarke & Co. specimens of the new collectors' rubbish emanating from this colony. The stamps are bi-coloured and imperforate, the design consisting of a group of natives, surrounded by an oblong ornamental frame. There are twelve values, ranging from 1 c. to 1 fr.

Réunion—One more surcharge here with minor varieties as usual!

Vathy.—A series of stamps, overprinted similarly to those recently supplied to Port Lagos and Dédéagh, has been issued, which we chronicle, as it is a first offence!

5 c., green	overprint in	red.
10 c., black on violet	,,	blue.
15 c., blue	,,	red.
1 piast., 1 on 25 c., black on rose	,,	blue.
2 ,, 2 on 50 c. rose	,,	blue.
5 ,, 5 on 1 fr., olive-green	,,	red.

INDIAN STATES.—*Bamra.* Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. send us a specimen of the new card for Bamra, which must be urgently required by the Bamrese! A very indistinctly printed effigy of the Bamra potentate is depicted on the right hand within a *skewer-*

drawn frame, with an imitation of perforations above and below, a white label at base bearing the value—quarter anna. The inscriptions on the card are "Bamra State Post Card," in large Roman capitals, and its native equivalent.

Post Card. ¼ anna, green, on pale blue.

Holkar.—We have from Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. a square shaped envelope bearing the current type of half anna, adhesive, in drab; and a post card, value quarter anna, in bistre, on a dull lilac card, but white on the reverse side. To add to their value, although they have not been used postally, both specimens bear a cancellation!

Envelope. ½ anna, drab, on white wove.
Post Card. ¼ ,, orange, dull lilac (back white).

LIBERIA. — The speculatively beautiful issues of this country are not yet exhausted, Mr. Hayman having sent us two fresh varieties. Knowing the predilection of the collecting fraternity for three-cornered stamps, this new value of 5 cents has followed the precedent of old triangulars of the Cape. They are engraved and printed in two colours, one for official use being in lilac and green with the surcharge O.S. To complete their attractiveness they are printed *tête-bêche*, and are, as yet, imperforate! The central design consists of an allegorical figure leaning on the world, with some gentle natives emerging from a boat in the background. The paper is white wove.

5 cents, centre black, and pink frame.
5 ,, ,, green ,, blue ,, surch. O.S.

PHILIPPINES.—The 12½ c. de p. of 1890 has been issued in flesh in place of green.

Adhesive. 12½ c. de p., flesh.

PORTO RICO.—The following have, according to various sources, been issued in new colours.

Adhesives.	*Current type.*
½ m. de p., *light brown.*	1 c. de p., *brown.*
1 ,, *blue.*	3 ,, *olive.*
2 ,, *flesh.*	8 ,, *dark violet.*
4 ,, *yellow-brown.*	20 ,, *bright rose.*
40 c. de p., *red-brown.*	

TONGA.—The 1s., official, has been surcharged 10 pence in black.—Vide *Timbre-Poste.*

10 pence surcharged in black on 1s., red and blue.

Philatelic Societies' Meetings.

THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY, LONDON.

Honorary President.—H.R.H. DUKE ALFRED OF SAXE-COBURG GOTHA.
Hon. Vice-President.—H.R.H. THE DUKE OF YORK, K.G.

Council for the Year 1893-94:

President.—THE EARL OF KINGSTON.
Vice-President.—M. P. CASTLE.

Hon. Secretary.—D. GARTH.	*Hon. Assistant Secretary.*—J. A. TILLEARD.
Treasurer.—C. N. BIGGS.	*Librarian.*—T. MAYCOCK.
E. D. BACON.	T. WICKHAM JONES.
H. W. CHAMBERS.	E. J. NANKIVELL.
E. B. EVANS.	R. PEARCE.

AT the fourteenth meeting of the season 1893-94, held at Effingham House, Strand, on Friday, the 19th January, 1894, the business of the evening consisted entirely of the revision of the Society's reference lists of the stamps of Cyprus, which was proceeded with and completed.

THE fifteenth meeting of the season was held at Effingham House on Friday, the 26th January, 1894, at 7.30 p.m. The members present were: Major Evans, and Messrs. D. Garth, E. D. Bacon, R. Ehrenbach, R. Meyer, H. R. Oldfield, W. Silk, T. Ransom, T. Maycock, J. H. Redman, G. B. Routledge, Gordon-Smith, Hastings E. Wright, R. Pearce, and J. A. Tilleard. Two visitors also attended.

In the absence of the President and Vice-President the chair was taken by Major Evans, and the minutes of the last two meetings were read and confirmed.

Amongst the correspondence read by the Secretary was a letter from His Imperial Highness The Grand Duke Alexis Michaelovitch, acknowledging the receipt of the intimation of his election, and confirming the statement that he had preferred to seek election as an ordinary member. A letter from Mr. Ferrier Kerr was also read, sending for inspection of the members present a horizontal pair of the twopence stamp of Victoria (Queen on Throne) with the letters ZC and W.M., the first with broken steps.

Mr. J. A. Bucknill, proposed by Mr. Geldard, and seconded by the Assistant Secretary; Mr. O. Pfenninger, proposed by the Vice-President, and seconded by the Assistant Secretary; Mr. J. N. A. Mostyn, proposed by Mr. Joynt, and seconded by the President; and Mrs. C. M. Jervis, proposed by Major Evans, and seconded by the Secretary, were elected members of the Society.

Mr. Ehrenbach then read a paper on "The Stamps of Brunswick." After acknowledging his indebtedness to Mr. Berger for much of the information contained in his paper, Mr. Ehrenbach described in detail the various issues and the points of interest in the study of these stamps, and particularly in reference to the rouletted stamps, which have been so extensively forged. A fine selection of the stamps on original envelopes was passed round for inspection by the members, and in the cases on the walls Mr. Ehrenbach had kindly arranged his collection of Brunswick stamps, which were much admired by the members present. On the motion of Mr. Bacon, seconded by Mr. Oldfield, a hearty vote of thanks was accorded to Mr. Ehrenbach for his very interesting paper, which, with his consent, will be published in the *London Philatelist*.

THE sixteenth meeting of the season was held at Effingham House, on Friday, the 2nd February, 1894, at 7.30 p.m.

The Vice-President occupied the chair, and the following members were in attendance, viz., Messrs. D. Garth, E. D. Bacon, R. Meyer, G. B. Routledge, H. Hetley, C. N. Biggs, W. T. Willett, H. T. Gillespie, R. Pearce, E. J. Nankivell, T. Maycock, J. A. Tilleard, and J. W. C. Potter.

After the minutes of the last meeting had been read and confirmed, the Secretary reported the receipt from Stanley Gibbons, Limited, of their recently-published book on *Stamps and Stamp Collecting*, by Major Evans; and Mr. Castle announced the receipt from the publisher of Mr. Lindenberg's work on the *Envelope Stamps of Germany*, both of which were directed to be acknowledged with the thanks of the Society. The business of the evening consisted of the revision of the Society's reference list of the stamps of Hongkong, which was proceeded with and adjourned for completion.

THE seventeenth meeting of the season was held at Effingham House, on Friday, the 9th February, 1894, at 7.30 p.m.

The chair was taken by the Vice-President, and the other members present were Messrs. D. Garth, C. N. Biggs, R. Ehrenbach, R. Meyer, A. W. Chambers, W. Silk, Gordon-Smith, Hastings E. Wright, T. Maycock, T. Wickham-Jones, A. A. Davis, G. B. Routledge, R. Pearce, E. J. Nankivell, E. D. Bacon, J. A. Tilleard, J. W. C. Potter, and H. F. Lowe. One visitor was also in attendance.

The minutes of the last meeting having been read and confirmed, the Secretary read a letter from Mr. de Coppet, enclosing for the opinion of the meeting a copy of the 17 cents stamp of Canada, apparently imperforate, and a 2½d. stamp of Vancouver Island, perforated 14 at the sides and bottom of the stamp and 12½ on the top. After careful examination it was decided that in the case of the first-mentioned stamp there was not sufficient margin to enable a conclusive opinion to be formed, and in regard to the other stamp that there was not sufficient evidence that it had ever been issued with the perforations in question. An envelope sent by Major Evans was also shown franked by an entire 6 anna bill stamp (unsurcharged), and used with the 8 pie stamp current at the time when the surcharged bill stamps were used for postage.

Mr. Thomas P. Dorman, proposed by the Secretary and seconded by Mr. Millington; Mr. George B. Barrington, proposed by Mr. A. W. Chambers and seconded by Mr. J. Lockyer; Mr. A. B. Slater, junr., proposed by Mr. H. E. Deats and seconded by Mr. J. K. Tiffany; the Rev. T. S. Fleming, proposed by Mr. O. Firth and seconded by Mr. Beckwith; Mr. J. G. Tolhurst, proposed by Mr. J. H. Redman and seconded by the Vice-President; and Baron de Worms, proposed by the Vice-President and seconded

by the Assistant-Secretary, were elected members of the Society.

The Vice-President then read a paper on the registered stamps of New South Wales, illustrated by his fine collection of these stamps; and on the motion of Mr. Bacon, seconded by the Assistant-Secretary, a hearty vote of thanks was accorded to Mr. Castle for his very interesting paper.

Mr. Ehrenbach showed a re-constructed sheet of the 3 pfennig stamp of Saxony, consisting of 20 stamps, including one strip of 5, a strip of 4, and a block of 4 of these rare stamps all in fine condition.

THE Eighteenth Meeting of the Season was held at Effingham House, on Friday, the 16th February, 1894, at 7.30 p.m.

The business of the evening consisted entirely of the revision of the reference list of the stamps of Hongkong, which was completed.

BRIGHTON AND SUSSEX PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

Honorary President.—BARON DE WORMS.

Committee for the Year 1893:

President.—M. P. CASTLE. | *Vice-President.*—J. H. REDMAN.

Hon. Sec. and Treasurer.—A. DE WORMS.

W. T. WILLETT. | H. STAFFORD SMITH.

J. W. GILLESPIE. | R. J. WOODMAN.

THE sixth and Annual General Meeting of the season was held at Markwell's Hotel, Brighton, on Monday, January 1st, at 7.45 p.m. Present—Messrs. M. P. Castle, J. H. Redman, A. de Worms, W. T. Willett, R. J. Woodman, R. J. Thrupp, O. Pfenninger, J. W. Gillespie, H. Stafford Smith, P. de Worms, E. E. Manwaring, A. H. Thomas. The President in the chair.

After the minutes of the last Annual General Meeting had been read and confirmed, all the officers were re-elected for the ensuing year.

The Hon. Secretary presented the Annual Report for the session 1892-93, and a Balance Sheet for the year ending December, 1893, which showed a balance in favour of the Society. The Report and Balance Sheet were receivedand adopted.

Mr. Thrupp submitted a report of the Exchange Circuit for the past year.

The President having expressed an opinion that the Society should have a permanent room for meetings, where its books, etc., could be kept, and so become available to members; also that a Librarian should be appointed to take charge of the same, after some discussion it was agreed that the President and Mr. Pfenninger should form a sub-committee to consider and report on the matter.

Some specimens were received from Mr. Marshall as contributions to the Forgery Collection.

ANNUAL REPORT.—"During the session of 1892-93 sixteen meetings were held, fourteen at Markwell's Hotel, Brighton, and two at Kingston Lodge, Brighton. In the absence of the President the chair was taken on twelve occasions by the Vice-President, and on two by Mr. J. W. Gillespie, the President and Hon. Secretary, Mr. W. T. Willett, having left England on a tour round the world after the third meeting.

"The stamps of the British Possessions in Europe were studied at several meetings, and preliminary reference lists drawn up. Papers were read on the stamps of India and Ceylon by Mr. A. de Worms, on Belgium and Luxemburg by the Vice-President, and on Holland by Mr. Stafford Smith, each paper being illustrated by the several collections of the respective countries.

"The Committee having deemed it expedient to revise the Society's rules, discussions took place at two meetings on the subject, and it was decided to make some alterations and to have new rules printed.

"A proposal was received from the Manchester Philatelic Society to form an exchange of stamps between them and this Society, which was agreed to, and packets were accordingly sent at intervals.

"Donations were made to the Society's library by Mr. Otto Pfenninger, and the J. W. Scott Co., of New York.

"An Annual General Meeting was held

on January 2nd, 1893, when the Officers and Committee for the ensuing year were elected. Mr. Willett being prevented from continuing to hold the post of Hon. Secretary, in consequence of his voyage, Mr. A. de Worms was elected in his place. The Balance Sheet was presented by the Treasurer, showing a small balance in favour of the Society.

"At the suggestion of Mr. J. W. Gillespie the Society contributed a donation towards the funds of the Philatelic Protection Association.

"Rarities and novelties were shown by members at several meetings, the last evening of the session being devoted to the exhibition of collections.

"Six new members were elected and three resigned."

THE seventh meeting of the season was held at Markwell's Hotel, Brighton, on Monday, January 15th, at 7.45 p.m. Present — Messrs. M. P. Castle, A. de Worms, W. T. Willett, P. de Worms, E. E. Manwaring, R. J. Woodman, J. W. Gillespie, R. J. Thrupp, O. Pfenninger, H. Stafford Smith, and one visitor, Mr. W. F. Ellerton. The President in the chair. The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, the President proposed a resolution that the number of members of the Committee be increased from "seven" to "eight," and a Librarian be appointed. Mr. Willett seconded the resolution, which was carried.

Mr. Thrupp made some suggestions as to the Exchange Circuit which were adopted.

Mr. Willett then read some notes on the stamps of Great Britain, and exhibited his splendid collection of the same, containing almost every variety in perfect unused condition, some of the choicest specimens being all the rare 2d., the 4d., wmk. small and medium garter, pairs of the 3d., plate 3, and 1/-, plate 2, imperf., etc. A cordial vote of thanks was passed to Mr. Willett for his interesting paper.

MANCHESTER PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

President.—VERNON ROBERTS. | *Vice President.*—F. BARRATT.
Hon. Sec.—W. DORNING BECKTON. | *Assistant Hon. Sec.*—C. H. COOTE.
Hon. Treasurer.—G. B. DUERST.
Hon. Librarian.—J. H. ABBOTT.
E. P. COLLETT. | W. GRUNEWALD.
G. F. H. GIBSON. | W. W. MUNN.

THE eighth meeting of the session was held on the 15th of December, 1893, the Vice-President in the chair, supported by Messrs. Abbott, Duerst, Beckton, Coote, Collett, Petri, Munn, Grunewald, Ranck, Beazley, Batty, Pemberton, Blockey, and Fildes.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. Several new members were proposed.

Mr. Gibson reported the arrangements made by the Committee for the Annual Dinner on Friday next.

Mr. Abbott then read a most interesting paper upon the stamps of St. Helena. An exceptionally fine series of these stamps was shown, including entire sheets belonging to Mr. Abbott, and the error 6d., carmine-red, out of the President's collection.

THE Annual Dinner of the Society was held on Friday, December 22nd, 1893, twenty-six partaking of the feast. A philatelic menu drawn by Mr. Gibson was the only item of philatelic interest, the evening being a purely musical one after the dinner, Messrs. Petri, Gibson, Munn, and others contributing songs, recitations, etc.

The dinner and musical evening were both much enjoyed by the members, who passed a hearty vote of thanks to Mr. Gibson, to whom the Sub-Committee appointed for the purpose had left all the arrangements.

THE ninth meeting of the session was held January 5th, 1894, at which fourteen members were present.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. Mr. Arthur Watson, Mr. H. R. Sant Anjelo, and Mr. North were elected members of the Society.

Mr. Gibson read the first portion of his paper upon the manufacture of stamps,

dealing principally with the various papers employed, and their method of production.

The stamps of Tuscany were then discussed, Messrs. Duerst, Petri, Gibson, and Beckton contributing to the subject, the further consideration of which was adjourned until the next meeting.

A packet from the Brighton Society was passed round.

THE tenth meeting of the session was held January 19th, 1894, the Vice-President in the chair, supported by the Treasurer, Secretary, Assistant Secretary, Messrs. Collett, Petri, Munn, Grunewald, Hanmer, Bally, Ranck, Fildes, Pemberton, Blockey, North, Bowker, Watson, and one visitor.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed.

Mr. Hanmer proposed that the *London Philatelist* be forwarded post-free to each member every month, instead of each member having to fetch same. The Secretary proposed an amendment to the effect that the consideration of Mr. Hanmer's resolution be postponed until the annual meeting. The amendment was carried.

Mr. Blockey read a paper on the stamps of Holland, giving a larger list of the various perforations to be found on these stamps than has hitherto appeared.

W. DORNING BECKTON.

DAISY BANK, SWINTON PARK.

OXFORD PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

THE Annual Meeting was held on Tuesday, January 16th, at Dr. Murray's residence. The President (Dr. Murray) in the chair, thirteen other members and one visitor present.

After the minutes of the previous meeting had been read and signed, the Hon. Secretary was called upon to read his report for the year.

It was stated in this report that twelve meetings had been held during the year, and the average attendance of Oxford members was 8·8, or nearly sixty per cent. Seven new members were elected during the year.

Dr. Murray had read a paper on "The Post Cards of Great Britain"; Mr. Burnett, "Notes on Hamburg"; and Professor A. S. Napier had read a paper "On the Stamps, Cards, and Envelopes used for messenger purposes at some of the Colleges in Oxford." This paper has been printed in the *Monthly Journal*.

The Society's collection of forged and reprinted stamps had been increased by nearly fifty stamps. Donations of such stamps to this collection, the word "forged" or "reprint" having been written in ink across the face of them, will be highly esteemed by the members.

It was also mentioned in the report that an illuminated address had been presented to H.R.H. the Duke of York on the occasion of his marriage, and that a reply had been received.

The Treasurer (F. A. Bellamy) then read his balance sheet. This showed a deficiency of 11*s.* 4*d.* due to the Treasurer. Several extraordinary expenses had been incurred during the year, and so caused this unfavourable balance. Both reports were adopted. Some slight amendments were made to the Rules. Mr. H. G. Brittain (Worcester College) was proposed for membership.

The election of officers and committee for 1894 then took place. Dr. J. A. H. Murray was re-elected President for the third time; Heurtley Sankey, Esq., M.R.C.S., was elected Vice-President; F. A. Bellamy, F.R.MET.S., 4, St. John's Road, Oxford, was re-elected Hon. Secretary and Treasurer for the fifth year, and J. F. Burnett, F.C.S., was re-elected Asst. Hon. Secretary. The Committee consists, besides the officers, of Professor A. S. Napier, Messrs. J. R. F. Turner, Harold Thompson, M.R.C.S., E. A. Bacon, and W. J. King.

Votes of thanks were passed to the Hon. Secretary and Treasurer for his services during the year, also to Mr. Burnett.

General discussion as to future work of the Society and exchange of stamps occupied the rest of the evening.

F. A. BELLAMY,
Hon. Sec.

4, ST. JOHN'S ROAD.

THE PLYMOUTH PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

Session 1893-94.

President.—A. R. Barrett.
Vice-President.—R. Tyeth Stevens.
Exchange Superintendent.—H. Tucker, Jun.
Hon. Sec. and Treasurer.—A. Levy.
Committee.—H. W. Mayne. J. Milton. C. Leleux.

The seventh ordinary meeting of the session was held at 9a, Princess Square on January 24th, at 7.30 p.m. The President in the chair. Six members present.

The President concluded his paper on the stamps of Japan, dealing very fully with the syllabic and surface printed issues. He gave a list of the various perforations, exhibiting some in his own collection which he had not seen chronicled; he had only recently secured a copy of the ½ sen, grey, perforated 9, which was new to him.

A very cordial vote of thanks was passed to the President for the interesting and instructive paper with which he had favoured the Society. Mr. R. T. Stevens, in proposing same, remarked that the Society was fortunate in having as President one who had made such a thorough study of a subject, and was willing to impart to others the results of his labours.

The eighth meeting of the session was held on February 7th. The President in the chair. Eight members and one visitor present.

A vote of thanks was passed to Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., for having presented to the library of the Society a copy of their recently-published work on *Stamps and Stamp Collecting*.

A circular from Mr. M. P. Castle, in reference to the *London Philatelist*, was read, and the Hon. Secretary instructed to reply to same.

The perforations of South Australian stamps were discussed, and it was decided to devote the next meeting to comparing the dated specimens of South Australian stamps in possession of members with reference list now appearing in the *Philatelic Record*.

Asher Levy, *Hon. Sec.*
190, Union Street, Plymouth.

The Market.

Auctions in United States.

The month of February has been a busy time for the sales on the other side of the Atlantic, the Bogert and Durbin Co. disposing of no less than 1868 lots of Mr. Brock's celebrated collection at the commencement of the month, and the Scott Stamp and Coin Co. that of Mr. W. C. Skinner with 1423 lots. The catalogue of the latter has two full-page illustrations of the rarities, and we shall look forward with interest to the receipt of priced catalogues of both sales.

Purchasers on both sides of the Atlantic.

The fact of two such important sales being held suggests the consideration whether the results attained in the dispersal of collections by auction would not be largely increased by a sedulous insistence on the two following cardinal points: 1st. That no important sale should be held without having the catalogues thereof despatched at least one month before the date of sale. 2nd. That absolute accuracy should be aimed in describing the lots.

If these two *desiderata* are achieved we believe there would be far more competition.

Messrs. Puttick and Simpson's First Philatelic Auction.

The advent of this well-known firm of auctioneers, whose connection with the sale of books and *bric-à-brac* generally is widely known, is a further testimony to the increasing estimation of Philately. It is not for us to suggest that there are already enough Richmonds in the field; but we may frankly say that in order to achieve success a somewhat bolder effort than their initial sale will be required of Messrs. Puttick and Simpson. The auction took place on the 29th January, at 47, Leicester Square, and comprised 116 lots, realising in the aggregate £242 19*s.* 6*d.* The choicest lots disposed of were a pair of 1851 2 reales, Spain, with other stamps on original cover, one stamp of the pair being slightly damaged (£31), and a set of the 4 high values of the State Department of U.S. (£25). Some of the other lots embraced good stamps, but as the prices seem very uneven no especial purpose would be served by their mention.

Auctions.

Messrs. Ventom, Bull, & Co.'s sale, on the 11th January, included

	£	s.	d.
United States, Newspaper Stamps, full unused set	19	0	0
British Guiana, 1851, 4 c.	4	0	0
„ 1862, 2 c., border of grapes	4	6	0
„ „ 4 c., black on blue; heart border	6	6	0
(*All three not the finest.*)			
Antioquia, 1st issue, 10 c., lilac	9	9	0
New South Wales, 8d., laureated yellow; no leaves to right of South (superb)	3	3	0
Ditto, 1854–56, 8d., orange (fine)	2	10	0
New Zealand, 1d., pelure, slightly torn	3	5	0
Sandwich Islands, 1st issue, 13 cts. (very cheap although imperfect)	12	0	0
West Australia, 1st issue, 2d., rouletted (fine)	4	10	0

At the sale of January 25th:

Confederate States, 1861, 2 c., green, strip of 5, unused on envelope	5	0	0
New Zealand, 1/–, green, unused, pelure paper, perf., block of 4	22	0	0

The big sale of this firm on the 19th to 23rd was a great success, records as to prices being frequently achieved. Our next issue will contain full particulars.

Mr. Hadlow.

The following were the most interesting lots at the sale of January 15th:

Victoria, reconstructed plate of 2d., Queen on throne	£	s.	d.
	4	15	0
Queensland, 1st issue, 2d., blue	4	4	0
St. Vincent, provisional, 4d. on 1/–, vermilion	2	8	0
Canada, 6d., purple-black, perf. and unused	7	7	0

	£	s.	d.
United States, U.S. P.O. Despatch, carrier stamp, in red, unused	3	17	6
New Brunswick, 1d., red-brown on blue, fine strip of 3	2	15	0
Newfoundland, 1st issue, 1/-, carmine-vermilion (cut close, good colour)	5	0	0
Cape of Good Hope, 4d., blue, triangular, rouletted, on entire original	2	2	0
Natal, 1/-, green, surch. Postage, surcharge measuring 13 mm.	3	5	0
Philippine Islands, 1854, 1 real, blue, magnificent block of 3	3	6	0
Cape of Good Hope, 2 wood-blocks used on original	3	6	0
Switzerland (Basle), 2½ rp.	3	10	0
„ (Vaud), 4 c., black and red	9	0	0
At the sale of February 5th:			
New South Wales, Sydney, 3d., green, vertical strip of 4	3	5	0
Ditto, Plate I., pair of 1d., carmine	2	8	0
Pacific Steam Navigation Co., 1 real, blue on blue paper; unused pair, original gum	3	0	0
Ditto, 2 reales, red-brown on blue	3	5	0
Ditto, 1 real, blue on blue; used	4	10	0
Two Sicilies, Naples, ½ tornese, cross; on piece of original newspaper; fine	4	4	0
France, 1st issue, 1 fr., orange-vermilion (fair)	6	0	0
At the sale of February 16th:			
Victoria, 1st issue, 1d., dull red, unused block of 5 (damaged, but skilfully repaired)	2	10	0
United States, 1869, complete set	2	17	6
Bahamas, 1st issue, imperf. pair, with very fine margins, unused	2	10	0
Natal, 1st issue, 9d., blue, used	3	0	0
Ceylon, wmk. star, 8d., brown, imperf.	8	15	0
Great Britain, V.R., slightly damaged in centre	6	10	0

To Correspondents.

COMMUNICATIONS.—*All communications on Philatelic matters or Advertisements should be addressed to the Editor of* THE LONDON PHILATELIST, Kingston Lodge, Richmond Place, Brighton. *No anonymous contributions can be noticed.*

SUBSCRIPTIONS.—THE LONDON PHILATELIST *will be sent, post free in Great Britain or the countries of the Postal Union, to any subscriber, on receipt of* 6s. *Subscribers' remittances should be sent to* The Publishers, EFFINGHAM HOUSE, ARUNDEL STREET, STRAND, LONDON, W.C., *of whom also bound copies of Vol. I. can be procured. Half morrocco, gilt edges,* £1 1s., *postage* 9d. *Abroad extra.*

M. S. V., JOHANNISBERG, TRANSVAAL.—We regret that we are unable to render you the assistance required. We have no knowledge of the cases mentioned. If such exist your legal advisers can by search procure copies of evidence, etc.

H. A. W., EDINBURGH.—Our best thanks for your courteous letter.

G. A. H., NAGPUR.—Thanks for your offer, but we think the article in question would require very delicate handling in order to avoid giving information to wrong quarters. If you will kindly send it and specimens, we will publish with pleasure such portions as may be of interest and general advantage.

D. B, SHANGHAI.—We regret that under our new departure we cannot chronicle these stamps.

M. H. S.—Subscription received and credited with thanks. The present number gives full information as to binding.

J. K., CAMBRIDGE.—When the imitations are dangerously near the originals, it is wiser not to specify the difference too minutely.

THE

London Philatelist:

THE MONTHLY JOURNAL OF

THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY, LONDON.

VOL. III. MARCH, 1894. No. 27.

The Late M. Georges Caillebotte.

WITH very great regret we have to announce the death of this gentleman at the early age of 46. Until three or four years back the names of MM. Martial and Georges Caillebotte stood most deservedly in the forefront of Philately. Their collection was a mutual one, commenced about 1878, and dispersed some ten years later, shortly after the marriage of the former gentleman. It is perhaps safe to say that within this decade of Philatelic existence the two brothers exhibited a sustained power of investigation, laborious study, and a rapid accumulation of stamps — up to the very highest rarities—that has never been surpassed, if equalled, in the annals of stamp collecting. MM. Caillebotte collaborated with the late Mr. T. K. Tapling and others in the reconstruction of the Australian, Philippine, and other plates; and it was to them that the credit is due as to the discovery of the shape of the plate of the twopenny Sydney View.

The writer had the privilege of inspecting Messrs. Caillebotte's collection to a great extent, and can but re-affirm to-day the impression he then formed, that in wealth of specimens and completeness in all branches it was only distanced by two, or possibly three, competitors in the world. The amalgamation of this magnificent collection with that of our late Vice-President has resulted in the superb Philatelic treasures that are being gradually unfolded to the public gaze at the British Museum. It will be seen, therefore, that the connection of the late M. Georges Caillebotte and his brother with English Philately is an intimate one, and that we and those who succeed us will reap the benefit of their scientific knowledge and marvellous acquisitions.

Excellent portraits of both gentlemen, with an article, will be found in the *Philatelic Record* for 1890.

In addition to his collecting proclivities, M. G. Caillebotte was a skilful artist of the impressionist school, and took a keen interest in country life and nautical sport. Those who had the privilege of his friendship recognised in the late M. Georges Caillebotte a gentleman—*sans peur et sans reproche*—and in the name of English Philately we tender our deep sympathy to his brother in his great bereavement.

The 1881 Surcharges of Turks Islands.

By A. DE REUTERSKIÖLD.

WHEN the London Society's work on the stamps of the West Indies was published, I had hoped to find a list of the various settings of these surcharges, which are very puzzling. Not finding this list, I set to work to gather together as much information as possible about these varieties; and I now wish to lay before you the result of my researches, hoping it may induce those who have blocks of these stamps to study them, with a view of completing my lists.

On January 1st, 1881, the Turks Islands joined the Postal Union, and three new values of stamps (½d., 2½d., and 4d.) were required to prepay the reduced rates of postage; but as the new stamps printed by Messrs. De La Rue and Co. only reached the Islands, the 4d. in Sept., 1881, and the ½d. and 2½d. at the end of the year, a local surcharging had to be resorted to.

In the *Philatelic Record* for 1881 we find these surcharges chronicled in the following order:

In March. ½d. on 6d., black; 2½d. on 6d., black; 4d. on 6d., black.
In May. ½d. on 1s., plum; ½d. on 1s., blue.
In June. ½d. on 1d., red; 2½d. on 1s., plum; 4d. on 1s., plum.
In August. New settings of ½d. on 1d., red; 2½d. on 1s., plum, in numerous varieties.
In October. 4d. on 1d., red.

The 2½d. on 1d., red, is only noted in 1884, and the 2½d. on 1s., blue, is omitted altogether.

On turning to M. Moens' Catalogue, we find the following dates given:

January, 1881. Issues with surcharge in thin numerals.
July, 1881. Issues with surcharge in thick numerals.

We may, therefore, safely conclude that the new settings spoken of in the *Philatelic Record* for August are those in fifteen varieties, issued in July; and that all the surcharges issued before that month are in the smaller numerals.

Let us take each value separately, beginning with the ½d.

From the large number of different settings that are found it seems probable that only small quantities were printed from time to time, as required, and that at each printing the types were set up anew, though the same numerals were often used.

The principal differences are in the shape of the figure 1 (horizontal top stroke, slanting top stroke, and broken top), the length of the fractional line, and the relative position of the 1 and 2.

The Turks Islands stamps were printed in sheets of thirty, in three horizontal rows of ten.

It is difficult to say which was the first setting up. I place setting A first, as being the only one of which I have not seen larger blocks, and which I therefore look upon as being the rarest; but it is quite possible that setting B may be the first, and that setting A may only have been issued after setting D, and just before the change in the size of the surcharging plates was made.

I am at present unable to say of how many varieties setting A was composed, but it seems likely that this surcharge was printed in blocks of six (two vertical rows of three). Sheets of the 4d. are known surcharged in this manner, as we shall see when speaking of this value, and I have a horizontal pair of the ½d. showing two types of surcharge (Illustration 1), which seems to point to this printing of the ½d. surcharge having been set up in the same manner.

All the other surcharges in small numerals were printed in blocks of three (one vertical row), as can be easily seen by examining blocks or entire sheets, which are not uncommon. (Illustration 2 and 3.)

Take Illustration 2 for example. The distance between the 1's on the first and second stamps is not the same as that between any other two in the first horizontal row; and supposing the setting to have been composed of thirty types, it would be impossible that in all the first row the 1's should have horizontal top strokes, all the second row a dot for a fractional line, and all the third row slanting fractional lines, and 1's with broken tops.

We now come to the issues of July, 1881. It seems probable that these provisional stamps still being required after six months' service, and the surcharging process slow, it was found necessary to make up new settings of fifteen varieties, so as to cover the sheet in two printings. There are two distinct settings which are easily distinguished at first sight by the third line, which in one is composed of thick numerals, like the first two lines; and in the other is composed of thin numerals.

As it is impossible to describe accurately the varieties, I will give here a list of the surcharges I have seen, referring you to the accompanying illustrations to distinguish the types.

January to June, 1881.

Setting A,	on 6d., black; 6 (?) varieties.	Illustration 1.
„ B,	on 6d., black; 3 varieties.	„ 2, 5.
„ B,	on 1s., blue; 3 varieties.	„ 2, 5.
„ B_1,	on 1s., blue; 3 varieties.	„ 6.

(To be continued.)



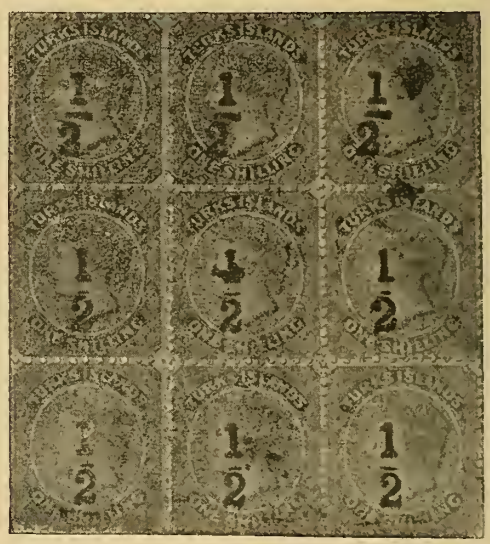
A. 1.



B. 2.



C. 3.



C. 4.



B. 5.



B. 6.

The Jubilee Stamps of Shanghai and Portugal.

WE are indebted to correspondents for the following paragraphs respecting these recent needless issues, and although they occupy some considerable space, we venture to think it is well employed. The fact that this class of issues is simply speculative, made to enrich either private pockets or public funds, should be made patent to all those who buy and those who sell. It is obvious that these constantly recurrent postal abortions must tend to weaken the future of Philately. If it is to rank as a science, it must rest upon something stronger as a basis than the accumulation of such ineffable rubbish.

The following is from *The Celestial Empire* (Shanghai) of December 15th last:

"We think it is high time that a protest was entered against the pettifogging policy which the Civic Fathers are adopting with reference to the issue of local post stamps. Some 360,000 stamps at 2 cents each were issued during the Jubilee craze, with the result of a clear gain of $7200, less the cost of making, to the municipal revenue, for it is not too much to say that none of these stamps were purchased with the intention of utilizing them for the ordinary purpose for which postage stamps are intended; namely, the franking of a letter to a certain destination. On an occasion like the Jubilee some little excuse may be offered for the eccentricities of the local Post-office, which is an anomaly and almost useless institution as at present administered, its postmaster being a more enthusiastic student of philately than he is a public servant; but when it comes to issuing surcharged stamps, with certain marks prized by the stamp collector, merely for the purpose of making money and filling the stamp albums of collectors, we think the Municipal Council are descending to the methods of Pumpernickel, and that the ratepayers should put a stop to the conversion of the local Post-office into a mere institution for catering to the idiotic craze of the modern philatelist, instead of doing the business for which it was started; namely, to deliver correspondence with the least possible delay and red-tape rules. This it does not do; and it is notorious that it is a most inefficient and unsafe vehicle for the transmission of correspondence. A local Post-office which sells $7200 worth of stamps in a couple of days, and yet cannot deliver a letter to Sicawei, the Point, or the Arsenal, is certainly an anomaly. Better if the Council dismissed all ideas of earning a revenue in this absurd and undignified way, and devoted itself to extending the real usefulness of the local Post-office to the ratepayers. We do not want a stamp collecting and selling bureau maintained here at the expense of the ratepayers, but a *bonâ-fide* Post-office; and if Mr. Romer is so engrossed with his philatelist pursuits we must get someone else who will give more civility to the public, a little more attention to the legitimate duties of his office, and less to the catering of stamp collectors. In this connection we would

draw the attention of the Municipal Council to the serious statement in our Chefoo correspondent's letter, dated 10th inst., complaining that no mail matter had reached Chefoo for ten days. Yet on turning to the shipping notices, from the 28th Nov. to the 8th December, we find that some half-dozen steamers left Shanghai for Chefoo during that period which should have carried mails. Why were they not forwarded then? Was the local postmaster too busy getting ready surcharged stamps for the benefit of collectors to attend to his legitimate business? If great reformations are not introduced in the local Post-office, it will soon find its only business is selling postage stamps, which collectors will ere long get to estimate at their proper value, to the utter discredit of the municipality. As it is, the local Post-office is a farce, and the Council's new mode of raising the wind is absurd and contemptible to a degree."

"Our strictures on the municipal stamp-dealing bureau, misnamed the local Post-office, have brought us a whole sheaf of charges against that sadly mismanaged department. We cannot insert anything like all the complaints we have received from old and respected residents; they would fill our paper. But we may summarise a few. A resident, who is one of the best known men in Shanghai, complains that a letter, containing a dividend warrant, posted in the Settlement recently, took *four* days to reach his house, which is scarcely 200 yards from the local Post-office. No satisfaction or explanation could be obtained. A lady posted a letter in Hongkew a fortnight ago to a friend in the Nanking Road; it has not been heard of since, and much inconvenience has been caused by its non-delivery. But no doubt when the local postmaster is finished with the hugger-mugger over the surcharged stamps he will give it his august attention. The writer posted a letter to the Bubbling Well Road a month ago, and another to Yangtze-poo at the same time; neither of them has ever been heard of. A volunteer living in the centre of the English Settlement writes to say that orders that were issued and posted a fortnight ago have never reached him yet. Another correspondent writes so briefly that we may give his complaint in full. It reads:

"'Additional to the already rather heavy list of charges against our local Post-office, allow me to give the following: An invitation to St. Andrew's Ball was sent out in November, 1892; it reached its destination in October, 1893! The party's name to whom it was addressed has been in the Hong List for years. This needs no comment.'

"With the dozens of complaints about the absurd, arbitrary, and apparently vexatiously-designed restrictions, which only a muddle-headed and officious Jack-in-office could devise, about the sale of Jubilee and surcharged stamps we do not purpose now to treat. We give in another column a sample of their nature. We will, however, leave the courteous and obliging local postmaster to deal himself with his pet customers and friends—the postage stamp collectors—as he will know best how to sympathize with and mollify them. But we must say we think the system by which he is allowed to refuse people applying and tendering money for stamps, and treat them to insolence in broken English through a hole in the wall to boot, is one to which the Municipal Council must give very early and careful attention. We would like to know since when the local postmaster became the lawmaker of these Settlements, and can make rules from day to day to suit his own purposes, and refuse to sell stamps unless the application is preceded by a written petition beseeching His Transparency's favour, followed by a *kowtow* in *propria persona*, in order to comply with his ideas of the dignity of his office and the importance of his functions,

of which we, however, think he should immediately be deprived. We do not want a fancy stamp vendor maintained out of the rates, and we do not think the ratepayers desire it either. The sooner the ratepayers put an end to the absurd policy which has destroyed the usefulness of what was once a fairly satisfactory public department the better, and we hope the Council will ere long see it in that light.

"What with selling light and catering for philatelists, to the detriment of the local Post-office, municipal government is coming to a point which passes reason and only excites ridicule."

The foregoing articles call for no comment; and there are, further, letters of complaint in the same issue, were any confirmation needed. We can vouch for the fact that the very existence of the Shanghai Local Post is unknown to the vast majority of residents, and that when we were staying in Shanghai we had considerable difficulty in even finding the Post-office, several people informing us that "*the* Post-office"—*i.e.* the one used for outward mails—was the only one they knew of. Situate in a quiet street, we at length unearthed "the Shanghai Local Post-office"—a very unpretentious building, and, in fact, a mere cottage in appearance.

Comment on the following letter from a correspondent in Portugal is also hardly required. The "stamps" are a poor imitation of the U.S. Centenary.

"Thinking it might interest you, I send the following particulars as to the issue of special stamps to be issued shortly to commemorate the centenary, or quarter-centenary, of Prince Henry the Navigator of Portugal, who sent out several expeditions on voyages of discovery. The issue is authorized by a law dated 27th July, 1893. It comes into use on the 4th March, 1894, and continues until 31st March. The stamps are going to be printed by Singer, of Leipsig. It is estimated that the Government will gain £20,000 by this transaction. Out of this they are going to pay for a monument to the Prince, and with the balance they propose to buy new machinery for the Mint, to be able to print the new issue of colonial stamps begun about a year ago, and also of the bill stamps, &c."

Forged Antioquia First Issue.

By E. D. BACON.



I HAVE recently had sent for my opinion a set of the first issue Antioquia stamps, which, after a very careful examination, I have no hesitation in pronouncing forgeries. When I say that three out of the four values of these forgeries are to be found among the stamps of this issue in the "Tapling Collection," and that these specimens have always been looked upon as genuine by their late owner, and have been unnoticed by all the numerous collectors who have at one time or another looked through the album; and when I add that one of these very specimens came from the collection of a gentleman who took the greatest interest in and was justly proud of his Columbias,* the extremely dangerous nature of these forgeries is at once apparent. I do not propose in the present few remarks to point out the differences that exist between the genuine and the forged stamps, as I am one of those who hold it is a mistake in a case of this kind to publish particulars, which must necessarily assist the maker to improve his imitations, and so make them more perfect still. On the other hand I desire to at once call collectors' attention to the skilful character of these forgeries, which must have been on the market for several years, and which, of my own knowledge, are even now sometimes offered by dealers for sale, in perfect ignorance of their true character. In conclusion I will only add that I shall be pleased to examine and give my opinion upon any specimens of these stamps collectors may care to submit to me.

* Candour compels us to add that in ancient days the writer was the delinquent. He erred, however, in good company, and our correspondent's warning note is amply justified as to these dangerous forgeries.—Ed.

Philatelic Notes.

NOTE.—*Under this title will be found all notes relating to postal issues other than those that are chronicled as current novelties, or which form the subject of special articles. The co-operation of Philatelists is invited in order to make this column of a varied and interesting nature.*

DISCOVERIES.

ST. HELENA.—Mr. J. R. F. Turner writes: "It may interest you to know that the St. Helena 1d., line *14 mm.*, imperforate, which you chronicled as a discovery on page seventeen of the *London Philatelist* is watermarked C and CC, is *used*, and has fine margins. I have had it some years."

CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.—Mr. W. D. Beckton calls our attention to a variety that we have not seen chronicled or catalogued as far as our memory serves, nor is it quoted in the leading catalogues. Mr. Beckton writes, "I write to tell you of an unsevered pair of Cape 3d., *pink*, CC, which I have lately acquired, one bearing the surcharge thick 3 and the other not surcharged."

FIJI.—The following interesting letter from the Colonial Postmaster at Fiji to Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. has been sent us for reproduction. With regard to the FIVE PENCE on sixpence issue, Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. discovered a variety of surcharge in the second printing of 2970. (See volume ii. p. 107.)

"DEAR SIR,—As a record of the surcharged stamps of Fiji since 1890 may be useful to you, and with a view to assist you to check any forgeries, I send a statement indicating the date of issue and number issued. You will observe how few were issued prior to the new stamp being engraved. Most of these were purchased in the colony, and the greater part used for postage. I mention this, as I have been told by yourself and others who have written from England about the large numbers which are offered for sale, which makes me think that there must be forgeries about.

"Yours faithfully, LESLIE I. WITTLE."

SUVA, *16th December*, 1894.

	Date of Issue.	Number Issued.	Date of 2nd Issue.	Number Issued.
½d. on one penny, blue .	1st March, 1892	4984	Nil.	Nil.
2½d. on twopenny, green .	31st Dec., 1890	10000	Nil.	Nil.
5d. on fourpenny, mauve .	25th July, 1892	5000	Nil.	Nil.
FIVE PENCE on sixpenny, rose	30th Nov., 1892	3970	...31st Dec., 1892...	2970

SARAWAK.—Messrs. Clarke and Co. write: "We enclose a sheet of the 1 on 3 c., Sarawak. This we received from there about two years ago amongst a quantity of others, but only noticed to-day that the two top rows have escaped being perforated. We believe this is the *only* sheet we received with imperfect perforation out of a parcel of 10,000. If any others were amongst them we have sold without noticing the error." This sheet is as described, although it bears no trace of gum.

Occasional Notes.

VISIT OF H.R.H. THE DUKE OF YORK TO MESSRS. DE LA RUE & CO.

THE Duke of York paid a visit on the 15th inst. to Messrs. De la Rue's factory in Bunhill Row, where all the English postage stamps of the present issue are prepared. His Royal Highness was accompanied by Sir Francis de Winton, Sir Chas. L. Cust, R.N.; Mr. J. S. Purcell, C.B.; and Mr. J. A. Tilleard. The presence of Mr. Purcell, who is the Controller of Stamps at Somerset House, and necessarily a great authority on English postal stationery, must have materially increased the interest of the inspection. We understand that His Royal Highness, who has apparently the typical English virtue of thoroughness, spent some hours in making an exhaustive examination of this vast establishment, under the personal guidance of Mr. T. A. De la Rue and his brother, and was much interested. This visit affords further evidence that the Duke of York is not simply a collector of stamps, but a Philatelist who takes a keen interest in the pursuit.

THE LONDON PHILATELIC SOCIETY'S EXHIBITION.

FROM the announcement elsewhere made in our columns, it will be seen that there is a great treat in store for lovers of "good things." The celebration of the twenty-fifth anniversary of the foundation of the London Philatelic Society by an exhibition of rare stamps is a happy idea, and with the collaboration of the general body of members such an accumulation of fine stamps should be assembled that the Philatelic world will stand amazed, and even the Society be astonished at the extent of its own riches. The co-operation of all members at home and abroad is desired; and as it must be borne in mind that *there are* rare stamps in "any country or countries," the Exhibition Committee will be loth to accept any plea for non-sending from any member who possesses either a sound general or specialized collection. The earliest possible communication to Effingham House is therefore especially desired by Mr. Castle, who has undertaken this portion of the arrangements.

FORTHCOMING PUBLICATION BY THE LONDON SOCIETY ON THE AFGHAN STAMPS.

IT is with much pleasure that we are enabled to make the announcement conveyed in the above title. The work in question will be carried out by Mr. Gilbert Harrison, whose marvellous collection of the Afghan stamps and intimate acquaintance therewith ensure the appearance of a work that will be in the future simply invaluable.

EXPERT COMMITTEE OF THE LONDON PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

THE arrangements for the initiation of this Committee are now in active progress, and we trust shortly to be in a position to give full publicity to all the details. The Committee will consist of Messrs. E. D. Bacon, M. P. Castle, and Major E. B. Evans.

THE TAPLING COLLECTION.

THERE will be another change in the exhibits at the Museum during the last week of this month. We are informed by Mr. E. D. Bacon that the following stamps will then be placed on view: Great Britain, up to and inclusive of the current adhesives (the second portion appearing later), and Reunion. Both these countries are magnificently represented.

"THE FISCAL PHILATELIST."

WE are indebted to Mr. Walter Morley for a copy of volume i. of the above journal, and regret to note that in face of somewhat scant support its further issue is to cease. Under the Editorship of Mr. F. G. C. Lundy it has made a successful *début*, containing much interesting matter for those who affect fiscals, and is both well illustrated and printed.

ST. HELENA FINANCE.

IT appears from the report of Governor Grey-Wilson that this Island has a hard time of it in its endeavour to maintain a financial equilibrium. This feat was just achieved last year, thanks mainly to a sum "of £139 received from dealers throughout the world for postage stamps." The melancholy of the Governor would yield if he could find a sheet or two of the one penny, red, of the 1863 without surcharge, and the "amount received from dealers" would exceed the present modest sum!

PHILATELIC SOCIETIES IN SWITZERLAND.

MR. OTTO PFENNINGER informs us that the aggregate membership of the twelve leading Swiss Societies is no less than 513, distributed as follows:

Aarau	25	Luzern	26
Basel	73	Neuchatel	19
Berne	46	St. Gallen	41
Biel	28	St. Imier	11
Genf	39	Winterthur	18
Lausanne	113	Zurich	74

Almost all collectors in Switzerland specialise their own stamps, and as there are also collectors outside "the playground of Europe" who like these, it is scarce wonder that the Cantonals are rising to prices as high as their own mountain peaks!

THE BRITISH GUIANA PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

FROM the report of this Society, read at a meeting held on the 22nd December last, we gather it is flourishing, with an increasing membership, although, like most of us, suffering under "that eternal want of pence that vexes souls of men." The suggestion made by the Council of the Society to celebrate the "tercentenary of Sir Walter Ralegh's" first voyage to Guiana in 1595 is however ominous, and we are glad to note that its achievement is considered questionable.

ADVERTISING IN THE UNITED STATES.

THE ingenious methods adopted by our trans-Atlantic friends to catch the eye of the gentle public are worthy of all admiration by the more unsophisticated inhabitants of these little islands. Mr. Howard K. Sanderson's advertisement in the columns of the *Post Office* is, however, so original that we trust that gentleman will forgive us for giving extended publicity to his descriptive genius in calling attention to his well-known stock of fine stamps.

"A SHORT LETTER TO READERS OF THE 'POST OFFICE.'

"I had fully intended to offer to the trade a great novelty in the shape of a rare and beautiful line of Seebecks, but I find there are orders ahead of me for enough to paper five houses, and I am left destitute. I had also proposed to allow 95 per cent. upon all my goods, but as I am still calculating how many times I must double catalogue prices to do it and make anything as others do, I am again defeated in my purpose. If hard times had not come I should probably have sold my few United States stamps at less than cost, but now I am again unable to compete with those who so advertise and never do it. I am grievously disappointed at no being able to offer a rich prize with every 13th, 57th, and 219th order, or to give a stamp with every sale worth more than the price you pay for the whole. These discouraging circumstances leave me little to call your attention to; but I offer no stamp I have not, I send all stamps on approval, I have no credit slips, I return the money instead. I wish trade with genuine philatelists, who know a good thing when they see it, and are willing to pay a fair price for it, without catch-penny chromos, tin whistles, or prize schemes. To such I would suggest that they write me a letter.

"FOR INSTANCE, YOU MIGHT LIKE TO SEE

"An unsevered vertical pair of 90 c., 1860, postally used on part of original letter . . . . . $32·50

An unsevered strip of three vertical 5 c., 1851, margins and cancellation perfect . . . . . 28·50

An unsevered strip of three vertical 5 c., 1851, margins not quite as fine. 24·00

A good copy of the 24 c., 1851 . . . . . 30·00

"10 c., green, 1853, envelope, with eight superb 5 c., red-brown, 1856, used with it. Ask the price," &c. &c.

Reviews.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA.*



IT falls but rarely to the lot of the Philatelic Reviewer to find a work containing such marked evidences of elaborate and conscientious study as are contained in this volume. It has been generally known that Lieut. Napier and Mr. Gordon Smith had exceptional facilities for discovering fresh matter in the intricate issues of this country, as both authors possess fine collections thereof, and had of course their publishers' vast stores to fall back upon. In this direction the authors have been most successful, much information that is partially or entirely novel being added to our previous scanty knowledge hereon. Under this category we would mention the excellent division effected in Issue I. of local and London-printed stamps, the classification of the different perforations, and the separation of the shades according to date of issue, the lists of the varieties found in the second star watermarked paper, the discovery of the six different types of surcharge on the tenpence, and the completion of a list of all the varieties known to date of the Departmentals. The mere enumeration of these few points will enable our readers to appreciate the vast amount of information contained in the 135 pages of the volume. It is eminently a book for the "advanced collector," and one that should be studied at the side of the stamps themselves. Without such study it would be presumptuous to criticise the work in detail, as the subject matter is very intricate, and as occasion arises we hope again to refer to it. There is however, in our judgment, one serious drawback to the work, for which probably the authors are in no way responsible; *i.e.* the separation of the notes and the issue lists. These should assuredly accompany each other. The price lists could have been all placed at the end, and separated from the truly Philatelic matter, as by the present system a tedious reference to the notes is necessary after studying each of the forty-four issues. From the writer's *point de vue* the issues are too much split up, and it cannot be gainsaid that while still including every shade, the work would have gained in lucidity by condensation of the issues. Some of the differences are very subtle; *e.g.* Issue 10, Nos. 59 to 67, and Issue 20, Nos. 122 to 136, seem in most cases to be exactly the same in shade and everything else. While we readily welcome the discernment that includes every minute variety, we are strongly of opinion that their acknowledgment should be subordinate to a clear classification that is within the powers of verification of collectors less advanced than Philatelic authors. The stamps of Victoria and Great Britain will illustrate our meaning. Collectors of Australia stamps will all extend the heartiest

* *South Australia, with Notes and Publishers' Prices.* By F. H. NAPIER and GORDON SMITH. Stanley Gibbons, Limited, 391, Strand, London.

welcome to this book, and we are but re-echoing the general feeling in philatelic ranks in saying that "South Australia" is a production that redounds to the infinite credit of both authors, and sets the seal of high philatelic reputation on Lieut. Napier and Mr. Gordon Smith.

THE ENVELOPES OF THE NORTH GERMAN POSTAL DISTRICT AND OLDENBURG.*

The appearance of the former of these works has excited the most widespread interest in Philatelic circles in the German Empire, by its trenchant attack upon some of the varieties of the utilised or over-gummed provisional envelopes. Mr. Lindenberg enters most exhaustively into the whole history of these envelopes, first generally, and afterwards separately. Every fact connected with their production and description, that could be gleaned from official sources or learned by study of the specimens, is clearly stated. The elaborate and painstaking manner in which these facts are marshalled may be inferred from the statement that no less than 120 pages are included in this number of the series. It is curious to read that the first suggestion of utilising the remainder of the old German State envelopes in stock, at their fusion, by overprinting a 1 silb. gros. or 3 kr. stamp and impressing over it a grey square of inscription, came from an anonymous source. The gradual growth of suspicion anent some of these varieties during the past ten or twelve years is traced step by step, one of the most emphatic warnings having been given by Mr. Breitfuss, a well-known member of the London Society. The discovery by Mr. Lindenberg of specimens with the utilised stamps over *Reprints*, with that of impossible date stamps, such as the noted *Dahlhausen*, turned suspicion into conviction, with the result that the learned author has appended an *index expurgatorium* of no less than thirty-five varieties. There seems to have been a strong suspicion that at some period, and in some occult manner, one of the dies used for the super-impressed grey inscription had disappeared. This was apparently denied officially, but if the super-imposed impression is, as we take it by the context, genuine, the denial may merely mean an absence of knowledge of the fact. Of all the splendid work done for Philately in Germany, none will shed a greater lustre on our esteemed fellow-member than this fearless, brilliant, and acute treatise on a difficult and delicate subject. In the author's own words, a gigantic swindle has been perpetrated with regard to these envelopes, and in plucking out the tares from the wheat Mr. Lindenberg has smoothed the path of many collectors, and achieved a title to their grateful recognition.

The number treating of the envelopes of Oldenburg is naturally a briefer one, but will be found of a highly interesting character. Chapter i. deals with the first issue, large and small size, with stamp to left. The number issued of the former was marvellously small, *e.g.* (large size),

* *The Envelopes of the German States.* Nos. 5 and 6, North German Postal District; No. 7, Oldenburg. By C. LINDENBERG (Landgerichts-direktor). Dr. H. Brendicke, 61, Potsdamer Strasse, Berlin.

½ gr., 1100; 1 gr., 10,500; 2 gr., 1600; 3 gr., 1500. Mr. Lindenberg, commenting hereon, considers that the value of these envelopes is much under-estimated, and contrasts their numbers with other well-known rarities, such as Thurn and Taxis, lilac inscription, large size, ½ and 2 gr., 7500; Lübeck, large size, first issue, 3000 to 6000. An almost more startling comparison is the fact that the number issued of three of the first four large size envelopes is but slightly in excess of the copies printed of the Post-office, Mauritius!

The second chapter treats of the 1862 issue, both sizes, with stamp to right, and short gum; and the third is devoted to the 1863, fourth issue, small size only, and long gum, with an appendix as to the 1867 reprints, some of which are very rare. Of the 1 groschen, rose, of 1863, over a million specimens were issued, of the 2 and 3 gr. about 90,000, and of the ½ gr. 65,000—a wide difference from the figures relating to Issue I. There is not a line in this little book that should be skipped by the philatelic student.

New Issues.

Under this head will be found notes of the new, and variations of the current issues. We do not profess to chronicle everything, but with the kind help of correspondents, are desirous that all the important novelties may be included. Speculative stamps—i.e. those not really required for postal purposes—will be considered on their merits, and Jubilee issues will not be chronicled.

GREAT BRITAIN AND COLONIES.

BRITISH BECHUANALAND.—According to the *Illustriertes Briefmarken Journal* the ½d. and 1d. wrappers exist with the *red* surcharge also.

Wrappers. ½d., brown, *red* surcharge.
1d. ,, ,,

GRENADA.—From *Vindin's Philatelic Monthly* we learn that the 6d., lilac, has been overprinted with the words "Surcharge Postage," in black, and a new value.

Surcharge Postage. 1d., in black, on 6d., lilac.
2d. ,, ,,

INDIA.—The provisional 1 anna card is now obsolete, being replaced by a permanent 1 anna card with slight variations in the type and wording.

Post Cards. 1 anna, blue.
1+1 ,, ,, (reply).

MAURITIUS.—We now chronicle the change of colour of the 15 c. stamp alluded to on page 203, vol. II.

Adhesive. 15 c., *blue.*

NEW SOUTH WALES.—*Le Timbre-Poste* has seen the 1s., brown, surcharged "O. S." in *red*, and dated 12th September, 1889.

The *American Journal of Philately* announces the issue of the ½d. unpaid letter stamp of the same design as the remainder of the series.

Adhesives. ½d., green, current issue.
1s., brown, surcharged O. S. in red.

OIL RIVERS.—We have omitted to chronicle the provisional ½d., made by surcharging ½d. on two halves of the 1d., diagonally divided from top right to lower left corner by a red line.

Adhesive. ½, in red, on half of 1d., lilac.

SEYCHELLES.—*L'Echo de la Timbrologie* states that the 8 c. revenue stamp (current adhesive surcharged REVENUE) has been overprinted 4 c. in black, to be used for postage.

Adhesive.
4 c., in black, on 8 c, violet and green (Revenue).

SIERRA LEONE.—A registration envelope has made its appearance here. It is of similar form to those of the other British colonies.

Registration Envelope. 2d., blue.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA.—The 4d., mauve, and 6d., blue, have now been issued perf. 15.

From a contemporary we learn that there is likely to be "*for philatelic revenue purposes*"! a change of colour in the complete series.

Adhesives. 4d., mauve; *perf.* 15.
6d., blue ,,

EUROPE.

BULGARIA.—The 10 stotinki is reported as now being printed in vermilion, perf. 11½.

10 stotinki, vermilion; perf. 11½.

FRANCE.—The following are the values of postage due stamps in separate colours which have appeared as yet.

Postage Due. 5 centimes, light blue.
10 ,, light brown.
15 ,, light green.
30 ,, rose.

ITALY.—*The Philatelic Record* chronicles a new post card of 10 centesimi with stamp of current type. The inscription is "CARTOLINA POSTALE ITALIANA" in large capitals, underneath which is "CARTE POSTALE D'ITALIE" in smaller capitals. Below this are the arms of the new type. The instructions, in Italian and French, are up the left side, and there are lines for the address, the first preceded by "A" in script.

Post Card. 10 centesimi, carmine on straw.

MONACO.—From Messrs. Whitfield King and Co. we have received the 75 c. of the current type.

Adhesive. 75 c., violet-brown, on straw.

MONTENEGRO.—We have received from Messrs. Whitfield King and Co. specimens of the six new (? *necessary*) values lately issued, as follows:

Adhesives. 1 novtch, sky-blue.
20 ,, brown.
30 ,, deep brown.
50 ,, deep blue.
1 florin, green.
2 ,, deep carmine.

NORWAY.—Certain values of the current series of stamps have had the designs redrawn to a certain extent. The most noticeable change is the word NORGE, which now reads NORGE. The values altered are:

3 öre, orange.
5 ,, pale green.
20 ,, blue.

ROUMANIA.—We understand that a reply card of 10+10 bani has been issued of similar design to the single card chronicled on page 192, vol. ii.

Post Card. 10+10 bani, red on dark yellow buff.

TURKEY.—Mr. R. Pearce writes: "Since the 1st January the current set of this country has been overprinted in black with the Turkish word 'Maktauh,' which means 'printed matter.' It is said that the authorities do not consider this arrangement satisfactory, and consequently the overprint will shortly be done away with, and new stamps issued in place of the overprinted ones.

"There is also to be a new issue of the ordinary postage stamps, but the exact date of this depends on the Sultan, who will fix it by the issue of an Iradé."

10 paras, green
20 ,, pink
1 piastre, blue
2 piastres, orange-brown
5 ,, violet
} With Turkish overprint in black, for printed matter.

AMERICA.

BOLIVIA.—We have received from Messrs. Whitfield King and Co. a new set of postage stamps and stationery. The design is rectangular, bearing the arms of the Republic in an oval, with the inscription "Correos de Bolivia" to left of oval and value in words to right, as also in figures on a square tablet at top and bottom; coloured impression on white wove paper; perf. 14.

Adhesives. 1 centavo, ochre.
2 centavos, vermilion.
5 ,, green.
10 ,, brown.
20 ,, deep blue.
50 ,, violet-brown.
100 ,, carmine-red.
Envelopes. 5 ,, green on straw.
10 ,, brown ,,
Post Cards. 1 centavo, brown on pale green.
2 centavos, blue on straw.
2+2 ,, ,, ,, (reply).

BRAZIL.—We have received from Messrs. Thos. Ridpath & Co. specimens of the new Letter Cards, with variety of perforation across the top.

Letter Card. 80 reis, pink; *perf.* 6.
80 reis ,, ,, 9½.

NICARAGUA.—From Messrs. Thos. Ridpath & Co. we have specimens of the new issue for this year. The central design consists of a female figure resting her left hand upon a triangle (containing the arms of the Republic), and holding up a wreath in her right; above is the inscription, "Correos Republica de," and below "Nicaragua," with value in words in two lines, also value in figures in each of lower corners, "U.P.U," "1894" at sides. Engraved in *taille-douce*, on white wove paper, perf. 12.

We have not as yet seen the stationery, but presume there is the usual complement of values.

Adhesives. 1 centavo, ochre-brown.
2 ,, vermilion.
5 ,, Prussian-blue.
10 ,, grey.
20 ,, carmine.
50 ,, violet.
1 peso, brown.
2 ,, green.
5 ,, red-brown.
10 ,, orange.

From the same source we have also the "Official" set, which consist of same type and values printed in orange, surcharged at top "*Franqueo Oficial.*"

SALVADOR.—The new series came into use on the 1st January last. The design is that of a figure (? Liberty), in a central oval, holding a staff surmounted with a cap, with volcanoes in the background to the right of the oval. "CORREOS DEL SALVADOR" at top, value in letters at bottom, with numerals in both lower corners, CA in left and 1894 in right hand top corners. The envelopes and cards bear the same type, impressed in colour on white paper, perf. 12.

Adhesives. 1 c., deep brown.
2 c., blue.
3 c., carmine.
5 c., yellow-brown.
10 c., violet.
11 c., vermilion.
20 c., deep blue.
25 c., orange.
50 c., grey.
1 peso,

Envelopes. 1 c., brown, on white.
3 c., vermilion ,,
5 c., bistre ,,
10 c., violet ,,
11 c., carmine ,,
20 c., blue ,,
22 c., green ,,

Wrappers. 2 c., deep blue on white.
3 c., vermilion ,,
10 c., violet ,,
11 c., carmine ,,

OTHER COUNTRIES.

CASHMERE.—We understand that a new issue is shortly to be expected from this country. The stamps, which will be of an entirely different design to any of their predecessors, will be manufactured in this country.

CUBA.—The following have also now appeared in new colours: 1, 2, 3, 4, and 8 mil de peso, rose. The other values, 5 and 10 cents, have not had their colours changed. The $2\frac{1}{8}$ c. de peso, chronicled last month, should be $2\frac{1}{2}$ as before.—Vide *Timbre-Poste.*

The Illustrierte Briefmarken Journal chronicles a new card. The stamp is between the two words *Tarjeta Postal.* Size 145 × 100 mm.

Adhesives. 1, 2, 3, 4, and 8 mil de peso, rose.
Post Card. 5 c. de peso, green on straw.

FRENCH COLONIES.—*Zanzibar.*—Stamps for this State have been prepared by surcharging French postage stamps with the equivalent value in annas, in black.

Adhesives.
$\frac{1}{2}$ anna, in red, on 5 centimes, green.
1 ,, in black, on 10 centimes, black on violet.
$2\frac{1}{2}$ annas, in black, on 25 c., black on rose.
5 ,, in black, on 50 c., rose.
10 ,, in black, on 1 franc, olive.

INDIAN STATES.—*Puttialla.*—*The Post Card* notes a variety of the reply card on the 1st half of which the name is surcharged "PUT—TIALLA." The card is of the small size, and perforated along the fold.

Post Card. $\frac{1}{4}+\frac{1}{4}$ anna, brown on buff; variety.

Nabha.—Among a lot of the $\frac{1}{4}$ anna cards *Le Timbre-Poste* has found some with the Arms reversed.

Service Card, $\frac{1}{4}$ a., brown, black surcharge.

PHILIPPINES.—Messrs. Whitfield King and Co. send us specimens of the new colours for 1894, as follows:

Adhesives. $\frac{1}{8}$ de centavo, brown.
1 m. de peso, olive.
2 ,, olive.
5 ,, olive.
2 c. de peso, carmine (?).
$2\frac{4}{8}$,, grey.
5 ,, yellow-green.
8 ,, violet-brown.
10 ,, carmine.
15 ,, pink.
20 ,, violet.

PORTO RICO.—We have the following to add to our list of changes in colour last month.

Adhesives. 2 c. de peso, violet.
5 ,, red-brown.
10 ,, olive-green.
20 ,, sky-blue.
Post Card. 3 ,, carmine on buff.

SAMOA. — We chronicled in January (inadvertently under Great Britain and Colonies) a surcharge of fivepence in words on the current fourpence. We have now received from Mr. W. A. Cooper another surcharge of fivepence on the same value, but with a large figure and letter (5d.) in *red*, and the value blocked out by a horizontal red bar.

Adhesive. 5d., in red, on fourpence, dark blue.

SIAM.—From Messrs. Ridpath & Co. we have a specimen of the recent surcharged 4 att. on the red and yellow card, showing the added inscription and the four figures and value on the stamp in larger and bolder letters of like type to the former.

Post Card.
4 att., black surcharge, on 1 att., red on yellow; variety of type.

Philatelic Societies' Meetings.

THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY, LONDON.

Honorary President.—H.R.H. Duke Alfred of Saxe-Coburg Gotha.
Hon. Vice-President.—H.R.H. The Duke of York, K.G.

Council for the Year 1893-94:

President.—The Earl of Kingston.
Vice-President.—M. P. Castle.

Hon. Secretary.—D. Garth.	*Hon. Assistant Secretary.*—J. A. Tilleard.
Treasurer.—C. N. Biggs.	*Librarian.*—T. Maycock.
E. D. Bacon.	T. Wickham Jones.
H. W. Chambers.	E. J. Nankivell.
E. B. Evans.	R. Pearce.

The nineteenth meeting of the season 1893-94 was held at Effingham House on Friday, the 23rd February, 1894, at 7.30 p.m. The members present were: Messrs. M. P. Castle, E. D. Bacon, C. N. Biggs, R. Ehrenbach, R. Meyer, A. W. Chambers, H. R. Oldfield, W. Silk, Hastings E. Wright, Gordon Smith, O. Pfenninger, T. Maycock, J. G. Tolhurst, C. Gibbons, G. B. Routledge, R. Pearse, E. B. Evans, E. J. Nankivell, and J. W. C. Potter. One visitor also attended.

The chair was taken by the Vice-President, and the minutes of the last two meetings were read and confirmed.

The Secretary was instructed to acknowledge and thank the publishers for a copy of Stanley Gibbons' *Handbook on South Australian Stamps.*

Mr. John Vidsers Painter, proposed by Mr. Gibbons, and seconded by Major Evans, was elected a member of the Society.

On the motion of Mr. Nankivell, seconded by Mr. Ehrenback, it was resolved "That steps be taken to celebrate the twenty-fifth Anniversary of the Society in April next in an appropriate manner, and that the programme shall include an Exhibition of Postage Stamps."

Mr. Nankivell proposed, Major Evans seconded, and it was agreed, "That the publications of the Society be henceforth supplied to the trade upon the usual trade terms."

Mr. Castle then read a short paper by Mr. W. H. Brouse, calling attention to varieties in size in the designs of the 7½d., green, and 10d., blue, stamps of Canada. Mr. Castle showed specimens of the stamps described, and stated that he had measured a number of the pence issues, and found similar differences in the ½d., 3d., and 6d. stamps.

In the discussion which ensued, Major Evans suggested that the differences which had been detected were due to shrinkage of paper. The extreme variation was about 5 per cent. In experiments he got a shrinkage of 8 per cent. in bank wove paper by damping and drying it. Mr. Bacon agreed in this view, as he could not accept the other possible explanation of two dies for each stamp. Other speakers thought the variation of the shape of the oval in the 10d., blue, from an elongated oval to a near approach to a circle, almost too marked to be due to shrinkage of paper.

Mr. Bacon proposed, and Major Evans seconded, and it was agreed, "That the thanks of the Society be tendered to Mr. Brouse for directing the attention of the members to the differences which had been noted in Canadian stamps."

The twentieth meeting of the season was held at Effingham House, on Friday, the 2nd March, 1894, at 7.30 p.m., the following members being in attendance, viz., Messrs. A. W. Chambers, D. Garth, R. Meyer, R. Ehrenbach, F. Ransom, C. W. Viner, H. Hetley, G. B. Routledge, R. Pearce, E. J. Nankivell, T. Maycock, and J. A. Tilleard.

In the absence of the President and Vice-President, the chair was taken by Mr. A. W. Chambers, and the minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed.

The Secretary reported the receipt of letters from Mr. W. L. Mellersh and M. G. Robinet resigning their membership, and the resignations were directed to be accepted with regret.

Some stamps sent by Mr. John Sparrow for inspection were passed round. Amongst them was a copy of the 2s. carmine stamp of South Australia, printed on both sides, and a copy of the 2d. stamp of the second issue of Western Australia apparently pin perforated. The general opinion of the members present was that the perforation of the latter stamp was not genuine. The business of the evening consisted of the revision of the Reference List of the Stamps of the Straits Settlements.

THE twenty-first meeting of the season was held at Effingham House, on Friday, the 9th March, 1894, at 7.30 p.m., the following members being present, viz., E. D. Bacon, H. R. Oldfield, R. Ehrenbach, R. Meyer, W. Silk, C. W. Viner, A. W. Chambers, T. Maycock, J. G. Tolhurst, W. T. Willett, G. B. Routledge, R. Pearce, F. C. Van Duzer, and J. A. Tilleard.

The chair was taken by Mr. Bacon in the absence of the President and Vice-President, and the minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed.

Mr. Ehrenbach read a paper on "The Advantages of Collecting in Blocks and Pairs." In the course of the paper Mr. Ehrenbach drew attention to the great assistance which had been derived from the collection of stamps in the manner advocated by him in compiling the history of the postal issues of many countries, illustrating his remarks by reference to the stamps of the various countries in which it would have been impossible to arrive at the results attained without being in possession of steps or blocks of stamps.

On the motion of Mr. Bacon, seconded by the Assistant Secretary, a hearty vote of thanks was accorded to Mr. Ehrenbach for his most interesting paper, which, with his consent, it is proposed to publish in the *London Philatelist.*

BRIGHTON AND SUSSEX PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

Honorary President.—BARON DE WORMS.

Committee for the Year 1894:

President.—M. P. CASTLE. | *Vice-President.*—J. H. REDMAN.

Hon. Sec. and Treasurer.—A. DE WORMS.

Hon. Librarian—O. PFENNINGER.

W. T. WILLETT. | H. STAFFORD SMITH.

J. W. GILLESPIE. | R. J. WOODMAN.

THE eighth meeting of the season was held at Markwell's Hotel, Brighton, on Monday, January 29th, at 7.45 p.m. Present—Messrs. M. P. Castle, J. W. Gillespie, O. Pfenninger, H. Clark, E. E. Manwaring, P. de Worms, A. de Worms, J. H. Redman, W. H. G. Cruttwell, W. T. Willett. The President in the chair. After the minutes of the previous meeting had been read and confirmed, Messrs. C. Neville Biggs, Hastings E. Wright, and A. Upton were elected members of the Society. The President then proposed that Mr. Pfenninger be elected Librarian to the Society. This was seconded by the Vice-President, and unanimously agreed to. Mr. Pfenninger gave a most interesting and detailed description of the numerous "forgeries" of the early Swiss stamps, and exhibited a large number of specimens of the many different types, several being extremely well executed and difficult of detection. He demonstrated the difference between the "forgeries" and the genuine stamps by means of greatly enlarged photographs of the latter, thereby pointing out the most minute details. These were taken by Mr. Pfenninger himself, and were proof of his great proficiency in the art of photography. A cordial vote of thanks was accorded to Mr. Pfenninger.

THE ninth meeting of the season was held at Markwell's Hotel, Brighton, on Monday, February 12th, at 7.45 p.m. Present—Messrs. M. P. Castle, J. W. Gillespie, R. J. Woodman, O. Pfenninger, E. E. Manwaring, P. de Worms, H. Stafford Smith, W. T. Willett, A. de Worms, J. H. Redman, W. H. G. Cruttwell. The President in the chair. The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, the following donations to the Society's library were received: *Scott's Standard Catalogue*, 1894, and *Die Postwerthzeichen des Herzogthums Braunschweig*, from the President; a large number of pamphlets, journals, catalogues, &c., from Mr. Willett; and a copy of *Stamps and Stamp Collecting* from Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Limited. The best thanks of the Society were accorded to the donors for their kindness. Mr. J. W. Gillespie then exhibited his fine collection of Holland and colonies, on which he read a long and most carefully-prepared paper, dealing not only with the various issues, but giving also detailed lists of the numerous perforations, extracts from official documents, &c. He also mentioned that of the "unpaid letter stamps" there were in each value several differences in the design. Among other stamps in his collection may be noted imperf. specimens of several of the later issues, a 20 c. of 1868 perf. 10½, etc. The President, on proposing a vote of thanks, observed that as the meeting had heard one of the best papers yet read before the Society, he trusted that Mr. Gillespie would allow it to be published in the *London Philatelist*. Mr. Gillespie signified his acquiescence. The proposal was seconded by Mr. Willett, and carried.

MANCHESTER PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

President.—VERNON ROBERTS. | *Vice President.*—F. BARRATT.
Hon. Sec.—W. DORNING BECKTON. | *Assistant Hon. Sec.*—C. H. COOTE.
Hon. Treasurer.—G. B. DUERST.
Hon. Librarian.—J. H. ABBOTT.
E. P. COLLETT. | W. GRUNEWALD.
G. F. H. GIBSON. | W. W. MUNN.

THE eleventh meeting of the session was held at the Blackfriars Hotel on Thursday, February 1st, 1894, the Vice-President in the chair, supported by the Treasurer, Librarian, Hon. Secretary, Assistant Hon. Secretary, Messrs. Collett, Munn, Pemberton, Fildes, North, Bowker, Wallace, and St. Angelo.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. Mr. Munn read a paper upon the stamps of Gambia, illustrating the same with his collection of the stamps of this country, which included entire sheets of most of the values. Mr. Munn's paper was much appreciated, and caused a discussion upon the arrangement of the watermarks on the 1888 issue.

THE twelfth meeting of the session was held on February 16th, 1894, the President in the chair, supported by nineteen members and one visitor, Dr. Moore.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. Two new members were duly proposed.

The President welcomed Mr. Castle to the first meeting he had been able to attend, and stated that upon hearing that Mr. Castle was visiting Manchester he had asked him to bring a portion of his collection to show the members, which request had been most kindly acceded to.

Mr. Castle then addressed a few words to the meeting, after which the members looked over the part of Mr. Castle's collection he had brought with him, consisting of Western Australia, New South Wales (Sydney Views), and New Zealand.

It is needless to add that the collection was much admired and appreciated.

W. DORNING BECKTON.

DAISY BANK, SWINTON PARK, MANCHESTER

The Market.

AUCTIONS.

Comparative Prices.

In the columns of the *Deutsche Briefmarken Zeitung* for this month there are certain comments as to the unreliability and fluctuations of prices realized at public sale. Our esteemed contemporary urges hence that these prices should not be accepted, and, still further, requoted in dealers' catalogues in cases where the sellers have not the particular stamps in stock. With this we quite agree. It is the *crux* of the question, for any rare stamp quoted on supposition must be fictitiously priced. The amazing differences in prices attained recently at auctions is not, as our contemporary imagines, due to rivalry or ill-judged purchases, but mainly to the relative condition of the lots. Prices of auctions indiscriminately quoted are of no service to collectors, nor has this journal ever had any intention of giving any of the prices realized without a careful discrimination.

Messrs. Ventom, Bull, and Cooper's sale of the 19th to 23rd February was a decided success. The entire sale was from the collection of a well-known amateur, the consequent result being that having confidence, buyers went to the fullest extent, and in many cases achieved a record. The aggregate amount was the largest ever realised in this country. The following are the most notable lots :

	£	s.	d.
Great Britain, 1d., black, V.R., damaged	8	0	0
Ditto, Wmk. Orbs, £1, marone, unused, with gum	4	0	0
Mecklenburg-Schwerin, ¼ sch., red, with dotted background, rouletted	5	15	0
Saxony, 3 pfennige, red, unused, with gum	7	0	0
Ditto, 3 pfennige, red, used	4	0	0
Austria, newspaper stamp (head of Mercury), 50 kr., rose, used, on piece of original	5	5	0
Bulgaria, 5 stotinki, carmine on pink, unused, *error*	3	10	0
France, 1 fr., orange, grill postmark	6	15	0
Naples, ½ tornese, "Arms"	15	0	0
Roumania (Moldavia), 108 paras, blue on pink, used on original	17	0	0
Spain, 1850, set complete	3	12	6
„ 2 reales, red, unused	20	0	0
„ 2 „ „ lightly postmarked	6	0	0
Ditto, 2 reales, red	4	4	0
Ditto, 12 cuartos, blue and rose, with centre inverted	7	7	0
Ditto, 12 cuartos, blue and rose, with inverted centre	12	0	0
Switzerland, Basle, 2½ rappen, blue and red	3	10	0
Ditto, used on entire letter sheet	4	10	0
Geneva, the double stamp unsevered and used on entire letter sheet	22	0	0
Ditto, 5 c., envelope stamp used as an adhesive on entire letter sheet	11	0	0
Vaud, 4 c., black and red	14	0	0
Winterthur, 2½ rappen, red and black, block of 4 (!)	17	0	0
Zurich, vertical lines, 4 rappen, black. Type I.	10	5	0
Ditto, vertical lines, 4 rappen, black. Type II.	11	0	0
Ditto, vertical lines, 4 rappen, black. Type III.	11	0	0
Ditto, vertical lines, 4 rappen, black. Type IV.	11	11	0
Ditto, vertical lines, 4 rappen, black. Type V.	11	11	0
Ditto, horizontal lines, 4 rappen	9	9	0
Ditto, vertical lines, used	12	5	0
Ditto, horizontal lines, 6 rappen, black. The 5 types	7	0	0
Ditto, vertical lines, ditto	7	0	0
Ditto, general issue, Poste Locale, central cross without border, 2½ rappen, black and red	11	0	0
Ditto, Poste Locale, 2½ rappen, made up plate of 40 varieties	32	10	0
Tuscany, 2 soldi, red ; fair	4	4	0
„ 60 crazie, red „	7	0	0
„ 60 „ „ unused, very fine	14	0	0
Ditto, 3 lire, yellow ; fine	26	0	0
Ceylon, 8d., brown	8	0	0
India, 1854, ½ anna, red, unused	7	15	0
Portuguese Indies, 1871, 40 r., blue	4	15	0
Cape of Good Hope, woodblock, 1d, red	4	0	0

	£	s.	d.
Ditto, woodblock, 4d., dark blue	4	15	0
Ditto, error, 1d., *blue*	42	0	0
Mauritius, 1d., vermilion, early state of plate	5	0	0
Ditto, later state of plate, 1d., red, unused pair	8	0	0
Ditto, 2d., blue; grand copy (!)	21	10	0
Ditto, 2d., blue, early state of plate, error Penoe	6	0	0
Ditto, large fillet, 2d., blue, slightly torn	10	10	0
Natal, 9d., blue, fine impression	10	10	0
„ 1/–, buff	10	10	0
Canada, 12d., black, used on piece of original	50	0	0
Ditto, 6d., black, perf.	4	0	0
New Brunswick, 1s., violet	9	0	0
Newfoundland, 6½d., carmine-red, *used*	6	0	0
Ditto, 1s., carmine-red	19	0	0
Nova Scotia, 1s., violet, cut close	7	0	0
British Guiana, 1850, 4 c., black on yellow, used, on piece of original	23	0	0
Ditto, 12 c., black on blue, cut square	9	9	0
„ 1851, 1 c., black on magenta, pair with large margins	10	15	0
„ 4 c., black on deep blue, used on piece of original	4	4	0
„ 1856, 4 c., black on crimson, cut square	13	0	0
„ Provisionals, 4 c., black and blue, with border of quatrefoils, variety with inner lines, showing roulettes on three sides	7	5	0
Montserrat, wmk. Cr. and CA, 4d., blue, unused, with gum	5	5	0
Nevis, 6d., grey, lithographed, unused, with gum	5	5	0
Ditto, wmk. Cr. and CA, 6d., green, unused, with gum	3	3	0
St. Vincent, wmk. star, 5s., lake-red, unused, with gum	4	10	0
Tobago, wmk. Cr. and CA, 6d., ochre, unused, with gum	4	15	0
Trinidad, lithographed, fine impression, 1d., blue	3	10	0
Turks Islands, 1s., prune	9	0	0
Virgin Islands, 1s., crimson, with single line border, unused, with gum	2	0	0
Bolivia, 11 stars, 500 c., black, unused, with gum	3	12	6
Buenos Ayres, 3 pesos, green, on piece of original	3	12	6
Ditto, 4 pesos, red	11	0	0
Colombia, 1862, 20 c., carmine	6	0	0
Antioquia, 1st issue, 5 c., green, penstroked	10	10	0
Ditto, ditto, 1 peso, red	4	15	0
Bolivar, 1st issue, 10 c., green	4	4	0
Peru, medio peso, yellow	2	16	0
Ditto, medio peso, rose	9	9	0
New South Wales, Sydneys, plate I., 1d., red, a vertical pair, Nos. 11 and 16 on plate	3	12	6
Ditto, a pair, Nos. 6 and 7	5	5	0
„ a pair, on bluish, Nos. 13 and 18	3	5	0
„ a pair, No. 19 and 20	4	10	0
„ plate II., 2d., blue, 3 copies realised each	3	7	6
„ plate II., error, *Crevit omitted*, No. 13	9	10	0
„ plate III., 3d., green, a pair	4	4	0
„ plate III., 3d., green, a pair on laid paper	2	6	0
„ plate III., 3d., green, a pair on wove paper	2	2	0
„ Laureated issue, 8d., orange	2	15	0
„ registration stamps, an entire made-up plate (except Nos. 4, 18, and 44)	31	0	0
New Zealand, 6d., brown, rouletted, unused	2	14	0
Tasmania, 1d., blue. £2 8s. and	2	14	0
Ditto, 4d., orange, partly made-up plate of 20	6	0	0
„ entire made-up plate	10	0	0
Victoria, 1st issue, 2d., dull lilac, rouletted	2	6	0
Ditto, 1861–66, 5s., blue on yellow, unused, with gum	7	5	0
Western Australia, 6d., bronze (gold)	6	6	0
Ditto, 1s., brown, rouletted	3	0	0
„ error, 2d., *pale violet*, fine	13	10	0

Auctions at Edinburgh.

Two sales of postage stamps have been held by Messrs. James H. Smith and Co. "within their rooms" at Edinburgh during this season. Amongst the lots there were apparently some good stamps, but we have no information as to the prices attained. "Switzerland, a fine lot, including old and rare, 26," would be an awkward lot to bid for unseen.

The Scott Stamp Company's Auction.

The sale of February 14th to 16th was noticeable for the submittal of a large number of good stamps, the property of Mr. W. C. Skinner, of Bangor. Among those sold we may cite—

New York, 1843, 3 c., blue; fair	$18.75
Brazil, 1845, 180, 300, 600 r.	38.75
Newfoundland, 6½d.	25.30

Newfoundland, 1s., scarlet; cut close	33.00
Nova Scotia, 1s., violet; fair . .	50.60 / 51.75
Queensland, 6d., green; imperf.; fine	14.25
Spain, 3 c., bronze; fine . . .	37.25
Switzerland, 4 r., Zurich . . .	43.50
Trinidad, Lady McLeod; fine . .	58.00
Tuscany, 60 c.; fair	33.00

A large number of match and medicine stamps were also disposed of at apparently good prices, the highest figure attained for one specimen being $100. The neat and excellent system adopted by the Scott Stamp and Coin Co. for marking the prices on their catalogues affords a good example to our auctioneers in this country.

The Swiss Market.

Our excellent contemporary the *Gazette Timbrologique* concluded in a recent issue a comprehensive and lucid narration of the Zurich Exhibition of last summer, with a detailed account of all the exhibits, and of the several events of a Philatelic nature connected with the assemblage of so many collectors. In reviewing the situation our contemporary estimates that, at moderate prices, on an even moderate scale, a collection of the Swiss stamps could not be made under £600, and he instances the exhaustion of the stocks of the 4 cts., "Vaud," 4 r., Zurich, and 10 c., Geneva, and their consequent great rise in price.

At an auction held at Zurich during the Exhibition last summer, nine-tenths of the stamps sold were Swiss, and among the prices quoted are: Basle, with "Franco" obliteration, £8 8*s.*; 10 c., Geneva, £16 12*s.*; and the five types, unused and unsevered, of the 6 r., Zurich (in fair condition), £24 8*s.* The days *have* changed since 15*s.* would buy a 4 r., Zurich, and 30*s.* a "double Geneva." We can but wonder where the "rise" will leave off.

Stamp Speculation in Hawaii.

The presumably ephemeral character of the recently formed Hawaaian Government has created a wide-spread anxiety to become possessed of the provisionally surcharged stamps, and a kind of philatelic fever seems to have taken hold of the denizens of the Sandwich Islands. Chinamen vie with Europeans and Americans in endeavouring to corner the market, but as there are so many "in the know," the "unloading" will probably "ease the market." (We have been reading financial journals lately, hence the graceful extension of our vocabulary!)

The letter of the Hon. Theodore C. Porter, ex-minister of Finance, to a would-be stamp purchaser is delightful reading. "Perfect rush"; "gobbled up at fabulous prices"; "inside deal"; "I can get——not many of them left," etc. etc., having a quaintly "official" flavour!

A resident of that charming town Los Angeles, that the writer visited last summer, in California, started for Honolulu with 10,000 dollars to buy up generally, but "failed to obtain" any great number of the early rare issues. These *would* be good stock in sheets!

Correspondence.

Communications.—*All communications on Philatelic matters or Advertisements should be addressed to the Editor of* The London Philatelist, Kingston Lodge, Richmond Place, Brighton. *No anonymous contributions can be noticed.*

Subscriptions.—The London Philatelist *will be sent, post free in Great Britain or the countries of the Postal Union, to any subscriber, on receipt of* 6s. *Subscribers' remittances should be sent to* The Publishers, Effingham House, Arundel Street, Strand, London, W.C., *of whom also bound copies of Vol. I. can be procured. Half morocco, gilt edges,* £1 1s., *postage* 9d. *Abroad extra.*

SOUTH AFRICAN STAMPS.

To the Editor of the "London Philatelist."

My dear Sir,—On my arrival here naturally enough, as a philatelist, I wended my way to the Post-office, in charge of Mr. James Dawson, who has just been appointed officially as Postmaster, having had charge of the Post-office arrangements here ever since there has been a post-bag sent out of the country, now some twenty years.

Although the country is now under the rule of the British South African or Char-

tered Company, the stamps in present use are those used for British Bechuanaland; and previously Mr. James Dawson was supplied from Vryburg with British Bechuanaland stamps, but surcharged "Protectorate."

After a keen search, in which Captain Sir John Willoughby, Bart., Royal Horse Guards (Military Secretary to the Administrator), and others joined, we found that Mr. Dawson had only the remnants of four panes of half-penny English, surcharged "British Bechuanaland," and again overprinted in two lines "Protectorate—FOUR PENCE," these being absolutely the last in the country, as I had made enquiries all along the road, and not been able to secure any others. Of other values surcharged "Protectorate" there were none left; but I also found several sheets of the one penny and fourpenny unappropriated English die, overprinted at the bottom "British Bechuanaland Postage and Revenue," and still in use from this one office alone.

The ordinary stamps, of which the supply is running very low, in consequence of the heavy weekly demand of a large camp full of Europeans, are those at present in use in British Bechuanaland, and owing to the difficulties of getting up a fresh supply from Vryburg in the wet season now on, it is more than probable that some provisional stamps will have to be made for use.

The Company even have no supply whatever of their own stamps for putting on licences, &c., although this will doubtless soon be remedied from Fort Salisbury.

Several ardent collectors have already been enquiring, and all the Post-offices on the road have done a good business accordingly. Among these philatelists I may mention Major Sawyer, Military Secretary to H.E. the High Commissioner; Captain Saddler, representing the *Army and Navy Gazette;* and several others.

No post cards or wrappers are in use, but several sizes of Registration Envelopes are kept in stock, in small quantities. They are the English 4d., red, on flap surcharged in curve "British Bechuanaland." There were also a few of the Cape 4d. Registered Envelopes with straight overprint in two lines, but I secured all these.

Thinking these notes may be of interest to your readers, I am sending them to you for publication,

And am, very faithfully yours,

CHAS. L. NORRIS-NEWMAN,
Captain,
Reuter's Special Commissioner in Matabeleland.

GU BULUWAYO, BRITISH MATABELELAND, S.A.,
January 29th, 1894.

MINOR "NOVELTIES."

DEAR SIR,—I notice in your current number, p. 45, mention of a one penny envelope, silk thread, small size, "Dec., '80," with doubly embossed head, as a hitherto unchronicled variety.

Is not the "Dec., '80," a printer's error, which should read "*die* 80"?

Having seen the specimen, I find it has "80" as the index number to the die at the base of the neck.

The double impression no doubt is there, the die went down twice on this envelope; but the duplicity is of the very minutest—hardly perceptible—and certainly does not deserve chronicling. A slip in the press, or a pull too soon, would readily make a far more distinct double impression.

I fear this kind of "variety" is too often recorded, and does harm always. We shall next have die in the middle of the front, on the back, flaps, &c., if such mistakes by chance escaped the vigilance of the inspector on duty, and were not destroyed at the time.

There is quite enough field for research in Great Britain without trying to make factitious items on such pretences.

Further, the supposed 2 shillings, blue, plate 2, mentioned on p. 44, has, on investigation, been found to be plate 1. Mr. Wright has very carefully examined the alleged discovery, and it turns out to be nothing but the old well-known stamp.

Some of our over-enthusiastic friends are too ready to accredit anything out of the common, and a little patience and a calmer judgment are very necessary to be invoked.

Yours faithfully,

FRED. A. PHILBRICK.

March, 1894.

THE

London Philatelist:

THE MONTHLY JOURNAL OF

THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY, LONDON.

VOL. III. APRIL, 1894. No. 28.

The London Philatelic Society's Exhibition.

BY the announcements made elsewhere in this issue, it will be seen that the arrangements for this "new departure" in Exhibitions are progressing most satisfactorily, and that there is reason to anticipate a series of exhibits which have had no parallel in the past. It has been evident by sundry comments that to depart from the beaten path in Philatelic circles, is to invite criticism from all those who tread the well-worn track. "The greatest good to the greatest number" is an aphorism as applicable to Philately as to Political Economy, and the connection should animate those who hold positions of responsibility in "our little world." We are therefore satisfied that, despite one or two friendly criticisms, this exhibition will prove a great success, and give great pleasure to the vast majority of collectors. The main burthen of the comments that we have alluded to has been that "it is not scientific," like the preceding exhibition, which embraced all varieties in specialised groups. To a certain extent this cannot be gainsaid, but the advantages in other directions are so obvious that a departure from previously-accepted principle is fully condoned.

In the first place the occasion is exceptional. The twenty-fifth anniversary of the foundation of a body like the London Philatelic Society, may well present an occasion when the scientific mantle may be discarded for the less sombre garments suitable for a festive occasion. In the second place, the exhibition of rare stamps does not include only high-priced or vulgar rarities that bear their wealth on their face, but all those really scarce and interesting stamps that it rejoices a collector's heart to discover

after many years—these *trouvailles* being within the scope of every ardent Philatelist; therefore the opportunities for exhibiting are thrown open to all, in far wider measure than could be the case where complete countries have to be exposed. In the third place, the exhibition of very many of the rarities will largely add to the knowledge of those who are privileged to inspect them. It is safe to assume that to very many of those who will attend, a considerable proportion of the rarities shewn have always been a sealed book. The onlookers will see what exists, will be enabled to study their exact appearance, will learn what constitutes rare stamps in the eyes of the leading Philatelists, and will assuredly depart with the conviction that not only has the exhibition been a feast for the eyes, but that it has also afforded a most solid *pabulum* in the shape of an extension of their previous store of Philatelic knowledge.

The 1881 Surcharges of Turks Islands.

By A. DE REUTERSKIÖLD.

(*Continued from page* 63.)

Setting C, on 1s., prune; 3 varieties. Illustration 3, 4.

Setting C_1, on 1s., prune; 3 varieties.
Same as C, but no fractional line to variety 3.

Setting C_2, on 1s., prune; 3 varieties. Illustration 8.
Same as C or C_1, but no fractional line to variety 1.

Setting C_3, on 1d., red; 3 varieties. Illustration 9.
Same as C_2, but numerals in variety 1 are in a straight line, and a short fractional line is inserted.

Setting D, on 1d., red; 3 varieties. Illustration 10.
Setting D, on 1s., plum; 3 varieties. „ 10.

July to December, 1881.

Setting E, on 1d, red; 15 varieties. Illustration 11.
„ F, on 1d., red; 15 varieties. „ 12.
„ F, on 1s., plum; 15 varieties. „ 12.

To make the 2½d. stamps the ½d. provisionals were used by printing a 2 in front of the fraction; either a large thin 2, 8 mm. in height, and with a curly tail, or a smaller and thicker 2, 6 mm. in height, and with a straight tail.

The ½d. settings used were the following:

Setting A, on 6d., black; 6 (?) varieties; large curly-tailed 2. Illustration 13.
„ B, on 6d., black; 3 varieties „ „ „ 14.
„ B, on 6d., black; 3 varieties; small thick 2, with straight tail „ 15.
„ C, on 1s., prune; 3 varieties; large curly-tailed 2 „ 16.
„ E, on 1s., blue; 15 varieties; small thick 2, with straight tail „ 17.
„ F, on 1d., red; 15 varieties „ „ „ „ 18.
„ F, on 1s., prune; 15 varieties „ „ „ „ 18.

Of this last setting on the 1s., prune, I have type 6, with large, curly-tailed 2 (illustration 19), but I cannot say whether one or two of these


TURKS ISLANDS
½
ONE PENNY

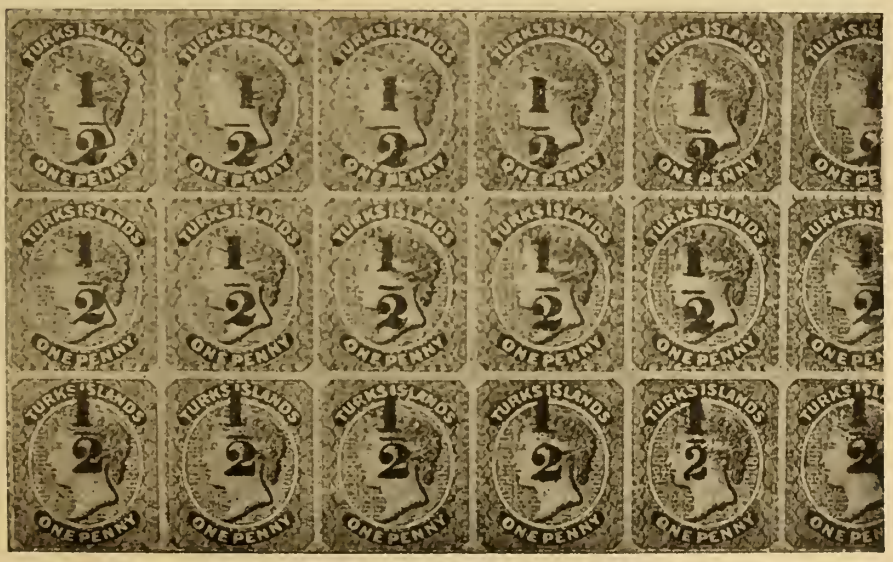
C. 8.


TURKS ISLANDS
½
ONE PENNY

C. 9.


½

D. 10.


TURKS ISLANDS
½
ONE PENNY

E. 11.



F. 12.



B. 14



A. 13.



B. 15.



C. 16.

Type 6.



F 19.

3. 4. 5.



13. E. 17. 15.



F. 18.



20 *a*.



20 *b*.



20 *c*.



20 *d*.



21



22



23

were introduced in the setting up, or if there is a whole plate of them. In these settings, E and F, the large 2's were printed in blocks of fifteen, or perhaps thirty; for though the position of the large 2 varies on different specimens, being sometimes above and sometimes below the fractional line, it is in the same position on the stamps from the same sheet.

In the *Philatelic Record* for April, 1881, is noted a 2½d. surcharge on 6d., black, *with smaller surcharge.* The large surcharges having only been issued three months later, I think this must refer to a variety which was shown me last year by one of our leading dealers, and of which I am only able to give a poor illustration (23). The large 2 is the usual one with curly tail, but the ½ is in much smaller figures, the fraction being only 7 mm. in height. This variety is extremely rare, and was probably amongst the first issued.

Of the 4d. surcharge there are several varieties (illustration 20, a, b, c, d), and at least three different settings. One setting is printed in blocks of six, composed of five types a, and one type b (illustration 21),

a. a.
a. a.
a. b.

so that the first two horizontal rows of the sheet all have surcharge a, and the last row alternately a and b.

Another setting, of which I have seen entire sheets, is printed in vertical strips of three, all type a (illustration 22). These two settings occur, the first on the 6d., black, and 1s., prune, and the second on the 6d., black, only.

There is a third setting, which occurs on the 1d., red, and 6d., black, containing types a and c, but as I have seen no blocks of this surcharge I am unable to say how it is made up.

I have placed this setting last, as it is the only one which is found on the 1d., red, which was the last surcharge chronicled; but it is quite possible it may have been the first issued, as after the notice in the March number of the *Philatelic Record* of the issue of a provisional 4d., we find in the May number a variety of this surcharge, described as differing by the greater squatness of the 4.

As regards surcharge d, I have it on the 1d., red,* and on the 1d., rose, but have always looked upon it as a forgery. I mention it here hoping to elicit further information about it.

This ends my list of these surcharges, and if it induces others to study these interesting varieties, and to correct and complete my list of the different settings up, the end I have in view in writing these lines will be attained.

* Since writing the above this surcharge has been declared genuine by the Philatelic Protection Association.

[CORRECTION.—The last two illustrations in the March number are numbered incorrectly.
B 5 should be Setting B_1, No. 6.
B 6 ,, ,, B, No. 5.
This latter illustration is not very successful, having been touched up; the fraction line in the 2d. variety should be a mere dot, as can be seen in Illustration 2.—ED.]

Remarks on the Arrangement of the Stamps of Great Britain.

By E. D. BACON.

AFTER the strong view expressed by Mr. Hastings Wright upon the best arrangement of a collection of the stamps of Great Britain, and after the similar declarations that fell from other distinguished members of the Philatelic Society, at the meeting at which Mr. Wright read his paper, I naturally feel somewhat diffident in putting forward my own opinion, which is diametrically opposed to such recognised authorities. It is only after a good deal of deliberation, and the conviction I have that the method these gentlemen propose is contra-philatelical, that I venture to raise my voice against a system that meets with such high approval.

No one will, I feel confident, contradict me when I say that all philatelists are agreed that the correct plan to adopt in arranging a collection is a strictly chronological one. This is so obvious that, with the exception of our own country, and at most one or two others, no other plan has ever been suggested. But we are told the stamps of Great Britain do not lend themselves to this treatment, and that if the chronological method is adhered to, the collection is reduced to chaos, although Mr. Wright admits the chaos is more apparent than real. I have had some experience lately in mounting the stamps of our own country, as I have just completed the re-arrangement of those in the "Tapling Collection" upon a chronological basis, and I believe that, so far from chaos being the result, an inspection will show that this system cannot only be successfully carried out, but that it presents many advantages over the plan advocated by Mr. Hastings Wright, and others, of arranging the stamps according to their values, sub-divided under the various methods used for their production.

The principal advancement of a chronological arrangement is, that by following the issues one readily sees the numerous changes of values and modes of printing made necessary by postal progress. The various designs, colours, watermarks, and perforations are all found in the order in which they appear, from their commencement down to the present day; in short, a continuous history of the stamps is unfolded as the leaves of the album are turned over one by one. All this, so far as the continuity is concerned, is lost by breaking the stamps up into their several values, and one never knows what stamps were in use at or about the same period. I do not wish for a moment to be understood to defend a chronological order that interferes with the plate numbers of any stamp of a particular issue, such as breaking up the plate numbers of the Perkins-Bacon one penny, and arranging them according to the years in which they appeared, interspersed with other values,

as was done in one large collection I once saw. I think this is going to the other extreme, and may without exaggeration be said to lead to confusion of an undesirable nature. One might just as reasonably try to class the various shades of the stamps of any country, by the different years they happened to be issued in, as to follow out a plan of the above nature. On the contrary, I consider that the plate numbers of a stamp of the same colour, watermark, and perforation should all be classed under one issue, and on no account be separated.

As regards a written history of the stamps of Great Britain, it may perhaps be more convenient to divide the stamps of their values under the different forms of printing. I see no objection why this course should not be pursued, except that it has, without doubt, a tendency to tempt collectors to follow a similar arrangement of the stamps in their collections. I am consequently glad to find that Mr. W. A. S. Westoby, in his work *Postage Stamps of the United Kingdom*, 1840–1890, reverts to a chronological order, and I only regret that he makes this dependent upon the three divisions of printing.

In conclusion, I contend that no sufficiently strong reason has yet been shown in the case of Great Britain stamps, for departing from the recognised method of arranging a collection. I further maintain that these stamps do not present such difficulties that it is necessary or expedient that the usual custom of mounting should be departed from, and that an arbitrary system depending upon two divisions—firstly of printing, and secondly of values, should be substituted.

The Oxford University Emissions.

By J. R. F. TURNER.

Read in the form of a Paper before the Oxford Philatelic Society.



UNTIL quite recently the Oxford College stamps, post cards, and envelopes were a veritable "unknown quantity;" for although it was no secret among a select few that such things had been used extensively, in the absence of any authentic information on the subject it was not surprising that collectors generally should hitherto have been entirely ignorant of their existence. In January last, however, Professor Napier published in the *Monthly Journal* a highly-interesting paper thereon, which, besides placing on record all the known varieties, gave a vast amount of details with respect to the same. Philatelists at once asked themselves the question why stamps which had been withdrawn from circulation nearly ten years ago should, in the meantime, have apparently slumbered in oblivion. It was an experience quite new to them, and one that seemed almost incredible; for here were stamps that had been used for a purely postal purpose quietly dying a natural death, not even their ghosts in the form of

reprints and forgeries appearing, as had happened in the case of the Circular Delivery and other stamps too numerous to mention. This singular state of things is not difficult to explain, for except that a stray copy occasionally turned up in an old collection, and perhaps caused much wonderment as to its real character, comparatively few seem to have found their way into the country, and dealers getting no demand for them either remained ignorant of their appearance, or were apathetic and made no efforts to lay in a stock when the stamps were easily obtainable.

Soon after their suppression all recollection of the College stamps in Oxford seems to have slowly died out. Several of the issuing colleges can give absolutely no information on the subject, and in one case, a don of Keble, who has been in residence for over twenty years, assured me that no stamps were issued by that college previous to the blue lithographed stamp of 1877; whilst the authorities at Hertford are unable to explain the fact that whereas their stock of adhesives were supplied to the college in 1875, yet none were actually used until the end of 1883 or commencement of 1884, the supply of 15,000 lying idle in the college bursary during the intermediate period of eight years. Further difficulties were experienced with the printers of the stamps, one of whom retired from business some years ago, whilst another, who was responsible for the manufacture of the embossed Kebles, stated that they were embossed in *blue* and *rouletted*, but of the actual numbers printed and their dates of issue he appeared to know nothing. Under these circumstances it was indeed fortunate that just about a year ago the leading and oldest established firm of accountants in this city very kindly allowed me access to their private correspondence between the years 1871 and 1885, when after a patient search, extending over fifteen hours, I brought to light specimens of most of the adhesives used on the original envelopes, each envelope having been dated the day it was received by the firm in question. The "find" was undoubtedly a most valuable one, including as it did several stamps whose existence had been forgotten, one of them being a copy of the Merton adhesive, Type III., which so far seems to be unique. By the aid of these dated letters, about forty in number, the chronological order of some of the issues was ascertained, besides which it became possible to fix the exact time when the stamps themselves were in use. I have since advertised freely in the Oxford papers and elsewhere, but, with one notable exception, have received no replies whatever, and on interrogating business people and University dons, through whose hands plenty of the stamps unquestionably passed, I find that few have kept their old letters, and in these cases the envelopes have invariably been destroyed. In the face of almost insuperable difficulties like the above, it was therefore little short of the miraculous that Professor Napier, in so short a time, should have been able to gather all the facts contained in his paper on the Oxford College stamps, and the remarkable reaction that has taken place in their favour is obviously due to his careful and exhaustive research, which is clearly deserving of the gratitude of the philatelic world, leading, as it did, to so complete a resuscitation. With one exception, the stamps under discussion have already been spoken of in eulogistic terms by several of the leading philatelic papers of the day, whilst their undoubted popularity

among high-class collectors is more than evidenced by the excessively-high prices, *for College emissions*, which some of the varieties have fetched at recent auctions.

Unfortunately, however, certain erroneous statements have been put forward which, if uncorrected, will inevitably create a false and misleading impression, and at the wish of some of the members of the Oxford Philatelic Society I beg to place on record a few facts which may tend to remove these mistaken ideas.

Most Philatelists probably know by this time that the Oxford University emissions were in use for just over fourteen years, viz., from 1871 to 1885, during the whole of which period their legal aspect remained unchallenged, but when in 1885 a new Postmaster-General entered upon office I understand that he, doubtless disagreeing with the views held by his predecessors, sent a summons to the Colleges to the effect that the monopoly of the Post-office, as carriers of correspondence, was being interfered with, and that unless the stamps were suppressed an action would be instituted to vindicate the Post-office prerogative. It is therefore no wonder that the Colleges, without apparently stopping to think, should have obediently desisted from using the stamps. They knew that a case with the Post-office would be no light affair, and probably only thought of the tremendous costs that might be incurred. The illegality, if any, would naturally lie in the *carrying* of the letter and not in the *stamp* employed; it is therefore a most remarkable circumstance that, after the suppression, the system in vogue remained practically the same as it had been while the stamps were in use, the only difference being that the small fee charged for the conveyance of each letter was collected *otherwise* than by stamps. It would consequently appear that what the Post-office really objected to was the use of stamps, and not the principle involved. Be this as it may, Keble College, in the Hilary Term of 1886, issued provisionally for about three weeks a post card and envelope, stamped with the College crest in blue, these being eventually superseded by another envelope in two sizes, embossed with the College arms on the flap, *which have been in permanent use ever since.* They are sold to members of the College at 8d. per dozen, and *frank* letters to any part of Oxford.

Now, if their use is illegal, the Post-office authorities would surely not have countenanced the existence of such a practice for nine years; neither would they acquiesce in the method in vogue at very many of the other Oxford Colleges at the present day, where the sender of a letter writes his initials on it, and for every letter so initialled he is charged a halfpenny or penny, as the case may be, in his weekly battels. The initials *frank* the letter; hence this system is, to all intents and purposes, similar to that involving the issue and use of stamps, and has been adopted by some of the Colleges from time immemorial.

On the face of the above, and remembering that the matter has not been settled one way or the other, it may be fairly held that the popular opinion that the College stamps, post cards, and envelopes were issued and used illegally, is an erroneous one.

(*To be continued.*)

Philatelic Notes.

NOTE.—*Under this title will be found all notes relating to postal issues other than those that are chronicled as current novelties, or which form the subject of special articles. The co-operation of Philatelists is invited in order to make this column of a varied and interesting nature.*

THE SIXPENCE, ORANGE, VICTORIA.

THE exact date of issue of this *rara avis*—the beaded oval 6d.—has never been yet discovered. In M. Moens' Catalogue it is given as "April (?), 1861," and in *Oceania* as 1862. We have, however, lately been informed by Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Limited, of a specimen that will considerably antedate its issue, as they have seen it postmarked on a letter bearing the obliteration "Melbourne, No. 24, 60."

QUEENSLAND WATERMARKS.

THE watermark of script capitals on the issue of 1867 has always been a difficult one to trace, as the size of the letters naturally involved but the appearance of a small portion only on each stamp. Mr. Castle lately became possessed of a block of twenty-eight of the 2d. value, consisting of four horizontal rows of seven in the upper left corner of the sheet. Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Limited, having also a similar, Major Evans has fitted the two together, with the result that he has been able to trace the following portion of the watermark:

LAND
POSTAGE

The full watermark consists of the words in three rows, "Queensland Postage Stamp," the two latter words being repeated side by side, and separated by a *fleuron*. The watermark reads vertically on the sheet, as will be gathered from the position of the first block referred to. In Mr. Castle's collection there is also a horizontal block of two rows of twelve stamps, being the entire width of the sheet, of the issue of 1868, with truncated star and Roman capitals for "Queensland." The stars are placed on the upper portion of the stamps, and the first letter "Q" begins in the middle of the fourth stamp from the left-hand, finishing on the outer edge of the last and twelfth stamp. They measure about 17 mm. in height, and the length of the inscription is 165 mm. The six left-hand stamps are therefore watermarked with truncated star only, and it will be seen that there are therefore two distinct varieties to be secured in this issue.

DISCOVERIES.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA.—We are indebted to Mr. Langridge for the sight of a variety that is new to us. It consists of the 2s., deep carmine-lake, watermark first and pointed star, perf. 11½, printed on the reverse side, and the impression inverted. The stamp is postmarked "G. P. O., Adelaide, Ap. 25, 1870." We alluded in February (p. 45) to the recently-discovered 3d., black on blue, with double surcharge, suggesting the possibility of this variety occurring on the same sheet as the same stamp without surcharge. We have since had an opportunity to examine the specimen in the Tapling collection, which is "4d.", bright blue of a darkish shade, perf. 11½ hor. by 12½ vert., postmark "S. Australia," not dated; only small part of the "star" wmk. shows, but there can be little doubt that it is the first variety. From this it appears that this theory can hardly be maintained, for the double surcharged stamp is that now assigned by the "New Departure" in South Australia as 1876, with the second star watermark, and perf. 11½ × 12½. Until the appearance of the work by Messrs. Gordon Smith and Napier this stamp has always been classed generically as of the date assigned to it in *Oceania*, M. Moens' Catalogue, etc., and we purposely so noted it for the benefit of our readers, who can hardly be as yet initiated in the somewhat complex new arrangement.

LIBERIA.—Mr. M. Giwelb writes: "With regard to the Liberia 3 c., red, "Inland" stamps, I must admit that I am rather ignorant of all these mysterious issues of such fortunate countries and colonies as Liberia, Sedang, N. Borneo, Obock, etc., etc., as I have very little or nothing at all to do with them, nor with those of the 'Seebeck' issues; but finding the said stamp, and not knowing what it was, I fancied its announcement might lead to its existence being explained. It now appears that it was chronicled in March, 1893, by the *Stamp News*, but without anything to indicate whether it was a new issue or not." The latter journal, in its issue of March, 1894, says, "Since we first recorded it we have made enquiries as to its origin, and found—" the following information. The date of acquiring this knowledge is not stated, but doubtless it was of recent origin, or it would have been previously published to warn the unsophisticated collector. "Since we first recorded it, we have made inquiries as to its origin, and what we have found is these stamps were undoubtedly produced at the same time as the black stamps (which were issued) by the Continental firm who executed them, and who received an order for some sheets in *red*, and that both the black and the red were sent out together. The red were never issued, but lay in the Post-office until our publishers, some time ago, purchased from a correspondent in Liberia some of the remainders which were on hand in 1886, and when the consignment arrived were surprised to find a small quantity of these red stamps, of which they had never heard, amongst the others. They had lain so long probably forgotten, that it can hardly be suggested that they were created as a speculation. Our interpretation, which we think the most probable, is that they were colour trials."

TASMANIA.—In our note on the "dull lake colour" fiscal issue on page 45 this reprint is alluded to as "1d." This is an obvious printer's error for "1"—the watermark—the value being, as would be gathered from the description, that of Two Shillings and Sixpence.

GREAT BRITAIN.—*Essay.*—Mr. Morley has shown us a somewhat curious variety that will interest those who collect Essays. It consists of the "Prince Consort Essay," in black, but perforated 16, and, he thinks, undoubtedly by Archer's machine. A few sheets were so perforated and submitted to the Committee of the House of Commons at that time, though up to now no copies had been found, those usually met with being the imperf. copies. The "stamps" in question are well perforated of the guage mentioned, and with full gum—*Tous ce qu'il y a à desirer!*

Occasional Notes.

PRESENTATIONS TO THE "TAPLING COLLECTION."

BRITISH BECHUANALAND.—£1 and £5, issue 1887, surcharged "specimen."—Mr. E. D. Bacon.

GREAT BRITAIN.—Four specimens of the 1d., red, newspaper stamp, issue July 1st, 1855, and two of the special stamps used by *The Times* newspaper.—Mr. W. A. S. Westoby.

A specimen of the ½d., die Oz., *Illustrated London News* stamp.—Mr. F. A. Philbrick, Q.C.

An entire sheet of the Queen's College, Cambridge, stamp.—The College.

Specimens of the following Keble College, Oxford, stamps: Bright orange, perf. 11; pink, perf. 11; deep carmine, perf. 11 top and bottom, and imperf. at sides; also envelope, vermilion on white.—Mr. Erskine Beveridge.

Five Hertford College, Oxford, envelopes with stamp in mauve, including the "large square size" not previously in the "Collection"; also two copies of the Keble College, Oxford, envelope, and an impression taken from the cancelling stamp used at Hertford College.—Mr. J. R. F. Turner.

A specimen of the 1 shilling "Universal Private Telegraph Co.," and one of the 3d. "United Kingdom Electric Telegraph Co., Limited," with the surcharge INT.; also copies of the imperforate remainders without control numbers, of the following: 3d., 6d., 1s., 2s., 3s., 5s., "British and Irish Magnetic Telegraph Co.," and 1s., 1s. 6d., 2s. 6d., 4s., 5s. "The English and Irish Magnetic Telegraph Co.", including a pair of the 1s. of the latter company, *tête-bêche;* also a specimen in black of the Prince Albert essay, perforated by Archer.—Mr. Walter Morley.

MEXICO.—Four specimens of the 2 rls., Eagle Issue, and three copies of the Maximilian lithographs, with surcharges, not in the "Collection."—Mr. W. T. Wilson.

NEW SOUTH WALES.—An unused specimen of the current 2d. on fiscal paper (issue Oct. (?) 1888).—Mr. W. Brown.

ST. VINCENT.—1d., black, issue 1871; perforated $12\frac{1}{2} \times 15$.—Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Limited.

TURKS ISLANDS.—An entire sheet of thirty 1d., carmine-rose, watermark Crown CA, perf. 12, on which some of the stamps have the labels, containing the name of the colony and the value, shewing groundwork of lines, instead of being solid.—Major E. B. Evans (late R.A.).

DAILY PRESS NOTICES.

THE *Times* of the 26th of last month has a two-column article, entitled "Stamp Collecting and Postal Revenues," in which, after citing the recent despatch of Lord Ripon's on unnecessary surcharges, it presents an exceedingly well-informed digest of the various courses that have led to the present abuse of the Colonial Stamp-Issuing Departments. "A Correspondent" must have been behind the scenes, as much of the information will be new to all but the denizens of the Philatelic world. The publication of this article by our powerful contemporary will be heartily welcomed by all Philatelists.

THE PARIS PHILATELIC EXHIBITION.

WE are asked to state that the arrangements for this exposition are now well in hand, the dates of opening and closing being the 23rd July and 23rd November. During these four months it appears that it is proposed to exhibit, in the given order, for one month each, the stamps of Europe, Asia, and Africa, America, Oceania. The obvious advantage is that they will all fade alike, hence no harm will ensue, as the owner of the stamps would not notice the difference between one continent and the other. This difficulty of exposure so strongly urged is thus happily surmounted. All applications should be made to M. Raffalowich, 28, Rue Caumartin, Paris. The committee includes many of the leading names in Philatelic circles, the representative thereon for this country being the ex-President of the London Philatelic Society, Mr. F. A. Philbrick, Q.C. A useful feature will be the devotion of one of the three exhibition saloons to the purposes of Philatelic literature, as also the opening of dealers' stalls. These and other attractions will draw many visitors, and we wish our *confrères* every success, a result that should be assured under such auspicious Philatelic patronage as displayed by the names of the committee.

THE U.S. PRINTING CONTRACT.

THE Postmaster-General settled the long controversy over the awarding of the contract for printing postage stamps for the next four years by rejecting all bids, and ordering that the work be done by the Bureau of Engraving and Printing, on February 21st, the principal bidders being the American Bank Note Company of New York, which now holds the contract, and Mr. Steele of Philadelphia.

The Bureau of Engraving and Printing, through its representative, Capt. Johnson, submitted an estimate which was materially lower than either of the two bids.

The question then arose as to whether the Bureau could do the work with its limited facilities, and this was the subject of several conferences in which Secretary Carlisle took a leading part.

The American Company will print the stamps until July 1st, when the Bureau will be prepared to do the work.

It is not, however, apparently finally settled, as, says the *Philatelic Monthly*,

"There are rumours afloat which cannot be traced to a definite source, that the controversy over the postage stamp contract is still a good way from ended. The whole business is liable to be brought before Congress by the appropriation, which, it is said, the Bureau of Engraving and Printing will be obliged to ask for in order to go on with the extra work found in the execution of the new contract. It is expected that the Bureau will need some additional and expensive plant, and a lot of new workmen. These things and *employés* have to be paid for, and the present appropriations for the maintenance of the Bureau are not generous enough to cover such extra expense.

"On the other hand, the Post Office Department cannot pay for work until it is done, so that advances from the postal appropriation are out of the question. If the persons who are interested in keeping the stamp printing outside of the Bureau could muster force enough in Congress, they could make considerable difficulty about the passage of appropriations for the extra work.

"It is not known positively that such a fight will be made, but a good many suggestions of that sort are flying about."

THE EXPERT COMMITTEE.

THE Committee are now prepared to receive stamps for examination. They should be marked as above, and directed to the London Society's Rooms, with the amount of the fee (2s. 6d.) for each specimen. This fee covers all expenses of registration, examination, and photography. A photograph in platinatype of the stamp, if genuine, signed by the members of the Committee, will accompany the certificate. Subsequent copies of the photograph can be provided at a much lower rate.

THE LONDON PHILATELIC SOCIETY'S EXHIBITION.

WE are glad to be in a position to inform our readers that the amount of support received by the Exhibition Committee is most gratifying, and that there is every reason to anticipate a magnificent array of rarities in the Society's rooms on the 8th of next month. Many of the leading collectors have promised to send of their finest, and their good example will be followed, we trust, by those other members who have not yet replied to the circular of the Committee. The earliest possible communication is desired in order to make the arrangements complete in good time. Full particulars will be seen in our advertisement pages.

Reviews.

PHILATELIC FICTION—"A THIRD PERSON."*



IT was hardly to be expected that Philately would for long remain unrecognised in the literature and drama of the day Some months ago we called attention to a recent work of Mr. R. L. Stevenson, in which there figured no less than two philatelists, though they could hardly be described as of the advanced order of collector. About a year ago a comedietta was produced in London, the hero of which, if our memory serves us right, was a half mad collector, who (like some of his saner brethren) sought long and eagerly for a blue Post-office Mauritius, and nearly succeeded in getting himself hanged for a murder he had not committed before he obtained the coveted prize. But it has been reserved for Mrs. Croker to give us what has been aptly termed by a critic in a weekly contemporary "A Romance of the Stamp Album," in which Philately is the means whereby a charming damsel is won by a gallant captain, and an ancient general by a designing widow.

And this is how it all happened. The hero, Roger Hope, home on his leave from India, falls in love at first sight (of course) with the heroine Rose, the granddaughter of General Yaldwin, an old gentleman, with a terrible temper, and possessing "one of the finest collections of postage stamps in England." Miss Rose, unlike the orthodox heroine of the modern novel, is a charming young lady, with no advanced notions concerning the relations of the sexes, who strives after "no duty towards herself," and sighs not after the forbidden "Wanderjahr"; on the contrary, her duty is to attend on her grandfather and his deaf wife; and as she is allowed to see no one, or go nowhere, her lot, until the advent of our hero, must have been far from a happy one. In order to be near the object of his affections, and to find favour in the eyes of her grandfather, Roger feigns a sudden interest in philately, and spends hours over "American and Australian first issues," of which the General appears to possess several volumes! He further invests £5 in a selection of stamps, which includes two Swiss locals and a Pony Express (which we trust were genuine); and this so gladdens the old gentleman's heart, that he consents to Rose accompanying Roger to the theatre, though of course under proper chaperonage. By the aid of further supplies of stamps from "Sander's Foreign Stamp Agency," Roger found such favour in the eyes of the veteran philatelist, that if he had only requested Rose's hand before the arrival of the inevitable designing widow Mrs. Clara Skyler, we have no doubt the story would have arrived at an abrupt and happy conclusion. But Mrs. Skyler has designs on the hero herself, and uses all her wiles to estrange the lovers. How she is defeated, how Rose's terrier makes

* *A Third Person.* By MRS. B. M. CROKER. London: F. V. White and Co.

a meal of half a dozen Russians, a Swede, and three or four American locals, and how Rose and Roger are in the end happily united, we must leave our readers to find out for themselves. We must add that Mrs. Skyler, defeated in her primary object, determines to make a bid for the General (his deaf wife having died in the meantime), so suddenly assumes an interest in philately, and starts a collection under his guidance. This ruse entirely succeeds, though, as the lady declares that "she will put an end to all this nonsense afterwards," we do not envy our fellow-philatelist's future prospects.

We have only given a slight sketch of the plot of the book, which is bright and readable.

The author has a keen sense of humour, and also some knowledge of philately, though we fear her characters (always excepting the General) have a very low opinion of the "science." In fact, they appear to emulate one another in strongly-expressed opinions as to the sanity of the philatelic world in general; and we felt quite hurt at a scathing remark of the lovely heroine upon "the stamp magazine," though we comforted ourselves with the thought that perhaps all this happened in the days when the *London Philatelist* was not!

Philatelic errors are few and far between. We never heard of a "Bermuda reprint." There is a great deal about an impossible "Finland," and we do not think that a collector of General Yaldwin's experience would offer £250 for the early shilling Natal. But these errors are of small importance in a work of this kind. Some references to the late Mr. Tapling would have been better left out, as personalities in fiction are to be avoided, especially as the authoress shews by a reference to the collection at the British Museum that she was aware of his death. But apart from this we have nothing but praise for these volumes. The example of the hero may be commended to anyone whose centre of affections is the daughter of an enthusiastic philatelist, and this book to our readers in search of an amusing novelty in the way of fiction.

New Issues.

Under this head will be found notes of the new, and variations of the current issues. We do not profess to chronicle everything, but with the kind help of correspondents, are desirous that all the important novelties may be included. Speculative stamps—i.e. those not really required for postal purposes—will be considered on their merits, and Jubilee issues will not be chronicled.

GREAT BRITAIN AND COLONIES.

BRITISH CENTRAL AFRICA. — Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. write: "We enclose a specimen of the new 3s. B. C. A., which superseded the provisional 3s. on 4s. some time ago. The same stamp is also issued for Mashonaland without the surcharge."

3s., current issue, surcharged B C. A., yellowish-brown.

CANADA.—We take the following from the *Monthly Journal*: "We are indebted to Mr. D. A. King for specimens of the post card in a new size, which is to replace the large one issued last year, and the wrapper with stamp of the current type in the new colour now used for the cards; the material of both remains as before.

"*Wrapper.* 1 c., grey-black on *straw.*
Post Card. 1 c. ,, *buff.*"

LAGOS.—We have received from Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. copies of three new values for this colony, of the same design and wmk. as the current type.

Adhesives. Five pence, lilac; value in green.
7½ ,, ,, ,, carmine.
10 ,, ,, ,, yellow

QUEENSLAND.—The *Monthly Journal* chronicles an imperf. pair of the 1d., orange (1869), also a variety of the 2s., brown (1882).

1d., orange; an imperf. pair.
2s., brown; LA joined.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA.—Mr. H. M. Gooch has shewn us copies of the permanent 2½d. and 5d. values. The design is rectangular. The 2½d. consists of "South Australia" "Twopence Halfpenny" at top and base respectively, having the Queen's head in a diamond to left of centre, with a kangaroo and palm trees to right. The 5d. value is somewhat similar except that the Queen's head is in an upright rectangular frame, with Arms of the colony to the right, wmk. Cr. SA, badly perf. 15.

Le Timbre-Poste chronicles the 1d. perf. 15, and a slight change of colour in the 3 pence value.

Adhesives. 2½ pence, deep blue; *perf.* 15.
5 ,, deep violet ,,
1 penny, green; *perf.* 15.
3 pence, bright green; change of colour.

TOBAGO.—*Le Timbre Poste* informs us that the 1 shilling was issued with watermark Crown and CA on February 10th last.

Adhesive. One Shilling, ochre, wmk, Cr. and CA.

TRINIDAD.—The *A. J. of Ph.* has seen the current ½ penny surcharged "O.S." in black. We suppose other values will shortly follow this.

Adhesive. ½ penny, green; surch. "O.S." in black.

EUROPE.

ROUMANIA.—Messrs. Thos. Ridpath and Co. have sent us specimens of five new values of adhesives recently issued; also a new wrapper, watermarked "P.R.," perf. 13½. The higher values of 25 and 50 bani will not be issued until the end of May or June.

Adhesives. 1½ bani, black.
3 ,, brown.
5 ,, blue.
10 ,, green.
15 ,, red.
Wrapper. 1½ ,, black.

AMERICA.

ECUADOR.—We have received from Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. the new issue for 1894. The design contains in the centre a bust of President Rocafuerte, Correos del Ecuador, U.P.U., 1894, at the top, and value in words, and tablets at base; white wove paper; perf. 12.

Adhesives. 1 c., blue.
2 c., brown.
5 c., green.
10 c., vermilion.
20 c., grey-black.
50 c., orange.
1 sucre, carmine.
5 sucres, deep blue.

The same series has been surcharged "FRANQUEO OFICIAL," for official use.

Envelopes. 5 c., green on white.
10 c., carmine on straw.
Post Cards. 2 c., brown and black on pink.
3 c, blue and black on violet.

The design on the envelopes is different to that of the adhesive, in that it is of oval shape, with value in large figures in tablets at sides.

Through the kindness of Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. we can now add the values of the stationery alluded to last month.

Envelopes. 5 c., blue.
10 c., grey.
20 c., carmine-red.
30 c., brown.
2 sizes.
Wrappers. 1 c., blue on straw.
2 c. ,,
4 c. ,,
Post Cards. 2 c., red and green on deep blue.
3 c., blue and green on straw.
2÷2 c., red and green on deep blue (reply).
3÷3 c., blue and green on straw (,,).

PERU.—We are indebted for the following to the *American Journal of Philately*. A correspondent in Peru writes as follows: "We beg to inform you that the Post-office Department, by order of the Government, will place in use the stamps which have been retired from circulation, but they will be surcharged with a black hand stamp representing the bust of President Morales Bemuar. According to the catalogue of stamps that we have, the stamps that will be surcharged are the following:

"1879, 1 c., yellow.
1880, 1 c., green.
1874, 2 c., lilac.
1882, 2 c., red (U.P.U.).
1879, 2 c., rose.
1882, 5 c., blue (U.P.U.).
1877, 5 c., blue.
1876, 10 c., green.
1874, 50 c., green.
1880, 50 c., red (U.P.U.).
1880, 1 sol, blue (U.P.U.).

"These stamps will be sold only at the Post-office at Lima, and as the supply is not very large, they will naturally rise in price."

UNITED STATES.—The new 1 cent card has now appeared. The portrait is that of Jefferson in place of General Grant, size 139×89 mm.

Post Card. 1 cent, black on straw.

OTHER COUNTRIES.

CUBA.—Messrs. Whitfield King and Co. have sent us the ½ m. de peso in its new colour, rose.

Adhesive. ½ m. de peso, rose.

FERNANDO POO.—According to *Le Timbre-Poste* a new stamp has been issued, of the same design as that of the current issue

Cuba, with the name FERNANDO POO at top, perf. 14.

Adhesive. 10 c de peso, violet-brown.

Other values are to appear, but these have not yet been sent off from Madrid.

FRENCH COLONIES.—Messrs. Whitfield King and Co. have sent us the remainder of the postage due stamps in separate colours.

Postage Due. 50 c., lilac.
60 c , brown.
1 fr., pink.

HAWAII.—We have received specimens of the new issue from Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. and Messrs. Thos. Ridpath & Co. There are five values of handsome design. The one cent. is a rectangular oblong, with the Arms of the country in the centre, and having upright figures of priestly appearance on either side, each bearing a staff; "HAWAII" at top, "ONE CENT" at base. The two cents depicts a view of Honolulu; "HAWAII" at top, value at bottom, "POSTAGE" on each side. The 5 c. has a figure on a pedestal, enclosed within a horseshoe frame, bearing the words "HAWAIIAN ISLANDS POSTAGE"; value in tablets at base. The design of the 10 c. is a five-rayed star, partly overshadowed by pale trees; "1893" at top, "HAWAII" and value at base. The 25 c. is a very handsome stamp; inclining somewhat towards the right hand is an oval containing the portrait of a distinguished looking man (? governor of Honolulu), with a flowing beard of exotic growth. This medallion partly impinges on a flag, while an anchor is portrayed beneath it, "HAWAII, 1893," at top, value in a rectangular tablet at base; perf. 12.

1 c., orange-yellow.
2 c., brown.
5 c., carmine-rose.
10 c., emerald-green.
25 c., Prussian-blue.

NATIVE INDIAN STATES.—*Bamra.*—The *Monthly Journal* chronicles a new post card for this State. In the right upper corner is a stamp bearing a fancy portrait of a potentate with a crown, enclosed in a rectangular frame, value in words below and a blank label above, fancy ornaments at sides, and a row of imitation perforations at top and base. The inscriptions on the card are "BAMRA STATE POST CARD" in one line, followed by two lines of native characters.

Post Card. ½ anna, green on *grey-blue.*

Holkar.—A new envelope and post card respectively have been issued according to the *Philatelic Record.*

Envelope. ½ anna, lilac-brown on white.
Post Card. ½ anna, orange on lilac.

PERAK.—Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. have sent us specimens of the two new post cards lately issued; the design is the same as the current type of adhesives.

Post Cards. 1 c., green.
1+1 c , green (reply).

PHILIPPINES.—Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. send us the 6 c. in its new colour.

Adhesive. 6 c. de peso.

Philatelic Societies' Meetings.

THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY, LONDON.

Honorary President.—H.R.H. DUKE ALFRED OF SAXE-COBURG GOTHA.
Hon. Vice-President.—H.R.H. THE DUKE OF YORK, K.G.

Council for the Year 1893 94:

President.—THE EARL OF KINGSTON.
Vice-President.—M. P. CASTLE.

Hon. Secretary.—D. GARTH.
Treasurer.—C. N. BIGGS.
E. D. BACON.
H. W. CHAMBERS.
E. B. EVANS.

Hon. Assistant Secretary.—J. A. TILLEARD.
Librarian.—T. MAYCOCK.
T. WICKHAM JONES.
E. J. NANKIVELL.
R. PEARCE.

THE twenty-second meeting of the season 1893–94 was held at Effingham House, on Friday, the 16th March, 1894, at 7.30. The members present were: Messrs. M. P. Castle, E. D. Bacon, C. N. Biggs, A. W. Chambers, R. Meyer, G. B. Routledge, C. W. Viner, R. Pearce, E. J. Nankivell, T. Maycock, J. A. Tilleard, and W. B. Avery. The chair was taken by the Vice-President, and the minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed.

The business of the evening consisted of the revision of the Reference List of the Stamps of the Straits Settlements, which was continued.

Amongst other stamps shown at the meeting was a block of six of the three cents City Dispatch Post stamps, kindly sent for inspection by H.R.H. the Duke of York.

THE twenty-third meeting of the season was held at Effingham House, on Friday, the 30th March, 1894, at 7.30 p.m., the following members being in attendance, viz., the Vice-President in the chair, and Messrs. E. D. Bacon, R. Ehrenbach, R. Meyer, H. R. Oldfield, J. G. Tolhurst, W. T. Willett, T. Maycock, L. S. Wells, G. B. Routledge, R. Pearce, E. J. Nankivell, E. B. Evans, J. A. Tilleard, and J. C. Potter.

After the minutes of the last meeting had been read and confirmed, the receipt from M. Barbarin of his "Nouveau Catalogue Général" was directed to be acknowledged with thanks, as also the receipt from Mr. Siewert of photographs of the recent forgeries of the rare Moscow and Petersburg stamped envelopes.

Mr. David Benjamin, of Shanghai, proposed by Mr. Gibbon, and seconded by the Vice-President; Mr. G. L. Toppan, of Chicago, proposed by Mr. A. L. Holman, and seconded by the Vice-President; and Mr. Edward P. Collett, proposed by Mr. W. D. Beckton, and seconded by the Vice-President, were duly elected members of the Society.

The Vice-President read a paper entitled "Notes on the Design of the Sydney View," and on the motion of Mr. Nankivell, seconded by Mr. Bacon, a vote of thanks was accorded to Mr. Castle for his interesting contribution.

Major Evans produced for inspection two blocks, each containing 28 stamps of the 2d. value of Queensland, showing the arrangement of the watermark in "script" capitals. He also presented specimens of the perforation of the Queensland stamps from the various machines used by the postal authorities of the Colony, obtained by Stanley Gibbons, Limited, and sent by them to the Society for reference.

One of the recently discovered 9 kreuzer stamps of the first issue of Baden, printed in green, was also shown. This stamp, which was used on the entire letter sheet, was inspected with much interest by the members present.

THE twenty-fourth meeting of the season was held at Effingham House, on Friday, the 6th April, 1894, at 7.30 p.m. The following members were in attendance, viz., Messrs. M. P. Castle, R. Meyer, Hastings E. Wright, B. W. Neane, G. B. Routledge, R. Pearce, E. J. Nankivell, J. A. Tilleard, T. Maycock.

The Vice-President took the chair, and the minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed.

The business of the evening consisted of the revision of the Reference List of the Stamps of Labuan, which was proceeded with and adjourned for completion.

Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Limited, sent for the inspection of members present a used specimen of the 5 cents on 8 c., orange, Hong Kong stamp with inverted surcharge.

THE twenty-fifth meeting of the season was held at Effingham House, on Friday, the 13th April, 1894, at 7.30 p.m. The chair was taken by the Vice-President, and the other members present were:—Messrs. F. A. Philbrick, D. Garth, C. N. Biggs, R. Meyer, R. Ehrenbach, L. S. Wells, G. B. Routledge, W. Silk, T. Maycock, J. C. Potter, A. B. Creeke, A. A. Davis, F. E. Horton, P. E. Raynor, Gordon Smith, R. Pearce, E. J. Nankivell, J. G. Tolhurst, E. D. Bacon, R. Greening, and J. A. Tilleard.

The minutes of the last meeting having been read and confirmed, Mr. William Herrick, of New Jersey, U.S.A., proposed by Mr. Henry Clotz, and seconded by Mr. William Thorne, was elected a member of the Society.

Mr. Nankivell then read a paper on "The Essentials of an Ideal Album," in which he explained at length his views as to the requirements of the advanced collector, and the questions to be considered, and the difficulties to be overcome in the mode of arrangement of his collection. In illustration of his views Mr. Nankivell handed round specimens of the album and sheets which had recently been prepared from his designs for his own collection. A long discussion ensued in which many of the members present, including the late President, took part. Although no general consensus of opinion was arrived at on this difficult question, in which so much depends upon individual tastes and requirements, it was acknowledged on all sides that the paper which had been read had distinctly advanced the subject on which it treated, and on the motion of Mr. Philbrick, seconded by Mr. Bacon, a hearty vote of thanks was accorded to Mr. Nankivell for his valuable and interesting paper.

BRIGHTON AND SUSSEX PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

Honorary President.—BARON DE WORMS.

Committee for the Year 1894:

President.—M. P. CASTLE. | *Vice-President.*—J. H. REDMAN.
Hon. Sec. and Treasurer.—A. DE WORMS.
Hon. Librarian—O. PFENNINGER.
W. T. WILLETT. | H. STAFFORD SMITH.
J. W. GILLESPIE. | R. J. WOODMAN.

THE tenth meeting of the season was held at Markwell's Hotel, Brighton, on Monday, February 26th, at 7.45 p.m. Present—Messrs. M. P. Castle, A. de Worms, J. W. Gillespie, R. J. Thrupp, E. E. Manwaring, A. H. Thomas, P. de Worms, O. Pfenninger, W. T. Willett, H. Stafford Smith, R. J. Woodman. The President in the chair. After the minutes of the previous meeting had been read and confirmed, the President said that he had much pleasure in announcing that Baron de Worms, the Honorary President, was about to present a book-case to the Society. A most cordial vote of thanks, proposed by the President, and seconded by Mr. Willett, was unanimously carried; and the Secretary was instructed to convey the same to Baron de Worms for his very kind gift. The President then exhibited the last portion of his splendid collection of Victoria, including all issues from 1863 to the current set, and gave a description of the principal and most interesting varieties. He said that many were very rare unused, and difficult to obtain in that condition, especially the "Laureated" series, with errors of watermark. A vote of thanks to the President was passed.

THE eleventh meeting of the season was held at Markwell's Hotel, Brighton, on Monday, March 12th, at 7.45 p.m. Present—Messrs. W. T. Willett, M. P. Castle, J. W. Gillespie, A. H. Thomas, W. H. G. Cruttwell, H. Stafford Smith, E. E. Manwaring, R. J. Thrupp, P. de Worms, O. Pfenninger, A. de Worms, and two visitors, Messrs. H. Hilckes and H. Davis. Mr. W. T. Willett in the chair. The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, Mr. Thomas read a very interesting paper on the stamps of Roumania, and showed his collection of the same. He regretted that the first issue was not represented, and mentioned that it was perhaps the most difficult of all European countries to obtain complete. Of the subsequent issues he exhibited a large number of shades and different perforations, especially in the Paris and local printings of the 1871 type, among which was the 5 bani, blue, error of colour. Mr. Willett proposed a vote of thanks, which was seconded by the President, who showed some very fine specimens of the first issue of Roumania, including the 81 paras in perfect condition, unused. The Secretary presented, on behalf of Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Limited, a copy of "South Australia," which he was requested to acknowledge with best thanks.

A. DE WORMS, *Hon. Sec.*
27, ADELAIDE CRESCENT, BRIGHTON.

MANCHESTER PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

President.—VERNON ROBERTS. | *Vice President.*—F. BARRATT.
Hon. Sec.—W. DORNING BECKTON. | *Assistant Hon. Sec.*—C. H. COOTE.
Hon. Treasurer.—G. B. DUERST.
Hon. Librarian.—J. H. ABBOTT.
E. P. COLLETT. | W. GRUNEWALD.
G. F. H. GIBSON. | W. W. MUNN.

THE thirteenth meeting of the session was held at the Blackfriars' Hotel on March 2nd, the President in the chair, supported by the Vice-President, Hon. Secretary, Assistant Hon. Secretary, Messrs. Collett, Munn, Grunewald, Beazley, Ranck, Pemberton, Blockey, Fildes, North, Bowker, and Wallace.

The minutes of the last meeting were read

and confirmed. Dr. Moore and Mr. Litchfield were elected members of the Society. The President gave an address upon the stamps of Ceylon, a very complete series of these stamps being shown by several members, including nearly all the unperforated stamps in pairs. The Secretary showed Cape of Good Hope 3d., C C and Crown, pair, one with and the other without the surcharge, thick figure 3. The President showed a collection of over 70 Mulready envelopes.

THE fourteenth meeting of the session was held at the Blackfriars' Hotel on Friday, March 16th, 1894, seventeen members being present, the Vice-President in the chair.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed.

The Hon. Secretary read a paper on the stamps of Gibraltar, pointing out the two types of surcharge on certain values in the 1889 issue. All the known varieties were exhibited, including many minor varieties not mentioned in the leading catalogues, and likewise entire sheets.

W. DORNING BECKTON.

DAISY BANK, SWINTON PARK.

THE PLYMOUTH PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

President.—A. R. BARRETT.
Vice-President.—R. TYETH STEVENS.
Exchange Superintendent.—H. TUCKER, JUN.
Hon. Sec. and Treasurer.—A. LEVY.
Committee.—H. W. MAYNE. J. MILTON. C. LELEUX.

THE ninth meeting of the third session was held at 9A, Princess Square, on Wednesday, February 21st, 1894, at 7.30 p.m. Present—the President in the chair, seven members, and two visitors. A hearty vote of thanks was accorded to Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Limited, for a copy of their recently-published work on "South Australia," presented by them to the Library of the Society. As the stamps of this colony formed the subject of study for the evening the gift was opportune, and highly appreciated.

THE tenth meeting was held at the same place on March 7th. Present—the President in the chair, six members, and two visitors. Mr. J. W. Miller was elected member of the Society. The Vice-President (who acted as Hon. Sec. in the absence of Mr. Levy) reported the receipt of a bound copy of the *Stamp News Annual*, 1894, from Messrs. Theodor Buhl & Co. It was resolved that the Sec. write a letter of thanks to the donors.

The evening was passed in the study of "Watermarks," the subject being introduced at the request of the members present by the Vice-President. The watermarks of the postal adhesives of Great Britain were discussed, the members being assisted in their study by sheets illustrating the various designs, prepared and presented to the members by the Vice-President.

It was resolved that the best thanks of the meeting be tendered to the Vice-President for the interesting way in which he had dealt with the subject, and also for the illustrations he had so kindly provided.

It was resolved that the next meeting of the session should be devoted to a continuation of the study of "Watermarks," and that members should be invited to bring with them any stamps in their possession, the watermarks of which appeared doubtful.

ASHER LEVY, *Hon. Sec.*

190, UNION STREET, PLYMOUTH.

BOMBAY PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

FROM a list of the members of this body recently received, it appears to be in a flourishing condition, there being nearly forty members thereon, with many of whom the writer, in conjunction with Mr. Willett, had the pleasure of personal intercourse when staying in Bombay. That beautiful city has many energetic collectors, and there is every reason to hope that the pioneer of the Indian Philatelic Societies will have a brilliant career.

The Market.

AUCTIONS.

Messrs. Cheveley & Co.

At their sale of March 13th the following were the more noticeable lots :

	£	s.	d.
Turks Islands, 1s., prune	5	10	0
Canada, 6d., imperf., laid paper, unused	4	0	0
Nevis, 1s., bright green, perf. 15, unused	2	2	0
Petersburg, 5 c., red on original	3	5	0
British Guiana, 1862, 4 c., blue, rosace border (medium)	5	5	0
Bolivar, small rect., 10 c., green, unused	5	5	0
U. S. Providence, 10 c., black, unused	2	6	0
Victoria, first issue, 2d., fine background, on original letter (fine)	3	3	0
New Zealand, 2d., vermilion, wmk. *lozenges*	2	12	0
Western Australia, 1864, 1s., green	2	5	0

The same firm also held a sale on March 31st, which included the following :

	£	s.	d.
India, ½ anna, red, unused	5	5	0
Buenos Ayres, 1858, 4 pesos, red, on original envelope	12	10	0
Turks Islands, 1s., prune (not fine)	2	16	0
New South Wales, 2d., Sydney, Plate 1, on original letter (fine, early impression)	4	5	0

Messrs. Ventom, Bull, & Cooper.

At a two days' sale held on March 7th and 8th, the following lots realised over £2.

	£	s.	d.
Oldenburg, 2nd issue, ⅓ groschen, black on green, unused	4	17	6
Saxony, 3 pf., red	4	5	0
France, 1 franc, orange	5	5	0
„ 1876, error, 15 c., brown on rose	2	10	0
Spain, 3 cuartos, bronze	7	0	0
Switzerland, Basle, 2½ rappen	3	12	6
	4	4	0
Tuscany, 3 lire, yellow (imperfect)	15	0	0
Ceylon, 1st issue, 2d., green (roul.)	3	0	0
Ditto, 4d., rose, imperf.	6	10	0
Ditto, 9d., violet-brown, imperf.	2	15	0
Soruth, 2 annas, black on yellow, used on original	5	0	0
Cape of Good Hope, woodblock, 1d., red, unused	8	8	0
Ditto, woodblock, 4d., dark blue (slightly nicked at one corner)	2	8	0
Ditto, woodblock, error, 4d., red	32	0	0
Mauritius, large fillet, 2d., blue	7	0	0
Newfoundland, 6d., vermilion	2	2	0
United States, 1857, 90 c., blue, used	2	7	6
Ditto, 1869, complete	3	10	0
British Guiana, 1862, provisional, 1 c., border of crossed ovals	4	5	0
Ditto, 2 c., border of pearls, No. 18 on plate	4	0	0
Ditto, 4 c., border of grapes	9	5	0
St. Vincent, 5s., star, unused	3	17	6
Virgin Isles, 1s., single line border, used	2	2	0
Dominican Republic, *Un real*, black on yellow, unused	4	6	0
New Zealand, *pelure*, 1s., green, perf.	5	5	0
Queensland, first issue, 2d., blue, imperf.	6	0	0
Tasmania, "no wmk., 1d., red, pair unused"	4	10	0
Victoria, 5s., blue on yellow	2	17	6
Western Australia, 4d., blue, rouletted (very fine)	2	12	6

Sale of March 29th :

	£	s.	d.
Great Britain, 1d., on Dickinson paper, strip of four, unused	13	10	0
Ditto, 2d., blue, strip of six, imperf., unused	11	10	0
Ditto, £5, orange on bluish, *postally*, used	4	5	0
Saxony, 3 pf., red, unused	3	5	0
Ceylon, 4d., rose, imperf. (fine)	11	0	0
Ditto, 8d., brown, imperf.	7	15	0
Ditto, 2s., blue, imperf.	5	5	0
Mauritius, 1d., vermilion, on white paper, early state of plate	3	10	0
Mauritius, 2d., blue, on white paper, early state of plate	4	4	0
United States, 15 c., yellow, unused, with grille	2	10	0
United States, City Despatch Post, 3 cts., black on bluish, unused, original	4	10	0
Bolivar, 1st issue, 10 c., green	4	0	0
Pacific Steam Navigation Co., 1 rl., blue on bluish, postmarked	3	12	0
W. Australia, 1st issue, 2d., with impression on back, used	4	0	0

Mr. W. Hadlow.

There was a very good attendance at the sale of March 21st. The following are interesting lots that realised over £2.

	£	s.	d.
New South Wales, large square, imperf., 5d., green	2	10	0
New Zealand, 1st issue, 2d., blue on blue, unused	2	8	0
Dominican Republic, medio real, black on green, unused	2	17	6
Canada, 6d., violet-blk., perf. on orig.	4	8	0
Tuscany, 3 lire, deep orange	27	15	0
Saxony, 3 pf., red	3	17	6

The Scott Stamp & Coin Co., Limited.

Sale of March 5th and 6th at New York included (in a 3000 dollar aggregate) the following :

Newfoundland, 4d., vermilion	$11.10
Philippines, 1854, 5 c., orange	10.50
Ditto, 1855, 5 c., vermilion	13.10
United States, 5 c., black, used on orig.	11.00

Messrs. R. F. Albrecht & Co.

At a sale of March 14th and 15th, at New York, the total realised was $3142, including some good United States envelopes, and a fine general collection :

United States, 1869, 90 c., unused	$10.60
Ditto, 1870, 12 c., grilled	10.00
Bremen, 1867, 7 gr., perf., used	22.50

The Bogert & Durbin Co.

The sale of January 31st, February 1st, 2nd, and 3rd (at New York), embraced no less than 1868 lots, and included amongst many good things :

United States, New Haven, entire 5 c. envelope, used	$40.00
Ditto, New York, 1843, 3 c., blue, glazed paper	13.00
Ditto, St. Louis, 10 c.	51.00
Ditto, U.S., 1868, 30 c., grilled all over	211.00
Dittto, do. 1869, 24 c., inverted centre	88.00
Vancouver Island, 5 c., imperf.	36.00
Buenos Ayres, 1858, 5 p., orange	35.50
Great Britain, 1d., black V.R., used	41.00
Ditto ditto unused	52.00
Great Britain, 1876, 8d., unused	24.25
India, 1854, ½ anna, red	31.00
Ditto, 4 as., inverted head	45.00
New Brunswick, 1 sh., used	51.00

The J. W. Scott Co.

The sale of March 27th at New York was mainly noticeable for the fine lot of proprietary stamps; but amongst the 490 lots there were a number of useful stamps, mainly those of the United States.

Auctions in the "Far East."

The prevailing custom of disposing of stamps by public sale has spread even as far as Hongkong. A catalogue has been sent to us by Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. of a sale held at that town on the 25th January, by Mr. George P. Lamnert, comprising 630 lots. These does not, however, seem to have been anything very special, judging by the prices attained, the only method available of forming a judgment, as the descriptions are of the vaguest.

Correspondence.

Communications.—*All communications on Philatelic matters or Advertisements should be addressed to the Editor of* The London Philatelist, Kingston Lodge, Richmond Place, Brighton. *No anonymous contributions can be noticed.*

AUSTRALIAN STAMPS.

To the Editor of the "London Philatelist."

Dear Sir,—I thank you for your kindly notice in the November number of your Journal to my paper on the early stamps of New South Wales, published in *Vindin's Monthly*, also for the interesting addenda you make to it.

There is a fact about these stamps in particular that you will appreciate, and which I would like to mention; that is, the great difficulty in writing of them of knowing where to draw the line; and my desire not to get beyond the resources of the *ordinary* collector made me hesitate in naming some varieties which I would otherwise have done. You will have noticed that I italicised this sentence, "It should be remembered that in these notes *minor varieties* of type, shade, and paper are intentionally omitted." Most of those mentioned in your supplementary list were known to me, although two or three were fresh.

Let me say also that (in conjunction with the other advanced collectors of Australian stamps here) I attach no philatelic importance to the fact that the stamps of the other colonies are found bearing the Victorian postmark and *vice versâ*. In my opinion these are simply stamps that have escaped defacement until arriving at their destination, when they are marked by the cancelling stamp nearest to hand. Tasmanian stamps are abundant treated in this way. The simple fact was that it was often more expeditious to send a letter by ship than pass it through the post. They were then brought over by hand and dropped into the Melbourne Post-office, and postmarked with the rest.

I have seen a Sarawak stamp bearing the Melbourne postmark, and the cancellations of Victoria, Tasmania, and New South Wales are very plentiful in almost all issues on their neighbour's stamps.

Leading collectors here are very sceptical as to whether Views were ever officially used in Victoria, although it is demonstrated that those of New South Wales were in the Post-offices of Queensland.

I am yours,

A. J. Derrick.

South Yarra, Melbourne,
26th February, 1894.

THE

London Philatelist:

THE MONTHLY JOURNAL OF

THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY, LONDON.

VOL. III. MAY, 1894. No. 29.

The "Fortnightly Review" on Stamps.

PHILATELY in these days must feel honoured by its frequent notices in the daily Press, while the extension of criticism even to the staid columns of a leading Review must be taken as a still further evidence of its rapidly increasing growth.

A lengthy article in the May number of the *Fortnightly Review* has revealed the name of a hitherto unknown critic in Mr. W. Roberts, who devotes some eight pages to a consideration of what, with an apparently new-born knowledge of the subject, he is pleased to designate "The Stamp Collecting Craze." The author has evidently consulted the pages of the *Stamp Collector's Magazine*, the *London Philatelist*, and other Philatelic journals, and devoted some hours to the interviewing of leading members of the Stamp trade. The modern journalist is prepared, on the shortest notice, with the aid of the friendly Encyclopædia, to write learnedly (!) on any subject under the sun, and as long as he confines himself closely to the information afforded by his mentor does not err egregiously. In the present instance Mr. Roberts, in his lengthy diatribe on the prices of stamps, despite a few amusing mistakes, has not much belied the second-hand information of which he has been the recipient; unfortunately however he has placed on paper sundry reflections formed upon his own intimate knowledge of the subject, which verify the adage that "a little knowledge is a dangerous thing." Our new-born critic "fails to see anything ennobling about a lot of dirty and useless postage stamps whose sole merit is rarity," and contrasts the collection of books (to which subject he betrays an affinity). Philatelists are not necessarily component parts of Carlisle's majority, and hence would not claim that the interest of a postage stamp is on a par with the Holy Writ or Shakespeare, but Mr. Roberts' assumption

that books are collected and priced according to their literary value alone is absolutely fallacious. All collectors are, from a financial point of view, mainly guided by the rarity of the specimen, and a Philatelist who pays a high price for a stamp is not necessarily a bigger fool than the man who pays two hundred shillings a dozen for a special *cuvée* of champagne, a couple of thousand guineas for a marqueterie cabinet, or hundreds of pounds for a book in which a certain word is misspelt!

We are ourselves at a loss to see why the collection of unused postage stamps (which are the great *desiderata*) is not on all fours with that of coins, both being to all intents and purposes currency. If Mr. Roberts had condescended to give any arguments in favour of his opinion we should have been glad of the opportunity of traversing them. His "peroration" shews a sublime ignorance of his subject. He believes that these "useless antiquities" of any value being all in process of swallowing up by the insatiable maw of museums, etc., no one in the future can be anything better than a fifth-rate collector, and this mediocrity will shortly render the race of Philatelists extinct.

Mr. W. S. Gilbert, in his libretto of *Patience*, makes the guardsmen, on their rejection by the love-sick maidens, sing—

> "There's fish in the sea, no doubt of it,
> As good as ever came out of it;
> And some day we shall get our share,
> So we don't care, so we don't care!"

And so say all of us poor Philatelists.

However, with £30,000 worth of stamps exhibited by a couple of dozen amateurs at the recent exhibition of the London Society this dreadful doom seems for the present averted. Nor do we think that the future of Philately is in serious danger from the attacks of critics who betray a complete ignorance of their subject, and who venture to "prophesy without knowing."

The Twenty-fifth Anniversary of the London Philatelic Society.

EXHIBITION OF RARE STAMPS.

LIKE all long-expected events on this globe terrestrial of ours the Exhibition of Rare Stamps has come and gone, the epitaph alone remaining to be written. Nor is there much difficulty in ascertaining the nature of this record, for on all sides there has been but one expression of opinion—that this Exhibition was not only an unqualified success, but surpassed in interest and importance all its predecessors. Independently of the genuine pleasure experienced by the general public and collectors alike, there can be no doubt but that instruction has gone hand in hand with

its lighter sister. It has been amply evident that to very many of the denizens of the Philatelic world a vast field of information has been opened. Scores of stamps were on view at Effingham House which it is not given to every one to behold, examples of real rarities, not only as to types conspicuous in their face value, but in the not less rare variation of water-mark, perforation, and shade, whose existence can hardly have been suspected by the ordinary collector. By the opening of their treasure-houses, the leading Philatelists have disclosed in friendly self-abnegation some of the hidden valuables, that by their knowledge and experience can now be marked out for search and future acquisition by their less fortunate *confrères*. Half the battle of life consists in knowing what one wants, and within the Philatelic circle the saying comes home with redoubled significance. A not less important lesson to be gleaned by all is the inestimable superiority of a collection formed on "the end of the century" lines, *i.e.*, by the acquisition only of perfect specimens. The old idea of half a stamp being better than none had already received a rude shock, and we are convinced that the result of this Exhibition will tend to give a still further impetus to the acquisition of perfect and ultra perfect specimens. In many of the countries exhibited were stamps which in their brilliant unused condition must have been a veritable revelation to those who, not having closely studied them, had imagined they offered but scant interest. The older European States are a prominent example of this, and the conviction must have been forced upon many of the onlookers, that in immaculate condition the old German, Swiss, or Italian stamps do not yield in interest or scarcely in beauty to those of our own Colonies. The effect financially on the stamp market may also be made evident—inevitably on the ascendant notably for exceptional copies—but collectors can at least console themselves in the reflection that if they have to pay more for future purchases their past acquisitions are at least equally increased in value.

The Exhibition was formally opened at eleven o'clock on Tuesday the 8th May, and remained open on the two succeeding days until nine p.m. On the Monday evening preceding, a private view was afforded to members and their friends, a large number availing themselves of this privilege. The members of the Committee, who had one and all been untiring in their efforts to render the Exhibition a success, must have felt amply rewarded by the brilliant effect of the room. The cases of stamps—arranged on Λ-shaped screens down the centre of the room, in a long series of flat cases at the side, and hung around the walls—were each surmounted by a most brilliant electric light, the combined effect of which was to transform the erstwhile-sober rooms of the Society into a blaze of light and colour. In short, the arrangements made both for the comfort and convenience of visitors, as well as for the due display of the stamps, redound to the high credit of the Committee, the members of whom were during the whole period of the Exhibition in constant request as *ciceroni*. A constant stream of visitors was always pouring into the rooms, and the pages of the visitors' autographs were filled in rapid succession, and included many well-known and distinguished names.

A signal honour was conferred upon the London Society in the visit

of the Honorary President, H.R.H. the Duke of Saxe-Coburg and Gotha, and the Honorary Vice-President, the Duke of York, which took place on Thursday morning the tenth. The Exhibition Committee had the honour of conducting the royal visitors around the rooms, and the further satisfaction of knowing that in their lengthened stay their Royal Highnesses had found much to interest them. It was observed by all who had the honour of attendance on the royal visitors that their knowledge of matters Philatelic was in no sense a perfunctory one, and that irrespective of their rank both the Honorary President and Vice-President are, by their interest in and intimate acquaintance with Philately, eminently qualified to occupy their positions at the head of the London Philatelic Society.

The comments in the daily and weekly press, the *Times*, *Standard*, *Telegraph*, *Pall Mall Gazette*, and scores of other journals, were not only succinct and extensive, but betokened a nascent appreciation of the objects of Philately that must be considered most gratifying.

The list of exhibitors and exhibits following preclude the necessity of further comment here. A perusal of the lengthy list will give some idea of the rarities on show, although it is obviously impossible to quote more than a certain number. It is difficult to assess the aggregate value of such a mass of stamps, but from a careful calculation, based upon the valuation for insurance, we are inclined to the belief that the total value of the stamps on view would approach £30,000.

The list of exhibitors is arranged alphabetically for purposes of convenience, and it is curious that under the system it begins and ends with its two most illustrious exhibitors, H.I.H. the Grand Duke Alexis Michaelovitch and H.R.H. the Duke of York. The example of H.I.H. the Grand Duke Alexis Michaelovitch in sending from Russia a choice selection from his collection is one that can be heartily commended *in futuro* to other foreign members, while the gracious co-operation of His Imperial Highness was received with universal expressions of satisfaction.

In the happy consummation of this event the London Philatelic Society has at once most fittingly celebrated its "silver birthday," and has placed the pursuit of Philately in this country on a higher pedestal than it has ever previously occupied.

H.I.H. THE GRAND DUKE ALEXIS MICHAELOVITCH.

The courteous co-operation of His Imperial Highness, who has but recently been elected a member of the London Philatelic Society, has naturally been received with *empressement* by all concerned. This satisfaction is heightened by the impression conveyed by the illustrious exhibitor's stamps, which were all of that genuine Philatelic kind that gladden the heart of a true collector. The European and Colonial specimens shewn were all *fin de siècle* copies, while the brilliant colouring and delicate execution of the beautiful Russian essays were highly appreciated by a constant circle of admirers.

Spain . . .	1851 and 1852, brilliant used copies of the two reales. 12 cuartos, imperf., centre inverted.
Switzerland . .	Poste Locale ; unused.
Luxemburg . .	1875, error "1 Pranc."

Hanover . . . 10 gr., used; very fine.
Oldenburg . . 1858, ⅓ gr., black on green; fine.
Nevis . . . 6d., lithographed; two shades.
Trinidad . . . 1858, 6d. and 1s.; unused.
Uruguay . . . Diligencia, 60 and 80 c.; unused.
British Columbia . 1 dollar; unused.
New Caledonia . Complete plate of the first issue, with head of Napoleon (50 varieties).
Russian Essays . Thirty-two specimens.
Bergedorf . . Entire sheets of essays in green of all values.

W. B. AVERY.

The presence of the two "Post Offices," in brilliant unused condition, would alone have sufficed to attract universal attention to Mr. Avery's exhibit, and if the owner could have been present during the whole time that the exhibition was open, he would have been as amused as gratified to notice the oft-repeated enquiry, "Which are the Post-office stamps?" They are certainly a magnificent pair of stamps. As will be seen by the detailed list, Mr. Avery also showed a grand lot of United States and Confederate Locals, including such great rarities as the Millbury and Brattleboro' among the former, and the Livingston among the latter. There are necessarily some specimens about which so little is known that their exact status is difficult to diagnose. The British and Buenos Ayres stamps were also well worthy of such illustrious company, and Mr. Avery's exhibit worthily takes a high rank among all its competitors.

United States Government Locals.

Baltimore, on entire envelope.
Brattleboro', on entire envelope.
Milbury, on entire envelope.
New York, hand-stamped—
5 cents, on entire envelope, franked with U.S. Mail, 1 cent, black on pink, for city delivery.
5 cents, on entire envelope, franked with U.S. Mail, 1 cent, black on buff.
Philadelphia, hand-stamped, 5 cents, on entire envelope, franked by U.S. Post Office Despatch (Eagle), blue, for city delivery.
St. Louis, each 5 and 10 cents, on greyish paper.
„ 5 cents, on blue paper.
„ three types, 10 cents, on blue paper.
Carrier stamp, brown; used.
Carrier despatch, 1 cent, blue on white; used.
United States Post Office Despatch (Eagle), blue; used.
„ „ „ orange; used.
Baltimore Government City Despatch, 1 cent (Horseman).
Providence, sheet; twelve varieties.

Confederate States Locals.

Athens, pair, on original envelope.
Baton Rouge, 2 cents, green.
„ three types, 5 cents, red and green, on original envelopes.
Charlestown, 5 cents, adhesive, on original envelope.
„ 5 cents, adhesive; stamped envelope, entire.
Christiansburgh, 5 cents, on entire envelope.
Columbia, 5 cents, on entire envelope (2).
Danville, adhesive label only; used.
„ 5 cents; stamped envelope.

Confederate States Locals (continued).

Fredericksburgh, 5 cents (pair); unused.
„ 10 cents; unused.
Goliad, 10 cents; original envelope.
Huntsville, 5 cents; original envelope.
Knoxville, block of fifteen; unused.
„ 5 cents, green on green, stamped envelope; used.
„ 5 cents, adhesive, red; used.
„ 5 cents, adhesive, red; unused.
„ cut envelope; used.
Lenoir, first impression ever struck, with affidavit.
Livingston, 5 cents, on original envelope.
Lynchburg, pair, on original envelope, 5 cents, blue.
„ 10 cents; used (shades).
„ 5 cents, black and white stamped envelope.
Macon, pair, green, on laid paper; unused.
„ green, on original envelope; used.
5 cents, black on buff.
Block of four, do., 5 cents, black on green, on wove paper.
Marion, 2 cents, label only; unused.
Montgomery, 5 cents, on complete envelope.
Memphis, complete sheet of 50, 2 cents, blue.
„ 5 cents, adhesive, red on buff; used.
„ 5 cents, adhesive, red on white; used.
Mobile, 2 cents, on original envelope; used.
„ pair of 5 cents, undivided; used.
Nashville, sheet of five, 3 cents; unused originals.
„ 5 cents, brown on grey; used.
„ 5 cents, carmine on grey; used.
„ 10 cents, green on grey, on original envelope.
Petersburg, two, 5 cents, on original envelope; two types.
Rheatown, pair, 5 cents; unused.
Pleasant, pair, 5 cents, shade on original envelope; used.
Tellico Plains, pair, 5 and 10 cents; unused.
Raleigh, entire envelopes, 5 cents; three types.
Salem, three entire envelopes, two unused and one used; different types.

Mauritius.

One each, Issue I. (Post Office), 1d. and 2d.; unused.
Three each, Issue II., 1d. and 2d., in different states of the dies.
One each, Issue March, 1859, unused; and Issue Oct. (?), 1859, used.

Réunion.

Two types of 15 cents. Issue I.
One type of 30 cents. Issue I.

Buenos Ayres.

Fine lot of ships (twelve in number), including grand specimens of the yellow and red in shades.

Great Britain.

House of Commons envelope.
Houses of Parliament envelope.
House of Lords envelope, on blue paper.
„ „ white paper.
Pair of V.R.; unused.
Four 1d., red on blue; imperforate; small crown; unused block.
1d., red on blue; imperforate; black on white, watermark large crown; block of six.
One block of six; imperforate; 1d., red; large crown; stars in corners.
One black 1d., proof; letters in all four corners.

Great Britain (continued).
One pane of twenty, 3d., imperforate; with secret mark.
One block of four, 4d., with large garter and hair lines; imperforate.
One block of six, 1½d., mauve.
One pane of twenty, 6d., imperforate; with small letters and hair lines.
One 8d., red-brown.
One pair of 10d. (first issue). Embossed. Overlapping.
One pair of 1s., imperforate; with hair lines.
One 2s., brown, unused.
One pair of 2s., blue, imperforate.

Sandwich Islands.
Issue I. 5 cents, used; and 13 cents, type I.; unused.

C. N. BIGGS.

This exhibit consisted mainly of good copies of Colonials, with a selection of early Spain and Philippines, a small but representative contribution from Mr. Biggs' extensive collection.

Spain . . .	1851 and 1852, 2 reales; used; and a good lot of the subsequent rarities.
Luzon . . .	A good lot, including several of the first issue.
Mauritius .	Seven of the so-called "native" prints.
New Brunswick .	1s.; used.
Nova Scotia . .	1s.; used.
Buenos Ayres . .	Brown and green; used.
West Australia .	6d., *bronze;* used; a very fine specimen.
Natal . . .	1d., buff; very fine.
	And a large number of other good Colonials.

W. W. BLEST.

The assemblage of British and Colonial Stamps shewn by this gentleman was worthily held by everyone present to constitute one of *the* attractions of the exhibition. Such a splendid array of rare stamps in brilliant condition has been but very rarely seen together, and it is evident that their possessor has spared neither labour nor money in such a grand accumulation. The Newfoundlands were a superb lot, complete in both shades unused, and embracing a specimen of the 6d. in the vermilion-red that was certainly one of the finest stamps shewn. The Cape error in blue *se tenant* with the normal value, and a matchless specimen of the 4d., dark blue, unused, "Woodblock," were much admired. Another grand stamp was a 2d., Issue II., of Mauritius in *the* very earliest state of the die, almost a mass of solid colour in the intensity of the impression. The Australian portion was also extremely fine, including such stamps as the New Zealand 1s., on blue paper, unused, and a number of Sydney views in like condition. The British Guiana included the 2 c., rose, of the first issue, one of the very rarest stamps in the world, there being but six, or perhaps seven, copies extant. In every colony, as will be seen by the list, there were present stamps of the first rarity in grand condition, and, taken altogether, it was "a feast for sair een."

British Guiana .	1850, 2 c., used. 4 c., thick paper, used. 8 c., used. 12 c., 3 specimens, used. 1851, 1 and 4 c., several examples.

British Guiana . 1856, 4 c, red (2), used. 4 c., blue, used.
1861, 1, 2, and 4 c. (12); a fine lot of picked specimens.
Bahamas . . No wmk.; range of shades; all unused.
Trinidad . . Twenty-five of the lithographs, including a grand strip of four, and other rare varieties in great profusion of subsequent issues; many unused.
Ceylon . . . Imperf., 12, including a 9d., brown.
„ series of star and no wmk. issues; unused.
Canada . . . 12d., used, and all first issues in shades, unused.
British Columbia . 5 c., imperf.
Tobago . . . 6d., ochre, CA and Crown; unused.
Turks Islands. . 1s., prune.
New South Wales.—Sydney Views.
1d., Plates I. and II., 3; unused.
2d. „ I., II., and V., 5; unused.
And several grand copies so lightly used as to almost belong to preceding category.
Laureates—1d., laid; unused.
6d., wove; (2) unused.
8d. „ „ Slightly clipped, but intense colour.
Registered (4), and other rarities; unused.
Victoria . . 6d., orange, "beaded oval"; used.
5s., unused; 3d., on laid paper, unused.
Queensland . . 1d., 2d., and 6d., imperf.; grand specimens, unused, the two latter being immaculate.
The same, used, the 6d. in pair.
Star wmk.; a splendid lot, including a strip of three 2d., blue, imperf. vertically, and used.
1s., brown; unused.
New Zealand . Blue paper, including a pair of 2d. and 1s.; great rarities, all unused.
2d., value wanting; a curious stamp, apparently caused by defective printing.
No wmk.; 1s. (2) and 6d., pair unused.
Pelure paper set, imperf., unused; and a choice lot of others of this country
West Australia . First issue, 1d., 2d. (2), 6d.; used.
The set rouletted and subsequent issue.
2d., lilac; used and unused.
6d., *bleuté*; unused (2).
South Australia . 6d., dark blue, imperf.; unused.
1d., yellow-green; pair; used.
1s., rouletted; three unused.
10d., rouletted and perf.; unused.
Tasmania . . 1d. (2), unused; and strip of four, used.
Wmk. Star; set unused.
Fiji . . . *Times Express.* Set on *quadrillé* paper.
Labuan . . . 6 c. on 16 c. (2).
Natal . . . 9d.; a grand copy; used.
1s.; a grand copy; used.
3d., Star wmk.; imperf.; unused.
St. Helena . . 6d., red; no surcharge; unused.
Great Britain . . 1d., black; V.R.; unused.
4d., Medium Garter, on white; unused.
4d., Small Garter, on blue; unused.
£1 and £5; unused.
Sierra Leone . . 4d., wmk. CA and Cr.; unused.

Mauritius . . Native printed issue; fifteen copies; two unused; including many grand specimens, notably a 2d. of the earliest state.
Fillet issue (3); one unused.
Greek border issue, 1d. (3), 2d. (2); all unused and very fine.

Cape of Good Hope . Woodblocks; both errors, the 1d., blue, in a pair *se tenant*, others unused and used, inclusive of 4d., dark blue, a magnificent unused copy.

Nova Scotia . . 1s., in both shades; used and unused.

New Brunswick . 1s, in both shades; used and unused.
The Connell.

Newfoundland . Issue I. in vermilion, 14 unused and 16 used; a superb lot, with full sets, used and unused, the 1s. (5) being especially fine; 6d., orange (2); 2d. and 6d., vermilion, grand. We consider this the choicest lot Mr. Blest showed.

Ionian Isles . . Four stamps; used; on letter.

Trinidad . . . Lady McLeod stamps (2); on letters.

Columbia . . . 1862, set complete.

Brazil . . . Issue II., 180, 300, and 600 reis; six unused.

Sandwich Isles . Second issue, thick paper; five and thirteen cents, used.
And many other fine stamps.

DR. A. BOSWELL.

The first contribution to London exhibitions by this gentleman formed a happy augury for the success of future contributions, as Dr. Boswell's stamps formed an exceedingly choice and interesting exhibit. In Queensland especially there were many fine things, some of which, in the condition as shewn, have hardly been seen before. We cite:

Queensland, first issue, imperforate 1d., pair; 2d. and 6d., pair; used. No watermark, a fine lot, including almost all the values in unused imperforate pairs, a good lot of the star perforates, and of the subsequent issues a good representation with imperforate stamps, *se tenant* in a number of cases. Nevis and other West Indian Islands were well to the fore, as also other Australian countries, one of the stamps we noticed being a very fine 1d., yellow-green, imperforate, South Australian. A number of Madagascar stamps used on original letters, and some nice British North Americans were also to be noted, but by no means exhausted all the attractions of the exhibit.

M. P. CASTLE (Vice-President).

This exhibit was also one of the prominent features, and included a large number of stamps, filling two cases—one European, and the other Australian. The majority of the stamps were unused, and in the finest condition. The Europeans consisted mainly of first issues of the following countries:

Spain . . . 1850, 51, 52, 53, and 54; seventy-one stamps all unused, and including all the varieties, except the 1 real, light blue, 1854, which was shewn used; 1855 and 56, 2 cuartos, and the 12 c., blue and rose, with inverted centre, perf. and imperf., the two latter being used.

France . . . 1849, Republic, 15 c., green; five shades and a strip of three; and 1 fr., orange and vermilion (3), all unused. Five shades of the latter, used, and shades of the 1 fr., carmine, with a *timbre d'instruction* to shew the alteration in the colour of the latter; also the 10 c., 20 c., 25 c., and 1 fr. *tête-bêche*.

Sweden . . . 1st issue; thirty-four stamps, all unused, with great variety of shade and variations of paper; the error "trettio," vermilion, unused.

Parma . . . 1854, 5, 15, and 25 c., colour on white; eighteen stamps, unused, in fine range of shades.

Roumania . . Issue I., 27, 54 (3), 81, and 108 p., all used except the 81.
Issue II., unused set on blue paper, and pair of 80 p. on blue on original letter.

Naples . . . Pair of the 50 gr., used and unused copies of this and the ½; Trinacria, ½ tornese, unused and used, three of the latter, one on original letter; Savoy Cross seven specimens unused, and twenty-four copies used, including a pair.

Tuscany . . . 2 soldi, 60 cr., and 9 c., on white, unused, and 3 lire, used, two specimens of each.

Switzerland . . Vaud, 4 c.; Geneva, three 10 c., unused.

Amongst other European rarities shewn singly were to be noted a fine set of the Austrian Mercuries; a series of the early Portugal, with a matchless 50 r. Donna Maria unused. Some selected German and English and other rarities.

Mr. Castle's Australians included some 50 copies of the Sydney Views, unused, including specimens of all values and plates, many of them being in pairs, and all in brilliant condition; this necessarily was a feature in the exhibition. Early states of the 2d. Plate and the 3d. on *blue laid* paper, used; Laureated heads—1d. on laid (2), 2d., Star, 6d. and 8d., unused, 3d., wmk. 𝟚 (2), used; Registered and Surcharged series, fine lot; Diademed head, 2d., wmk. 𝟙; and 3d., wmk. 𝟚 (a pair) in thick numerals.

W. Australia . . Fine specimens of the first issue, unused, also rouletted, and others showing gold; the 2d, error in colour of 6d., used and unused, and others.

New Zealand . . First issue, watermark Star, 1d., in deep *crimson*-red, used; 2d. and 6d., *bleuté*, unused; no watermark, thick paper, 1s., three shades, unused, and set of four values of the same serrated perf., the 2d. of same issue *bleuté; pelure* set, unused; wmk. NZ, 6d., rouletted, 1d. (*pelure* paper), a 1d., perf., all three used; 2d., wmk. lozenge, unused.

Queensland . . 6d., imperf., unused, 1879, 1d., error, in yellow.

Labuan . . . 6 c. on 16 (2), and others.

Fiji . . . . *Times Express*, set, including three pairs, on *quadrillé* paper.

S. Australia . . Issue I., 6d., *lilac*-blue, unused; 2d., Type I. and 10, rouletted and perf.; some selected Departmentals and others.

Victoria . . . Issue I., rouletted, 3d., perf., the latter used; Emblems, several unused, with a 4d. on laid *percé en scie;* Registered, unused, and "Too late," the latter with value omitted; 6d., beaded oval, extra fine; 10d., grey, no watermark; 5s., unused, shades, etc.

Tasmania . . First issue, 1d. and 4d., unused, and latter on laid and ribbed paper; no watermark, 1d. (2) and 2d., unused; 1d., watermark (2), unused, the rarest varieties of the so-called unofficial roulettes and imperf. specimens of later issues.

Mr. Castle also shewed three sheets, composed of unsevered block strips, and pairs of Australian, including the following:

New South Wales . Sydney, 1d. (4), 2d., Plate II. (4), a block; laureated 1d. and 6d. (and Registered, imperf.), in pairs, unused; 8d., pair, shewing error; 2d., diadem, perf., one stamp retouched.

Tasmania . . First issue, strips of both values unused; serrated perf. 2d., block of 4, used; and 1d., rouletted, strip of 5, unused, etc.

Victoria . . . Issue I., unused, blocks of 1d. (10), 2d., Die III. (11), 3d., Die I. and II. (4); 2d., fine background, used, pair; "Too late," a pair, unused; beaded oval pair of 4d., no wmk., unused; and two 6d., orange, on letter; blocks unused of later issues.

W. Australia . . Issue I., blocks of 1s., used and unused, and pair of ditto used, rouletted; pair of 6d., *bronze*, rouletted, on letter.

Queensland . . Pairs of 1d., 2d., and 6d., used.

S. Australia . . 2d., Type I., perf. 12½, vertical pair; 1s., imperf., orange, strip of 5, used.

New Zealand . . Issue I., star watermark on *bleuté*, pair of 1s., unused; blue paper, 1d., strip of 5; star watermark, rouletted, block of six 2d., and pair of 6d., used, and others.

A. W. CHAMBERS.

The especial feature here was a fine and strong array of Nevis, with several plates complete, and a grand lot of Trinidads; some of the imperforates, with values expressed, being magnificent copies, and altogether a representative lot of Mr. Chambers' speciality—the West Indian stamps.

British Guiana . 1851. Pair and single copy on letter, very fine, with copies of scarce stamps in the subsequent issues.

Barbados . . 1d. on 5s.; used and unused.

Nevis . . . 6d., green; used and unused; and three fine sheets, including plates, etc., used and unused.

Trinidad . . . Some fine lithographs and stamps of the Issues with value expressed.

Turks Islands . . 1s., prune; unused; and other good West Indians.

W. COWLAND.

From the specimens shewn by this gentleman, it is evident that he must be the possessor of a sound collection, as the stamps shown, hailing from various quarters of the globe, were not only rare, but of a condition to satisfy the most exacting.

France . . . 1 franc, orange used.

Spain . . . 1851, 2 r., used. 1852, 2 reales „

Brazil . . . 1844, 180, 300, and 600 reis „

Buenos Ayres . . green, red, and yellow stamps „

Newfoundland . 6½ and 1s., carmine „

New Brunswick . 1s. „

Nova Scotia . . 1s. „

Victoria . . . Beaded oval, 6d. „

Turks Islands . . 1s., prune.

New Zealand . . 1s., on *bleuté;* unused.

R. EHRENBACH.

The Teutonic predilections of this exhibitor are sufficiently well known to have raised anticipation of a beautiful exhibit, which were fully realised. No case in the Exhibition bore greater evidence of Philatelic accuracy and careful choice of brilliant specimens. We are enabled to give an almost full list of the varieties shewn, which will speak for itself, it being premised that in this case, except where otherwise indicated, all the specimens are not only unused, but "in mint condition."

GERMANY. Unused specimens.

Thurn and Taxis Issue I., 1 gr., dark blue; 1 gr., light blue, a pair; 1 gr., light blue; 2 gr., rose; 3 gr., yellow; 3 kr., dark blue; 3 kr., light blue, one and a pair; 6 kr., rose; 9 kr., yellow, a pair. Issue II., 1859-60, 9 kr., yellow.

Brunswick . Issue I., 1852, 1 gr., rose; 2 gr., blue; 3 gr., vermilion, a splendid lot. Issue II., 1853–56, ¼ gr., brown; 3 gr., rose; 1864, *percé en scie*, ⅓ gr., a pair; ½ gr., strip of three.

Schleswig-Holstein. Issue I., 1 sh., blue, a pair; 1 sh., blue, very dark shade; 2 sh., rose. Issue II., 1864, 1¼ sh., *rouletted.*

Bremen . . All the rarest varieties.

Hanover . . 1850, 1 ggr., blue; 1856, $\frac{1}{30}$, rose, a pair; $\frac{1}{10}$, yellow, a pair, wide net; 1861, 10 gr., green, a pair; 10 gr., pale olive-green.

Alsace . . 5 c., network inverted.

Oldenburg . Issue I., 1851–55, $\frac{1}{30}$, a block of twelve showing the two types of the A; ⅓ gr., green, a block of nine; $\frac{1}{15}$ gr., rose, two varieties; $\frac{1}{10}$ gr. yellow. Issue III., 1860, ⅓ gr., moss green; ⅓ gr., green, *error Oldeiburg.*

Bavaria . . 1849, 1 kr., black, block of sixteen; 6 kr., brown, Type I., two pairs.

Hamburg. . The rarer varieties.

Mecklenburg-Schwerin 1864, ¼, rouletted, paper ribbed (2).

Prussia . . Solid background, 2 sg., blue (2); Eagle, 2 sgr., Prussian-blue.

Lubeck . . The errors, etc.

Saxony . . 1850, the 3 pf., red, two shades; 1851–52, head to right, ½ gr., grey; ½ gr., blue, *error in colour*, a pair; and fine set of other values.

Baden . . All values in fine condition.

Wurtemberg . Issue I., 1851, 1 kr., buff, 3 kr., yellow, 3 kr., orange, 6 kr., green, 9 kr., rose, 18 kr., lilac, a superb set; and splendid sets of all subsequent issues to 1879.

Used specimens.

Brunswick . 1864, roul., ½ g., green; 1 g., yellow.

Hamburg. . 1859, imperf., ½, 4, and 9 sch.

Schleswig-Holstein. 1850, 1 sh., blue, a pair; 2 sh., rose.

Oldenburg . 1858, ⅓, green, a pair and single; ¼, orange; ⅓, green, *error Dritto.*

Saxony . . A reconstructed plate of twenty 3 pfg., red; a magnificent group.

Bergedorf. . The set; used.

Hanover . . 1861, 10 gr., green, a pair.

Mecklenburg-Strelitz. The set.

Lübeck . . The error 2½, brown, and other scarce values.

Bremen . . 7 sg., perf.; 10 sg., a pair.

MAJOR EVANS.

From his magnificent collection of the native Indian States Major Evans contributed a few rarities, notably the early and *original* plates of Soruth, as also some very interesting proof impressions of the Mulready envelope, with other interesting items as noted.

Soruth . . Early issue, entire and made-up plates.

Bhopal . . Rare sheet of ¼ a., green, and another.

Confederate States TEN cents and 10 c. with single-line frame.

Mulready envelopes, proofs, &c.

Two entire sheets of *illustrated envelopes*, by Leech and Doyle.

D. GARTH (Hon. Secretary).

Mr. Douglas Garth's known aptitude in the selection of fine specimens was again *en évidence* by the quality of the stamps shewn by him, all of which were in the finest condition. The selection of the German states was particularly admired; while the Tuscans embraced also a beautiful series, unused, and a brilliant copy lightly postmarked of the 3 lire.

Modena . . . Sixteen errors.
Hanover . . . A fine set of all values, unused.
Tuscany . . . Forty unused, including 60 c. and 9 c., on white, and a 3 lire, yellow, used.
Malta . . . All varieties, unused, in shades.
Switzerland . . Geneva, 10 c., green, used.
Zurich . . . 4 r., unused.
Winterthur, *Basle*, and others.
Turkey . . . Almost all the 25 piastres, and many scarce varieties of surcharge.
Bavaria . . . A grand lot of the three first issues in pairs, unused.
Oldenburg . . 1st and 3rd issues, including a brilliant copy of the $\frac{1}{10}$ thaler, unused.
Mecklenburg-Schwerin 2 sch., *lilac*, used.
Mecklenburg-Strelitz 1 „ „
Wurtemburg . . Some fine specimens of the 1st issue, and of the several 18 kr., unused.

W. HARRISON.

The most prominent, even if not the most valuable, portion of the contents of this case consisted of a splendid array of the South Australian Departmentals in perfect unused condition, being an excerpt from the grand collection of these interesting stamps that Mr. Harrison has got together, and which is without doubt the finest extant. Many of those shewn are of the greatest rarity, the copies known being in some instances extremely limited. Beyond these, some magnificent colonials were shown (*e.g.* Canada 12d., on laid), as will be seen from the list, all of which were in as faultless a condition as any stamps on view in the Exhibition.

Newfoundland . 1s., used.
Nova Scotia . . 1s. „
New Brunswick . 1s. „ ; The Connell.
Canada . . . 6d., perf., unused, brilliant; 12d., laid, a grand unused copy.
British Columbia . 2½d., imperf.
Cape of Good Hope . Woodblock, error, 4d., red; very fine.
Great Britain . . 1d., black, V.R.
New Zealand . . No watermark; 1s., blue-green, unused, immaculate.
Dominica . . Rare provisionals.
South Australia . Departmental Stamps, three cards, almost entirely composed of unused; a magnificent lot, including, amongst many others, the surcharges N.T., on 3d., blue, P.S. several, D.B., C., Sgn., several, and a splendid series of O.S., including a block of four of the 8d., unused, one having a double surcharge.

EARL OF KINGSTON (President).

The President's exhibit, which was necessarily of a limited nature, was a very interesting memento of the initiatory stages of the postal system in the country.

Great Britain . . Mulready Proof on India paper, with address written by Sir Rowland Hill, accompanied by his signature, and an autograph letter on the formation of the penny postage system.

C. J. LAMBERT.

The British Guianas have long been known to constitute a special attraction to this exhibitor, and hence a fine display was to be looked for. The exhibit of the earliest issues of this country was one of the finest in the "show."

The British North Americans, inclusive of the 12d. Canada, on laid, were also a great attraction, and, taken as a whole, Mr. Lambert's exhibit of "rare stamps" is entitled to a prominent position among its competitors.

Newfoundland . Fine specimen 6½; unused.
Canada . . . 6d., lilac, imperf.; used and unused.
12d., a very fine unused copy.
Specimens of 6½, 10d., ½d., 3d., imperf.; unused.
Also unused copies of ½d., 3d., and 6d., perf.
British Guiana . First issue circulars, blue, green and yellow, including the 4 c., on *pelure* paper; also an excellent lot of the following issues, notably in the 1862 series, which shewed all the prominent varieties.
New Brunswick . The Connell; very fine selection of the 3d., 6d., and 1s.; used and unused.
Nova Scotia . . Several brilliant copies of the 1s., including the rare shade.
Mauritius . . Early issues; several choice specimens.
Natal . . . 3d., imperf., Star wmk; unused.
First issue, 9d., blue; and other scarce colonials.
Cape . . . Woodblocks, a good series.

P. J. LLOYD.

The rarest stamp in this exhibit was the 1d., brown, New Zealand, on the fiscal paper, with watermark N.Z., of which Mr. Lloyd possesses a fine horizontal strip of three that he has lately been fortunate enough to acquire from a well-known London firm. The blocks and pairs of other Australian stamps were also of an interesting nature, presenting a feature that was not observable in other exhibits.

New Zealand . . A fine assortment; strip of three, 1d., brown, perf. 12½, watermark N.Z.
Natal . . . 1d., watermark star; block of eighteen, unused.
West Australia . 1d., carmine, no watermark; block of twenty-four, unused.
Cape of Good Hope . Triangular 1d., red; strip of seven.
South Australia . 1d., green, imperf; 1s., orange, imperf, a fine pair, used; 2d., vermilion, Type I., rouletted, fine block of ten, unused.
Victoria . . . 1863, 1d., green, watermark ONE PENNY; block of twelve.
New Zealand . . A large variety of good stamps in blocks, pairs, and strips.

H. F. LOWE.

The imperforate Ceylons on original envelopes were perhaps the most noticeable among the exhibits of Mr. Lowe, which, however, included a number of choice colonials, in which we believe this gentleman specializes.

Newfoundland . Specimens of the first issue, including a fine 6½d., on original envelope.
Ceylon . . . Very fine copies and pairs of early issues; including specimens of the 4d., 8d., and 9d. imperf., on original letters.
Nova Scotia . . 1s., violet; used.

J. N. MARSDEN.

The Great Britain stamps shewn here embraced some very delectable examples, notably a grand copy of the £5, on *bleuté*, unused, that would form an attractive addition to most of the collections of our own country. Mr. Marsden's residence in Portugal has also enabled him to acquire some glorious specimens of the early Portuguese, while the exhibits of the colonies of that country, especially Guiné, were of a high order of merit.

Great Britain . . 6d., lilac, octagonal, unused; £5, orange-red, on *bleuté* paper, unused; 10s. and £1, watermark anchor, unused; also a used specimen of the 2s., blue; plate 3.
Guiné . . . Numerous specimens with the surcharge in small letters, comprising all values, with stamps on envelope, an exceedingly choice and valuable series.
Sheet of the 40, blue, with error, Mozambique.
Angola . . . Sheet of 20 reis, rose, with error (40 r.).
Portugal . . Strips of 3 and 5 of the 5 c. (Type with straight hair).
Ceylon . . . A fine page of star watermark issues, perf. and imperf.
Cape of Good Hope . Woodblocks.
New South Wales . Sydney View, 2d., blue, Plate I., unused; a grand copy, shewing clouds.
British North America Several good stamps.
Sweden . . . trettio öre, red, error.
Nevis . . . 6d., lithograph; several specimens.
Wurtemburg, Sandwich, etc.

W. MATTHEWS.

A general selection of scarce stamps from various portions of the globe, containing desirable specimens, but perhaps hardly up to the general high standard of excellence. Miscellaneous lot of scarce stamps, including several good Turks Islands, provisionals; Newfoundland, orange; several St. Vincent, provisionals; and a selection from all countries.

E. J. NANKIVELL.

Transvaal stamps are almost inevitably associated with Mr. Nankivell's name, and from his magnificent collection he produced a selection whose rarity can hardly be gauged by the ordinary spectator, but would be better appreciated in the attempt to duplicate them. The early issues of this country redound in interesting and *unspeculative* varieties that should appeal to the sympathies of any true Philatelist, and we feel sure that with such able advocates for the Transvaal stamps as Messrs. Nankivell and Pearce, it should not be long before they have a host of disciples.

Complete sheet of "1 penny" on 6d., unused; Queen's head. This is almost unique.
Proof sheet of Half Penny in trial colour, brown.
Large blocks and pairs of the rare 1d., black; imperf.
Rare error; 1d., red on blue; Transvral; both imperf. and rouletted.
Fine strip of eight 3d.; pelure, unused.
A representative series of twenty-five wide roulettes, including a unique pair of the 1d. V.R. Transvaal all caps.
A page of rare inverted surcharges, including the 3d. V.R. Transvaal all caps, and 1d. red on blue, and many other scarce varieties.

G. B. T. NICHOLL.

The stamps of our own country constituted the whole of Mr. Nicholl's exhibit, and it was a matter of frequent comment that such a fine assemblage of rarities should have been, so to say, acquired outside the knowledge of the Philatelic "Four Hundred." Great care has evidently been taken by this gentleman in the formation of his collection, which bids fair to occupy a prominent position among the patriotic Philatelists, and on the acquisition of which he is to be heartily congratulated.

4d., Small Garter and Middle Garter, on blue; two lovely specimens, unused, the latter being of very great rarity.
Octagonals, all values, unused, and also in pairs with "specimen."
All high values up to £5, either unused or with "specimen," in both the official and ordinary sets.
Government Parcels, a full set.
Some interesting "specimen" stamps shewing the *bleuté*, and a large number of other good English unused.

H. R. OLDFIELD.

The principal portion of this case was devoted to the exposition of the stamps of Switzerland, this being the most prominent lot of these interesting stamps on view. Nearly all the examples shewn were of the best quality, and in some instances, such as the Basle on letter, and the strip of six Poste Locale, the examples were of altogether exceptional brilliancy. Altogether a very praiseworthy and a most acceptable feature among the exhibits.

SWITZERLAND—

Geneva . .	10 c., on letter, cut reverse way.
Vaud . .	4 c., three copies; fine.
Zurich . .	4 r., one unused, three used; fine.
Basle . .	A superb copy on original letter.
Winterthur .	Unused Orts Poste and Poste Locale, three strips of six, one of the latter being unique in the depth of its impression.
Rayons . .	10 r., with frame to cross, and a block of twenty of the 5 blue and red on white, unused.
Newfoundland .	Various of the orange-red.
Great Britain .	V.R., trial obliteration.

R. PEARCE.

The remarks made elsewhere on the Transvaal stamps apply equally in the case of this gentleman, who, like Mr. Nankivell, has spared no pains to get together a fairly complete collection of Transvaal. One case was entirely filled by the combined exhibits of these two gentlemen, and being a unique feature attracted considerable attention. It will be seen from the

accompanying list that Mr. Pearce's stamps were of a high and varied excellence.

Wide Roulettes: A series, including 1d. and 6d., on pelure paper; 1d., on thick rough paper; 1d., on surfaced paper; 3d., on thin paper—of the first Republic. 3d., lilac on buff (with both upright and italic V.R.); 3d., lilac on green; 1d., with the small V.R., and the 3d. and 1s. with the surcharge in *red*—period of British occupation.

Fine roulettes: Several, including 3d., lilac on green; 1d., with smaller V.R. and with small "T" to "Transvaal."

Compound Roulette: 1d., with "V.R." and "TRANSVAAL" all in capitals.

Tête-bêche: Pairs showing this variety in the 6d. and the 1s.—early local printings. Also pair of 1s., perforated, and a block of four "Halve penny" provisional on 1s.

1s., "blobby" green (early local printing), three fine copies.

Inverted surcharges: A series, including 6d. "V.R." and "TRANSVAAL" in capitals; 3d., lilac on buff.

Red surcharges on the 3d., 6d., and 1s. values.

Variety with letters "V.R." and word "TRANSVAAL" printed wider apart: the 1d. centre stamp of a strip of three; two copies of the 6d., one inverted; two copies of the 3d. with red surcharge.

Errors with surcharge omitted: 6d., blue on rose; 6d., blue on blue.

V.R., TRANSVAAL: 1d., on *pelure* paper, three fine copies; 3d., lilac on white, vertical strip of five shewing omitted stops.

Variety: "Een penny," provisional, on 4d., Queen's head, with surcharge in larger type.

Also an entire pane of forty stamps of the 3d., lilac on blue, with "V.R." smaller, showing the variety on four stamps of small "T" to "Transvaal."

F. A. PHILBRICK, Q.C.

The ex-President of the London Society has for several years past occupied himself solely with the British stamps, his collection embracing postals and fiscals, and he shewed a sprinkling of the many treasures that are contained in his albums. The blocks of Dickinson paper and Archer roulettes were beautiful to behold, and the envelopes of the Houses of Lords and Commons were much appreciated by collectors of our own country's stamps.

Archer roulette, a splendid block of nine of the 1d. in perfect condition; Dickinson paper, another fine block of six; House of Lords and Commons envelopes; specimens of these rarities including a "Twopence" almost unique. Some interesting proofs in various colours of the embossed stamp. Also a number of the choice stamps in the condition that would be expected from a collector of the long standing of the ex-President of the London Philatelic Society.

F. RANSOM.

A choice lot of rarities, mainly colonial, including the 12d. Canada, on wove, used; some fine Mauritius, etc. A very valuable set of sheets, as, indeed, has always resulted when Mr. Ransom has exhibited.

Newfoundlands; Brunswick, The Connell; Cape Woodblocks; Mauritius, early issues; Spain, Madrid; Naples, Savoy Cross; 12d. Canada, on wove; Afghanistan, several scarce varieties, native impressions; Trinidad, lithographs; miscellaneous Portuguese India; India, surcharged "Service," first issue, large rect.; Ceylon, octagonal; Antioquia, 2½ c., 5 c., and 1 peso, first issue.

Rev. P. E. RAYNOR.

One of the smallest exhibits numerically—there being but six stamps—but of the very best quality, as will be seen. The West Australia, 4d., with *centre inverted*, used, and the Victoria, beaded oval, 6d., orange, *unused*, were

the only copies so shewn, and both specimens were worthy of a place in the first collection of the world.

Western Australia . First issue (1855–61), 4d., blue, *inverted swan.*
Great Britain . 2s., blue, *Plate 3.*
Victoria . . . 6d., orange, beaded oval, *unused* (1861–66).
Vancouver's Island . 5 cents, red, imperforate (1865).
South Australia . Strip of four, 1d., green, imperforate (1855).
Turks Islands . . 1s., prune (1880).

GORDON SMITH.

South Australian stamps were shewn by Mr. Gordon Smith, whose intimate acquaintance with this previously somewhat neglected branch of Australians has been lately made amply manifest. A number of interesting shades and rare varieties, frequently in blocks and pairs, were to be noted, the scarcity of which will be better ascertained by those who may try to match them. Mr. Gordon Smith also shewed specimens of the stamps formerly issued by the private Telegraph Companies of Great Britain.

South Australia . Issue I., imperf., 6d., dark blue, unused, 2 shades.
Issue II., rouletted, a very fine block of the 6d., in pale lilac-blue; and also examples in like condition of the dull but full blue.
Rouletted and perf. some fine shades of all values, inclusive of two brilliant shades of the 1s., brown, and the 9d., the latter very scarce; 2d., Type I., perf. $11\frac{1}{2} \times 12\frac{1}{2}$. This is a most interesting stamp, and is a record.
Of the 1869 issue, 2d., Type II., watermark Star, 2 specimens are also shewn unused.
A fine block of 9 of the 1d., dark green, perf., was also noteworthy by a vagary of the perforating machine, which had only proceeded vertically about two-thirds of the way on the bottom row. Many other good shades of various stamps were shewn.
Great Britain . . Private Telegraph Companies' stamps, including a fine set of the "United Kingdom Electric Telegraph Co."

MRS. TEBAY.

Specimens of the first privately issued post cards of India were shewn by this lady, who has been many years a member of the Society, and proved an interesting, if somewhat select, exhibit.

DR. C. W. VINER.

The exhibit of the doctor, whose name is so well known as one of the Philatelic veterans, embraced some very acceptable specimens, pre-eminently the best being the Victorian registered in an unused and brilliant condition. Dr. Viner had intended, we believe, to make a much larger exhibit, but was unable to finally arrange them in time for the exhibition. The fine Nevis and other West Indian shewn on the last occasion afford ample evidence of his ability to shew fine things. The Zurich stamps were noteworthy, it being noticeable that in each block of six one of the five types was necessarily repeated.

Bremen . . 10 s.g.; perf. and imperf.
Switzerland . Zurich. 4 r., block of six, from the worn plate, shewing no red line; 6 r., strip of six, shewing no red line—both of course unused.
Spain . . Early issues, some good stamps.
Austria . . A curious block of twelve, with the last two s aces shewing the complementary crosses.
Victoria . . Registered unused, a beautiful copy of this stamp, and very rare in this condition.

JOHN WALKER.

The best stamp shewn here, and the only one of its kind in the Exhibition, was, in our opinion, the 1d., Bermuda, rose, imperf. The specimen in question was used, and had margins, which, if not very ample, were fully indicative of its freedom from perforation. A fine large fillet Mauritius is also a stamp that rejoices the heart of an average collector.

Labuan . . . C.A., first issue, used; an excellent set.
Bermuda . . 1d., imperf.
St. Vincent . . Provisional; nearly all varieties in pairs, etc.
Mauritius . . 2d., large fillet.
Ceylon . . . Octagonals.
Mexican . . . 3 cent., brown, used.
Colonials . . . A good general lot.

W. T. WILSON.

The acquisition by Mr. Wilson of the celebrated Mexican collection of Mr. F. de Coppet necessarily lent a strong local colouring to the excerpt from his stock. The selection sent was certainly a very fine one, and contained many stamps of considerable rarity, which, however, we are unable to quote at full length. It is fortunate that Mr. Wilson elected to send this country, which otherwise would not have been well represented. The 3 cent., eagle type, on laid paper, has always worthily maintained its reputation as *rarissime*, and the fact that eleven other copies of this stamp, on wove, were shewn, well indicated in some measure the importance of the collection.

Great Britain . . 10d., Plate 2, used on original envelope.
Moldavia . . 1858, 27 p.; used. 54 p.; used (two specimens).
108 p.; one used and one unused.
Spain . . 1853, 3 c., bronze; one unused and two used. 2 rls.; two used.
1852, pair 2 rls.; used.
1851, pair 2 rls.; used.
1865, 12 cents, head inverted; used.
1854, 1 rl., light blue; used.
Labuan . . 1880, 6 c. on 16 c.; used. $1 on 16 c., pen surch.; unused.
1883, 2 c. on 8 c., small diagonal surcharge—all capitals; unused.
Phillipine Islands . 1854, block of eight, 1 rl.; unused.
Peru . . Provisional, P. S. N. Co., ½ rl., blue on blue; used.
Nova Scotia . . 1851, 1s., mauve; unused.
Bolivar . . 1863, 10 c., green; used.
Cape of Good Hope . 1853, 1s., yellow-green, rouletted; used.
Natal . . 1877, 1d. on 6d., violet, no "POSTAGE"; used.
Mauritius . . 1863, pair of 6d., green, no wmk., imperf.; unused.
Buenos Ayres . . 1858, a fine set of twenty specimens of all values.
Cordova . . 1859, an original sheet of thirty, 5 c., blue; unused.
Mexico . . 1864, 3 c., on laid paper; unused.
3 c., five unused, and one used with surcharge.
3 c., five unused without surcharge, and a splendid selection of all subsequent issues, shewing many stamps which are either extremely rare or indeed hardly known.
Guadalajara, 1867, ½ rl., white, *percé en festons;* used.
½ rl., white, *percé en pointes;* used.
And others almost as rare.
Also some sheets of the rarest surcharges of town names, etc.

H.R.H. THE DUKE OF YORK.

The appearance of the name of His Royal Highness as a contributor was hailed on all sides with the greatest cordiality, nor was this feeling in any way lessened after an inspection of the treasures shewn by the Honorary Vice-President. The English stamps are so well known, from the fact that they have been recently shewn to the Society, that a lengthened description is hardly needed. Suffice it to say those selected from His Royal Highness' collection were one and all superb copies, the colouring and condition of the plate in many of the examples being brilliant in the extreme. As will also be noted, the Duke of York was kind enough to send a fine choice of good colonial and other stamps, the whole forming a most attractive exhibit.

Great Britain (all imperforate)—
1d., black, V.R. (2).
1d., red, Die I. and II., very fine selection of colours and shades scarcely ever met with.
1d., red, with four letters, Plate Nos. 132 and 225.
1d., red, Dickinson paper; a pair.
½, pink, Plate No. 9, and others.
2d., blue, four letters, including Plate No. 7.
1½, Plate I., in bluish-lake.
Plate III., in brick-red.
Surface-printed stamps of all the values and issues to present date, including 3d. with the reticulated background; and Plate III.
Two specimens Small Garter in lake; matchless shades.
6d., Plate I., on safety paper; a wonderful copy as to colour.
Plate III., with hair lines.
9d., Plate III., with hair lines, and Plate V.
10d., Plate II.
1s., Plate I., on safety paper.
Plate III., hair lines.
Plate IV., lilac; (not issued).
2s., Plate III.
10s., £1, and £5, on blue paper.
H.R.H. also shewed an Inland Revenue 1d. stamp, prepared in 1863 for the use of Messrs. Allsopp & Co., and discontinued in 1867 on the introduction of small Revenue stamp. As there is nothing on the face of the stamp to appropriate it to any particular class of instrument, it is probably available for postage now; it consists of three labels attached to any ordinary I.R. stamp, with monogram S.A., etc.

Other rarities included

British Columbia .	2½d., imperf., dark colour; 5 c., imperf., unused; 10 c., imperf., unused.
New Zealand . .	1s., N.Z., pair, imperf., unused.
Canada . . .	6d., perforate, unused.
Ceylon . . .	½d., rouletted.
Western Australia .	6d., rouletted, used.
Turks Islands .	2½d. on 6d., with small fraction; and 1s., plum.
Trinidad . .	½d., in black on lilac, watermark CA and Crown, unused; and numerous other choice West Indians and Australians.
Guiné . . .	A sheet of 100 r., with small surcharge.
United States . .	City Dispatch, 3 c.; block of six.
Wurtemburg . .	First issue, 6 kr., unused.
Peru . . .	Medio peso, yellow, used.
Brazil . . .	300 and 600 reis, slanting figures, used.
Italy . . .	Several imperforate stamps of the 1863 issue in pairs.

The Oxford University Emissions.

By J. R. F. TURNER.

Read in the form of a Paper before the Oxford Philatelic Society.

(*Continued from page* 94.)

IT has also been stated that College stamps are not postage stamps, a definition of a postage stamp being given in a different quarter as "*a stamp issued or used by the Post-office.*" But, as another writer on the subject has pointed out, the dictionaries published in the first years of the present century define postage, "*Price paid for the conveyance of a letter.*" It thus follows naturally that, as the College stamps answered to this definition just as correctly as the Government stamps do, for both exempted the letter from charge, it would be equally true to say that a postage stamp was "*a stamp issued or used by a College.*" In fact the only material difference seems to be that whereas one is a *public* postage stamp the other was a *private* postage stamp.

It is, of course, open to anyone to esteem Continental locals or the Circular Delivery stamps higher than the College stamps, but this view will certainly not meet with anything like general acceptance, as, whilst the latter represent a curious phase of postal issues, and were strictly used *for the purpose for which they were intended*, there was a good deal of "humbug" attached to a large number of the former classes, both of which have been reprinted, and in some cases forged very extensively. And in further support of my view it is only necessary to recall to mind the Russian locals, new issues of which appear at short intervals; but whether or not they are really required for postal purposes I will not hazard a conjecture. The fact remains that they are regularly catalogued by a well-known English firm, while the College emissions, which have far greater claims on philatelists of this country, are overlooked. It is to be hoped, if only for the honour of the old country, that we shall not in the initial instance have to look to a Russian firm to take them up, and thereby show some kind of reciprocity.

A misapprehension seems also to have arisen with respect to the method employed in cancelling the stamps of the respective colleges. In the case of the early Kebles an obliterator, consisting of five round dots placed like the "five of hearts" on a playing-card, was used especially for that purpose, and although of great rarity, types 1, 2, and 3 are known to bear this curious cancellation in black. As most of the six copies I know of were taken out of old general collections, it may fairly be supposed that there are more scattered about the country in the same way. Another college which had recourse to an obliterating mark was Hertford. It took the form of a Maltese cross, with an additional point, similar to a spear-head, shooting out perpendicularly from the bottom, and was regularly used during the whole of the two years or more during which the Hertford stamps were issued. And yet only one copy, postmarked in this manner,

is known to exist, and that rests at present in the official collection of the Bodleian Library. A *used* Hertford blue envelope in my own collection is uncancelled, and the messenger who did all the obliterating informed me that he had orders to cancel the adhesives only. Some of the other varieties, more especially Exeter and Lincoln, are met with cancelled by both pen and ink and pencil ; but Merton and St. John's, together with the later issues of Keble, went through the "University Post" in an unmarked condition.

The rumours which have lately got about that several of the College stamps are being reprinted are, I believe, entirely devoid of foundation. The true facts of the case are as follows:—Some months ago a member of the Oxford Society received a consignment of College stamps from a well-known dealer, and among them was a strip of three perforated Hertford adhesives with an additional margin, a row of perforations running outside the stamps. Fortunately this strip was shown to me, and, as I happened to possess an entire sheet of the genuine variety, besides three others I have also seen, wherein this row of perforations does not exist, it was discernable at a glance that something was wrong, and, upon a closer examination it was perceived that there was a striking difference in colour, paper, and gum, and that whereas the originals gauged $11\frac{1}{2}$ in perforation, the mysterious variety measured $12\frac{1}{2}$. As there was only one printing ever supplied to the College, the latter must obviously have been of later origin. Our energetic Secretary at once took the matter up, and after careful research and much correspondence, the mysterious varieties have been traced to a gentleman who, *prior to* 1890, acquired six sheets (three of which, I understand, he still has) direct from Messrs. Spiers and Son, the firm which was responsible for their production, but which in its turn had the stamps printed by a London house, which has now ceased to exist for nearly four years. At the same time the gentleman referred to obtained six sheets *unperforated*, in which condition, having never been issued as such, they are harmless enough. I feel pretty certain that these sheets were printed expressly for this gentleman, and, as he probably had not a genuine variety in his possession, he naturally inferred that what he received were originals. Six sheets of unperforated Lincoln that have lately been acquired must also come within the category of reprints ; for although the printer says he found them in an old pattern book, he states on another occasion that he has good reason to believe that they were struck off subsequent to the suppression, and if I may be allowed to express my humble opinion, they undoubtedly first saw the light sometime within the last nine months. The only duly authenticated original sheet, printed in blue, is in my collection, and I have been fortunate enough to obtain one of the six reprinted sheets as a companion to it, and, when they are placed side by side, the difference in colour, &c., is seen at a glance. Collectors should, however, again bear in mind that it is extremely unlikely that any Lincoln stamps were issued in an unperforated state, and, from what has transpired, it may be taken for granted that no more sheets will appear on the market. As regards the dies and plates of the other Oxford Colleges, they are, with hardly an exception, in safe keeping—those of Exeter, Keble Type 6, and St. John's being in the possession of Professor Napier, whilst Merton Types 3 and 4 and Keble Parcels Post

seem to have been destroyed, for they cannot be found. The only stamp therefore that the collector should view with suspicion is that of Hertford College, and unless it is perforated 11½, and has a thick layer of yellow gum, he may rest assured that he is handling a fractional part of one of the three reprinted sheets now in circulation.

(*To be continued.*)

Philatelic Notes.

NOTE.—*Under this title will be found all notes relating to postal issues other than those that are chronicled as current novelties, or which form the subject of special articles. The co-operation of Philatelists is invited in order to make this column of a varied and interesting nature.*

DISCOVERIES.

BRITISH EAST AFRICA.—Mr. J. R. F. Turner recently submitted to us a specimen of the first issue of this Company, being a 4 anna grey imperforate, and in support of its philatelic legitimacy has kindly sent us the following letter :

IMPERIAL BRITISH EAST AFRICA COMPANY, LIMITED,
2, PALL MALL EAST, LONDON, S.W.,
April 16, 1894.

J. R. F. TURNER, Esq.,
21, James Street, Oxford.

DEAR SIR,—In reply to your letter of 13th inst., regarding the 4 anna grey postage stamps of this Company, I beg to state that these stamps were on sale at the Company's offices at the same time as the other imperforated issues to any who cared to purchase them, but as it was found undesirable to have two stamps of the same value printed in different colours, the order was altered before many of the 4 anna grey had been finished, hence they are considerably rarer than the 8 anna or 1 rupee grey, of which a larger stock had been finished before we could stop the printers.

The two specimens you hold are quite legitimate, and can still be used for postage.

There is no objection to your giving publicity to the above facts should you so desire. Yours faithfully, E. BRADBRIDGE (for Secretary).

HONG-KONG.—We are indebted to Mr. W. J. Gardner for the sight of an 18 c. violet of 1875, watermark CC and Crown, imperforate. The stamp, which is unused, does not differentiate from the ordinary perforated specimens in any way, and is either the result of a *lapsus* of the perforating machine, or else one of the not inconsiderable number of stamps belonging to "England and Colonies" that are occasionally met with in unused imperforate condition, and are practically *unfinished* stamps.

A CORRECTION—THE CITY DESPATCH POST OF NEW YORK.

MR. E. D. BACON informs us that he has received a further letter from Mr. Charles Windsor, the gentleman referred to in Mr. Bacon's article, "The City Despatch Post of New York," published in our number for January last. Mr. Windsor therein states that he was in error in saying that the entire sheet comprises only thirty-six stamps, as the actual number is forty-two, arranged in seven horizontal rows of six.

Occasional Notes.

THE TAPLING COLLECTION.

THE *second* portion of Great Britain stamps will be placed on view at the British Museum in the first week of June.

THE EXPERT COMMITTEE.

ALL stamps for examination by this Committee should be sent, accompanied by the fee of 2s. 6d. each, to Major E. B. EVANS, Longton Avenue, Sydenham, London, S.E. The specimens will be acknowledged on receipt, and returned with photographs of the genuine stamps, after examination by the Committee.

PRESENTATIONS TO THE "TAPLING COLLECTION."

IN our last list the specimen of the *Illustrated London News* stamp, presented by Mr. F. A. Philbrick, Q.C., should have been described as 1½d., die O2.

GREAT BRITAIN.—Newspaper stamps: ½d., *Stamford Mercury*, and 2d., die P2, *Illustrated London News*.—Mr. E. D. Bacon.

Three privately-stamped envelopes.—Mr. W. Brown.

Telegraph stamps: 4d., plate 4, and 1 sh., plate 6, both unused. "United Kingdom Telegraph Co.," second issue, 1 sh., central background re-engraved with large control number and "Int." "London District Telegraph Co.," 3d., second type, black on yellow, unused, with control number in small figures.—Mr. Gordon Smith.

"United Kingdom Telegraph Co.," second issue, 3d., with small control number and "Int."—Messrs. Theodor Buhl & Co.

"The Electric Telegraph Co." Unused copies with control numbers of the three stamps issued June, (?) 1854, and two varieties of the 1 sh., issue 1861. "Submarine Telegraph Co," die proof in black on white surfaced-card of the 7sh. 6d. "British and Irish Telegraph Co.," 6d., with control number in black. "United Kingdom Telegraph Co.," second issue, 3d., with small control number, and 1 sh. with small control number and "Int."—Mr. E. D. Bacon.

JAPAN.—A specimen of the 2 sen and of the 5 sen Mikado's "Silver Wedding" stamps.—Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Limited.

MEXICO.—A used specimen of the medio real black on blue *Chiapas* local.—Mr. G. T. Köster.

(The above forms a very valuable addition, as it completes the interesting set of these scarce stamps in the "Collection." Some idea of the rarity of this ½ real stamp may be obtained, when it is stated that there are less than six known copies. It is now about three years since a few of these Chiapas locals were discovered, and although one or two Philatelists were naturally inclined at first to look upon them with more or less suspicion, the stamps

have every appearance of being genuine, and there is no real ground why their authenticity should be doubted.)

SALVADOR.—Eight specimens of the 1c. on 20c., issue 1893, shewing errors of surcharge.—Mr. W. Brown.

SIAM.—A vertical strip of three 4 atts on 24 atts, with the centre stamp minus the line of native inscription, which should have been surcharged at the bottom of the stamp.—Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Limited.

INTERESTING CASE IN THE STAMP TRADE.

THIS case was heard on the 2nd May before Mr. Justice Cave in the Queen's Bench Division, and after an adjournment was settled on the terms indicated below, the report of which we take from the *Standard*. Wide interest was taken in the litigation, and many well-known dealers and collectors attended the hearing.

HILCKES, KIRKPATRICK, AND CO. *v.* HIME.—In this case Messrs. Hilckes, Kirkpatrick, & Co., foreign stamp dealers, carrying on business at 64, Cheapside, sued Mrs. Louisa H. Hime, a widow lady, residing at Lytham, Lancashire, to recover the value of certain foreign stamps which, it was alleged, had been abstracted from books sent to the defendant for her inspection. Defendant denied liability. Mr. Murphy, Q.C., and Mr. Earle appeared for the plaintiffs, while Mr. E. U. Bullen represented the defendant.

Mr. MURPHY, in opening the case for the plaintiffs, said his clients, who were stamp dealers, carrying on business in Cheapside, were in the habit of sending out to customers books of foreign stamps on sale or return. In the early part of 1893 several books of stamps were sent to the defendant, and on her returning them they were sent on to other customers. On the books being examined it was found that valuable stamps had been abstracted, and others of little value put in their places. The result was that in July, when the defendant required a book of Ceylon stamps to be sent to her, the plaintiffs had all the stamps marked. On the book being returned the stamps were examined, and it was found that certain stamps had been abstracted and cheaper ones put in their places. The value of the stamps extracted from this particular book was £20 9*s.* 9*d.* While the plaintiffs did not impute that the defendant abstracted the stamps, they maintained they were removed while the book was in her possession, and that, therefore, she was liable.

Mr. H. HILCKES, one of the plaintiffs, stated that he carried on business in partnership with Mr. Kirkpatrick from December, 1892, until the end of October last. His firm had a series of books containing specimens of the stamps of particular countries or groups of countries, and these books were sent out to customers, in order that they might select any stamps which they desired to purchase. The purchaser would take out of the book the stamps he required, and send a remittance for them when he returned the book. The first book sent to the defendant contained European stamps. On its return it was sent to other customers, and, therefore, he made no claim in respect of the stamps which he subsequently found had been abstracted from that book. After the book containing Australian stamps was returned by the defendant it was immediately sent to a gentleman at Leeds. On the book being sent back from Leeds he examined the stamps and found some valuable specimens had been abstracted and others of much less value put in their places. He communicated with the gentleman at Leeds, who gave a satisfactory explanation. The value of the stamps abstracted from this book was between £24 and £28.

When the book containing British North American stamps was returned by the defendant it was sent on to a gentleman at Manchester. The book was returned from Manchester, and then he examined it and found that stamps of the value of £14 11*s.* had been removed. He communicated with the gentleman at Manchester, from whom he received a satisfactory explanation. A book containing New Zealand stamps was sent to the defendant, and when it came back he noticed that certain specimens of the value of £15 were missing. He communicated with his solicitor. A book of Ceylon stamps was subsequently sent to the defendant, but before it was sent off the various stamps were marked by a Mr. Nicholson. The book came back on July 20 by registered post in the usual manner, and he examined the stamps in the presence of the persons who saw them marked before they were sent to the defendant. He found that stamps of the value of £20 9*s.* 9*d.* had been abstracted, cheaper ones having been put in their places. In cross-examination plaintiff said he had no reason to believe that the defendant abstracted the stamps from the books, or that they were abstracted with her knowledge. What he alleged was that the stamps were abstracted while the books were in the defendant's custody. When he saw the defendant in the country he did not mention any sum which he was prepared to take.

Several other witnesses gave evidence, and the case for the plaintiffs closed.

Mr. BULLEN submitted that the defendant was a gratuitous bailee, and that therefore it was incumbent upon the plaintiffs to prove gross negligence. This they had not done, and he contendent that the defendant was entitled to a non-suit.

Mr. JUSTICE CAVE said he should not decide the case until he had heard all the evidence.

Mrs. LOUISA H. HIME, the defendant, was then called. She said she was the widow of the late Frederick Hime, cotton broker, of Liverpool. For some years she had resided with her son at the Manor House, Lytham. She did not collect stamps, but her son had done so for years, and she had superintended the correspondence and selection of stamps for him. When the plaintiffs sent her books of stamps she kept them under lock and key. She had never taken stamps out of the plaintiff's book and retained them without paying for them. Nobody could have taken stamps out of the books without her knowledge. Her son had a large collection for his age. In cross-examination defendant said a stamp-dealer had made an unfounded charge against her on a former occasion. Her son took the stamps out of the plaintiff's books, and she sent the cheques in payment for them.

By Mr. JUSTICE CAVE.—She had sold stamps as all collectors did.

Mr. FREDERICK HIME, the son of the defendant, gave corroborative evidence. He denied that he had taken any stamps from the plaintiff's book which had not been paid for. His stamp album was produced, but, according to witness, it contained no stamp of the plaintiffs which had not been paid for.

Mr. HILCKES, one of the plaintiffs, was recalled, and was giving evidence with reference to certain stamps in the defendant's son's album, when the further hearing of the case was adjourned.

On the case being again called on—

Mr. BULLEN said: Since this case was last before the court I have had an opportunity of considering the whole of the facts, and my client has placed herself in my hands unreservedly, so that I may do what I think is best. Under these circumstances I consent to a verdict for the plaintiffs for the amount claimed.

Mr. MURPHY: Then there will be judgment for the plaintiffs for £94, with costs.

The JUDGE: I think the learned counsel for the defendant has exercised a very wise discretion.

Reviews.

MESSRS. HILCKES, KIRKPATRICK, & CO.'S NEW ENGLISH CATALOGUE.*



THE rapidly developing interest in the stamps of our own Islands has called forth another work issued by the enterprising firm whose name is on the title page. The book has been compiled and edited by Mr. Harry Hilckes, with the assistance of Messrs. W. Morley and H. Ewen, while material assistance on Philatelic points has been afforded by such well-known amateurs as Messrs. F. A. Philbrick, Q.C., Mr. Hastings Wright, and others. As may be imagined, the consensus of ability has produced a work of real value. Primarily, without doubt, intended as an exhaustive Price Catalogue, the minute appreciation and consequent cataloguing of every variety has added to this volume a distinct Philatelic value, and we are sure that every collector who takes an interest in the Stamps of Great Britain will hasten to secure a copy. The tendency of modern enterprise by leading dealers, in preparing elaborate handbooks and scientifically arranged approval stamp albums, has a most salutary influence in spreading an intimate knowledge of specialised countries, and even if the result be to somewhat increase the prices, these efforts will still be warmly appreciated by the world of collectors.

The volume in question is really a new departure, as it is the first work on the British Stamps that has gone closely into the market values of all known English stamps, which in this case are priced unused, used, and with specimen, in addition to (in imitation of the Teutonic School) a valuation of colonial and other postmarks. The pricing of inverted watermarks and the *printers'* control letters on the margin of the current low-value stamps is a proceeding that may not meet with everyone's approval! The system adopted is carefully explained in the Introduction, while the work is illustrated with all the types in the small size known to readers of Messrs. Senf's Catalogue, and interleaved with paper for additional notes. As a specimen of typography the book leaves nothing to be desired, and, despite a few trifling errors, we can cordially congratulate Mr. Hilckes upon his new venture, and commend it with confidence to all our readers.

* *A complete Priced Catalogue of the Postal and Telegraph Adhesives of Great Britain.* By H. Hilckes. London: Hilckes, Kirkpatrick, and Co., 64, Cheapside, E.C.

PHILATELIC SOCIETIES' MINUTES.

Owing to the great demands on our space, we are compelled to adjourn the publication of these until our next issue.

New Issues.

Under this head will be found notes of the new, and variations of the current issues. We do not profess to chronicle everything, but with the kind help of correspondents, are desirous that all the important novelties may be included. Speculative stamps—i.e. those not really required for postal purposes—will be considered on their merits, and Jubilee issues will not be chronicled.

GREAT BRITAIN AND COLONIES.

CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.—Several of our contemporaries chronicle the 1 shilling value in the re-drawn type of the 1863 issue, without the narrow outer line.

Adhesive. 1 shilling, green, *re-drawn type*, *wmk. Foul Anchor*; *perf.* 14.

CEYLON.—The *Illustrirte Briefmarken Journal* announces a 5 c. Postal Union Card of similar type to the 5+5 c. of 1892, but on *white*.

Post Card. 5 c. blue on *white* 140×90 mm.

CYPRUS.—The *Monthly Journal* has received a new wrapper, issued on April 1st, with stamp of similar type to the current adhesives.

Wrapper. 10 paras, carmine on buff.

LABUAN.—The dies of the recent issue of North Borneo have been made to do duty for this colony by changing the colours and surcharging the word "LABUAN" in block letters over the inscription "State of North Borneo." Appearing so soon after the recent "no watermark" set, the suspicion that they are a collector's issue must inevitably arise.

Adhesives. 1 c., black on black and dull lilac.
2 c. ,, ,, ,, and blue.
3 c. ,, ,, ,, and pale yellow.
5 c. ,, ,, ,, and green.
6 c. ,, ,, ,, and brown.
8 c. ,, ,, ,, and dull lake.
12 c. ,, ,, ,, and vermilion.
18 c. ,, ,, ,, and bistre.
24 c., dull blue on dull blue and pale lilac.

As we have only received specimens up to 24 c., we cannot say if the higher values have also been surcharged.

NIGER COAST.—At the moment of going to press we receive information from Mr. Gorgerat that the now obsolete 2 penny Oil Rivers stamp has been surcharged "half-penny" in blue, and the words "Oil Rivers" obliterated.—*American Journal of Philately. There are* 10 *different types of the surcharge!*

Adhesive. Halfpenny, blue, surch. on obsolete 2d., green and carmine, Oil Rivers.

STRAITS SETTLEMENTS—*Johore.*—The 4 cents, 1892, has, according to *Le Timbre-Poste*, been adorned with a surcharge, fixing its new value at 3 *cents*. The surcharge is in numerals and words, with a line through the lower part of stamp.

Adhesive. 3 cents on 4 c., lilac and black (black surcharge).

EUROPE.

BOSNIA.—*The American Journal of Philately* announces the envelope of 5 nov. in a new size, watermarked BRIEF COUVERT in large double-lined letters.

Envelope. 5 nov., red, 137×132 mm.

GERMANY.—This country is about to abolish the use of stamped envelopes and wrappers. On the 12th February last a notice was issued authorizing the use of stamped envelopes and wrappers until the 12th June next, after which they will be taken in exchange for adhesives up to the end of the year.

ROUMANIA.—*L' Echo de la Timbrologie* chronicles a Letter Card of same type as the lately issued adhesives.

Letter Card. 5 bani, blue on grey.

By an oversight last month the new wrapper chronicled was mixed up with the adhesives; this should read: "Messrs. Thos. Ridpath & Co. have sent us specimens of five new values of adhesives recently issued, watermarked 'P. R.,' perf. $13\frac{1}{2}$; also a new wrapper," etc.

WURTEMBURG.—*La Revista Philatelica* informs us that owing to a reduction in the postal rates it has been found necessary to issue a Post Card of still lower value than that of 3 pfennige. It has the arms in the upper centre, with "K. Wurttemb." on the left, and "Postgebiet Drucksache" on the right in German type.

Post Card.
2 pf., pearl grey on buff, inscription in black.

AMERICA.

NICARAGUA.—By a printer's error last month the chronicle of new stationery was included in Ecuador, the word Nicaragua being omitted before the paragraph beginning "Through the kindness of."

UNITED STATES.—A correspondent calls our attention to what appears to be a difference in the paper and gum used for the *Columbian* issue. This is especially noticeable in the 8 c. values, those issued at first having a decidedly brown gum, and those of later issue clean white gum, and a somewhat *thinner* wove paper. We should like to know if this is a noticeable variety?

URUGUAY.—We are indebted to *Le Timbre Poste* for information to the effect that the stamps of 1, 2, 5, 10, 20, 25, and 50 centimos are to almost directly undergo changes in côlour; at the same time stamps of 2 and 3 pesos will be issued of a new type. These have been engraved by Messrs. Waterlow and Sons, a part already having been received at Montevideo.

OTHER COUNTRIES.

CONGO.—Two new reply post cards have been issued for this state, the reply part being printed in a different colour to the message part.

Post Cards.

5 c, green+10 c., carmine on azure. Reply.
15 c., blue+10 c, carmine on straw. ,,

FRENCH COLONIES.—*Nossi Bé.*—Special stamps of the same design as the other colonies have been provided for this colony. A description is unnecessary.

HAWAII.—The *Monthly Journal* gives the quantity printed, of the new issue described in our last, as follows:—

1 c. . . .	1,250,000
2 c. . . .	1,250,000
5 c. . . .	937,500
10 c. . . .	312,500
25 c. . . .	125,500

From the same source we learn that new 1 c and 2 c. cards are expected shortly, bearing designs respectively of the "Executive Building," and a map of the Pacific Ocean, showing the position of the Islands.

HONG-KONG.—We are indebted to Mr. W. J. Gardner for the sight of a copy of the 1 dollar, current issue, black surcharge on red, with Chinese characters overprinted on *both* sides of the stamp.

The same gentleman sends specimens of the 20 c. and 50 c., current issue, being in unsevered pairs; one stamp in each case *without* the Chinese surcharge in upper left-hand corner.

Adhesives.

1d. on 96 c., black and brown on red, variety, Chinese characters on *both* sides of stamp.
20 c. on 30 c., black and green, and
50 c. on 48 c. ,, and violet, varieties, pairs, with Chinese characters omitted on one stamp.

MOROCCO.—*Mazagan.*—Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. send us a recently issued provisional stamp of 20 c. on 5 c.

Adhesive. 20 centimos in black, on 5 centimos, green.

SARAWAK.—In our March number we included among the "Discoveries" a sheet of Sarawak, 1 c. on 3 c., with the two top rows imperforate. We omitted to distinguish the stamp, which should be brown on yellow paper, *not* the purple and blue.

TONGA.—The surcharge of ½d. on 1d. blue is now altered from red to black.

Adhesive. ½d. on 1d. blue, *black* surcharge.

The Market.

THE PHILATELIC MILLENNIUM.

THALASSA! the tide of prices has ceased to roll in, and we shall soon rest on the the Philatelic strand of safety (an alien and not a British locality be it noted). An enterprising correspondent in the *Journal für Markenkunde* has discovered the true way to stem this advancing rising tide of value, and as genius has no limits to its nationality, we reproduce the brilliant scheme for the benefit of Britannic Philately. A society is to be formed "of the best knowledge," whether dealers' or collectors' or both is a detail not mentioned, who are to issue a catalogue in which the *maximum* selling price of every stamp is to be stated. Every one is to join this body and to pledge themselves neither to sell nor buy any stamp above the price quoted—under penalty of paying the difference into the "society's treasury." What an opening for conscience money for the society's Chancellor of the

Exchequer! It appears that the stamps may be sold under the prices of the omnipotent catalogue—hence, perhaps, if every stamp is priced at £500, this system is all right and we are *in statu quo ante*. The same journal has a brilliant article on the cardinal sin of specialising and speculating by buying up stamps "for the rise," and quotes on another page its proprietor's views as to the current prices of his own speciality—Heligoland. These are quoted at astounding figures—worse even than South Australians—and afford another delightful instance of the truth of Butler's immortal cynicism:

> "Compound for the sins one 's inclined to
> By damning those you 've no mind to!"

Mr. F. G. BEPLER has recently installed himself in commodious premises in that busy thoroughfare Cheapside (No. 109), having a suite of light and cheerful offices on the first floor which should enable his customers to inspect at their ease the many interesting specimens that it has been his wont to accumulate. Mr. Bepler, who had a somewhat serious illness last winter, has been on a combined tour of recovery and relaxation for several months, and we are glad to find that he has returned to the metropolis "in magnificent condition," and as eager for the fray as in by-gone days.

AUCTIONS.

MR. W. HADLOW.

THE following realised over £2 at the sale of April 6th:

	£	s.	d.
Western Australia, 1st issue, 6d., bronze, cut square	2	16	0
Ceylon, 1857, 2s., blue, imperf.	2	10	0
Afghanistan, 1290, shahi, violet, pair, unused, on buff paper	25	0	0

At the sale of May 1st:

Great Britain, 1d., lilac, with control letter "N" crossed out, and corrected to "O"	2	12	6
Great Britain, I.R. official on 10s. (surcharged "Specimen")	2	2	0
Great Britain, 1862, 6d., hair lines, unused and imperf., with gum	2	4	0
Ceylon, 1st issue, 9d., red-brown, imperforate	2	2	0
United States, 1869, complete	2	17	6

The 37th sale, held at the Café Monico on May 10th, was a great success, being the sale of a very fine old collection; the prices realised were fully up to the average. The following include the most interesting:

Great Britain, £5, used	2	0	0
Ditto „ „	2	8	0
Bremen, 10 gr., *percè en scie*, used, on piece of original	2	10	0
Bulgaria, 5 stotinki, red on rose, error	2	12	6
Naples, ½ tornese, "arms"	9	5	0
Ditto „ "cross"	5	0	0
Oldenburg, 2nd issue, ⅓ gr., black on green	5	2	6
Ditto, 3rd issue, ¼ gr., used	3	17	6
Roumania, 1st issue, 27 paras, circular, black on rose, pen-cancellation	19	0	0
Ditto, same issue, 54 paras, postmarked	6	0	0
Saxony, 3 pfg., red	4	4	0
Spain, 1852, 2 reales, pale red	7	0	0
Ditto, 1853, 2 „ bright red	4	15	0
Tuscany, 1 soldo, on blue paper, strip of 3	2	17	6
Ceylon, 4d., rose, imperf.	2	4	0
Ditto, 8d., brown „	11	10	0
Ditto, 9d., lilac „	3	0	0
Ditto, 2/-, blue „	3	0	0
Ditto, Envelopes, complete set, cut square	3	10	0
Hong-kong, 4 c., perf. 12½, unused	2	6	0
India, ½ anna, red, unused	6	10	0
Ditto, 1857, 2 annas, green, unused	2	2	0
Ditto, "Service," long type 8 annas, green on lilac	3	3	0
Cape of Good Hope, wood block, 1d. red	2	10	0
Mauritius, post paid, 1d., early state of plate	3	0	0
Ditto, 2d. "Large Fillet"	16	16	0
Barbadoes, 1d., on half of 5/- rose, used on piece of original	3	0	0
Brazil, slanting figures, 600 reis	2	8	0
B. Guiana, upright rectangle, 1 c., crimson	4	0	0
Ditto, same issue, 4 c., deep blue	4	7	6
Ditto, 1856, 4 c., black on crimson, unused; postmaster's initials	2	10	0
Ditto, 1862, provis., 1 c., black on pink, border of ovals	5	0	0
British Honduras, surch. in small type, 3 cents, black on brown, perf. 12½	5	5	0
Mexico, Eagle issue, 3 c., brown, unused, surch. Mexico, with number and date	2	18	0
Montserrat, 4d., blue, CA	2	0	0
Nevis, 1/-, green, on laid paper	16	0	0
St. Vincent, 5/-, rose, wmk. star, unused, with gum	4	0	0
United States, 1843, 3 c., on blue glazed paper	2	8	0
N. S. W., 1d., Plate II, pair, Nos. 14 and 15, the latter variety without clouds	5	12	6
Ditto, 2d., Plate I, No. 1, early state	2	16	0

	£	s.	d.
New Zealand, 1/-, on blue paper, used on piece of original .	2	0	0
Ditto, 2d., vermilion, wmk. lozenges	2	6	0
Tasmania, first issue, 1d. blue, unused . . .	5	5	0
Ditto, 4d. orange, unused, cut square	3	10	0
Victoria, 2d., "Queen on throne," error with "Tvo Pence" .	3	3	0
Ditto, 5/-, blue on yellow . .	2	6	0
W. Australia, first issue, 2d., unused, cut square . .	6	15	0
Ditto, same issue, 6d., bronze, unused . . .	13	13	0
Ditto, same stamp, used on original paper, with a strip of 3 of the 1d. black, imperf. . .	6	10	0

VENTOM, BULL, AND COOPER.

AT the two days' sale held on the 18th and 19th April last the following lots realized over £2 :

	£	s.	d.
Great Britain, Keble College, entire unused sheet of 48, with gum .	6	0	0
Naples, ½ tornese, "Cross" . .	3	15	0
Ceylon, 1st issue, 2d., green, rouletted	3	0	0
Ditto, 9d., violet-brown ; imperf. .	2	12	0
Ditto, 2s., blue ; imperf. . .	4	12	0
Mauritius, provisional, ½d., in red (in figures and words), on 9d., lilac, unused, without the word "cancelled" . . .	2	12	0
New Brunswick, 6d., yellow, and half of 3d., red, used as 7½d. on piece of original . .	2	10	0
Ditto, "Connell," unused ; perfs. cut	8	10	0
United States, 1869, complete .	2	12	6
Ditto, 1869, 90 c., pair . .	3	7	6
Nevis, lithographed, 6d., grey, unused	5	0	0
Mexico, Eagle issue, 3 c., brown, Gothic surcharge, unused, with gum	2	10	0
Campeche, 50 c., blue . .	5	0	0
Chiapas, 2 reales, black on rose, used on entire letter . .	3	3	0
Fiji, 2d., in black, on 12 c., Gothic V.R., unused . . .	2	15	0
New Zealand, 1s., blue ; imperf. ; error of colour . . .	2	4	0
Ditto, *pelure* paper, rouletted, 6d., brown, unused . . .	2	16	0
Ditto, *pelure* paper, 1s., green .	2	6	0
Ditto, *pelure* paper, 1863–67, 2d., blue, a pair ; imperf. vertically between stamps . . .	4	10	0
Queensland, 6d., green ; imperf. .	3	17	6
South Australia, 10d., orange, with blue surcharge ; perforated and rouletted ; unused . .	2	12	6
Tasmania, 1863, 1d., carmine, error, wmk. 2 . . .	3	0	0
Western Australia, 6d., bronze .	2	2	0

At the sale of May 3rd and 4th.

	£	s.	d.
Finland, 1850, letter sheet, 10 kopecs, rose, unused . .	13	0	0
Great Britain, V. R., unused .	7	0	0
" " 2s., brown . .	2	2	0
Bremen, 10 grote, black, *used* .	2	6	0
Mecklenberg-Schwerin, 1864 (dotted background), ¼ sch., red, *rouletted* . . .	2	5	0
Oldenburg, 3rd issue, ¼ gr., orange, *used*	3	6	0
Oldenburg, 3rd issue, ⅓ gr., green, unused	5	0	0
Saxony, 3 pfg., red . . .	2	2	0
Bulgaria, 5 stot., rose, unused, *error*	3	3	0
Switzerland, Vaud, 4 c., black and red	8	0	0
Ceylon, wmk. star, 8d., yellow brown, perf. . . .	2	10	0
Azores, small surch, 150 r., blue, unused	2	12	6
Cape of Good Hope, woodblock, 1d., scarlet . . .	3	7	6
Cape of Good Hope, 4d., blue, rouletted . . .	3	5	0
Mauritius, Greek border, 1d., red	2	4	0
Canada, 6d., lilac, perf. and unused	6	15	0
Newfoundland, 1s., orange-red .	6	15	0
British Guiana, 1856, 4 c., black on crimson . . .	26	0	0
St. Vincent, Provis., 4d., black and vermilion, unused . .	3	3	0
Mexico, "Eagle," 3 c., brown, unused, gothic surch. . .	2	15	0
N. S. Wales, "Sydney," Plate I., 2d., blue . . .	3	5	0
N. S. Wales, "Sydney," 3d., green, very fine	2	10	0
N. S. Wales, "Laureated," 6d., brown, error WALLS . .	3	3	0

MESSRS. CHEVELEY & CO.

AT the sale of April 16th, the following realized over £2 per lot.

	£	s.	d.
Great Britain, £5, used . .	2	6	0
Prussia, entire, 4 s.gr. envelope, brown, unused, with inscription, large size, short gum .	5	15	0
Victoria, 5s, blue on yellow .	2	12	0
Newfoundland, 4d., carmine-vermilion, unused . . .	5	5	0
British Guiana, 1862, 1d., rose, crossed-heart border . .	2	12	0
British Guiana, same issue, and border, 2 c. yellow . .	2	12	0
New Brunswick, 1s., violet, pen cancelled	4	4	0
New Brunswick, 1s., violet . .	5	5	0
United States, 1869, complete .	2	16	0

And at the sale of May 3rd,

	£	s.	d.
Great Britain, octagonal, 6d., violet, unused, original gum	3	7	6
Philippines, 1855, lithographed, 5 cuartos, red, unused	3	5	0
Philippines, 1863-64, 1 real, dk. violet, unused	2	6	0
Ceylon, 1s. 9d., green, perforated, unused	2	12	6
Victoria, 5s., blue on yellow, *superb*	4	7	0
Victoria, first issue, 2d., fine background	3	10	0
British Guiana, 1862, provis., 2 c., yellow, grape border	5	10	0
Trinidad, native die, vertical pair,	2	12	0
Virgin Isles, 6d., rose, with *small* perf., *used*	2	12	0
United States, 1870, 24 c., with grille	3	0	0

Correspondence.

COMMUNICATIONS.—*All communications on Philatelic matters or Advertisements should be addressed to the Editor of* THE LONDON PHILATELIST, Kingston Lodge, Richmond Place, Brighton. *No anonymous contributions can be noticed.*

SUBSCRIPTIONS.—THE LONDON PHILATELIST *will be sent, post free in Great Britain or the countries of the Postal Union, to any subscriber, on receipt of* 6s. *Subscribers' remittances should be sent to* The Publishers, EFFINGHAM HOUSE, ARUNDEL STREET, STRAND, LONDON, W.C., *of whom also bound copies of Vol. I. can be procured. Half morocco, gilt edges,* £1 1s., *postage* 9d. *Abroad extra.*

CHEFOO AND JAPANESE STAMPS.

To the Editor of the "London Philatelist."

DEAR SIR,—I have quite forgotten to let you have a copy of the letter the Postmaster at Chefoo sent me with regard to the unauthorized issue of surcharged "Postage Due" stamps. The letter is dated the 18th October, 1893, and is as follows:—

"I regret to say that 56 sets of stamps have been sold at this office, by mistake, bearing the words 'Postage Due' across them.

"I am desired by the Chefoo Local Post Committee to request you to inform the Societies you represent, and, through them, the postal newspaper (Philatelic Journals) that the issue and sale is an unauthorized one, and that the stamps are of no value.

"You will be informed of any new issues that may be decided upon."

The Postmaster again wrote me on the 20th October, as follows:—

"I enclose a copy of the notice, which has been put up here, about the 'Postage Due' stamps, as you might like to see it."

The copy of the notice I received is as follows:—

"The local stamps bearing the words 'Postage Due' on them, having been sold without authority, are hereby declared to be of no value, and holders are requested to return them to the Postmaster, who will refund the money. *(Signed)*

"JOHN L. NEVINS,
"Chairman, Chefoo Local Post Committee."

I am informed by the Chefoo Local Postmaster that ½ c. postcards and 1 cent. lettercards have been ordered out.

Chinkiang and Kuikiang are starting "local" post offices of their own, and will also issue stamps. I shall send you specimens when they come out.

I enclose you a Chefoo 2 c. stamp having the watermark reversed.

I also enclose one each Chefoo ½, 1, and 5 c. stamps of the second issue. They are the same as the first issue; only the shade in the colour being slightly altered, so it seems. The 5 c. I am informed by the postmaster is printed in a "better yellow."

I enclose for your inspection a set of Japanese stamps, issued on the 9th instant, in commemoration of the Silver Wedding of the Emperor and Empress of Japan. The stamps are two in number, 2 and 5 sen. They were placed on sale for one day only (the 9th inst.), and the number of stamps issued is supposed to be very limited. I understand from the Japanese Postal Agent here that there were 140,000 of the 2 sen. issued, and 70,000 of the 5 sen.

I remain,
Yours truly,
DAVID BENJAMIN.

SHANGHAI, CHINA,
Friday, 16th March, 1894.

THE

London Philatelist:

THE MONTHLY JOURNAL OF

THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY, LONDON.

VOL. III. JUNE, 1894. No. 30.

The Past Season.

THE review of the Philatelic events of the Winter Session of 1893-94 does not call for any extended notice, as it is almost without a history in its unbroken record of advancing prosperity. The demands upon the space of the *London Philatelist* — past and future — by the articles of leading writers is at once a happy and an ample excuse for brevity in Editorials, and a striking commentary upon the "progressive" aspect of Philately.

The numerous publications of books, journals, and catalogues, the many Exhibitions of Stamps on the Continent, as well as at home, the frequency of the Auction Sales, and the evidence of the leading dealers, all shew that the pursuit of stamp collecting has once more climbed a rung of the ladder of prosperity. The very wide-spread publicity attaching to Philately is perhaps the most noticeable feature of the past year, nor can it be denied that this increased prestige is largely due to the interest taken in the pursuit by Royalty and other collectors of eminence. From recent personal experience we can testify to equally pleasant Philatelic omens on the Continent, and at home and abroad the situation may be briefly summed up as,—more collectors, more interest, fewer rarities, and—bigger prices!

The Oxford University Emissions.

By J. R. F. TURNER.

Read in the form of a Paper before the Oxford Philatelic Society.

(*Continued from page* 131.)

BEFORE leaving the subject I think it may not be uninteresting to quote a few extracts from *The Philatelist*, vol. x. 1876, with reference to College emissions which have lately come to my knowledge, and appear so far to have escaped attention. The first is on page 86, and runs as follows—

"The French Timbrological Society.— . . . . A member exhibited a specimen of the Keble College adhesive, promising to get information thereanent. We could inform him that it is strictly a local, used at the College in precisely the same way that the Swiss locals of Belalp, etc., are employed, to mark the trifling charge for conveying letters written by the students, etc., to the nearest Post-office."

If nothing more, the above is certainly instructive, for it shows that College stamps were not unknown across the Channel as long ago as 1876, and it also gives us a very amusing idea of what the editor erroneously thought their functions were.

The second extract is from page 143, and runs—

"We understand that a companion local to the Keble adhesive is now circulated for the use of that College, viz., a post card, of which we hope next month to give a full description."

And lastly, on page 159 will be found—

"The Keble post card alluded to last month is simply a stout white card, devoid of frame, inscription, or aught save the arms of the College, embossed in colour, within oval frame, pointed above and below, and inscribed Keble College, Oxon, in old English characters, the words separated by crosses. Arms, letters, etc., bright vermilion. These cards do not pass the post, but are carried by private messenger. That whence our description is taken, was employed for reply to an invitation from a Christ Church Collegian."

The above might give the inference that the Keble post-card had only then been recently issued, but the College messenger of that period assured me that both the post card and envelope were always in use, and probably appeared at the same time as the adhesive in 1871. There is a remarkable coincidence arising out of the last paragraph; for I have little doubt that a *used* copy of the post card I possess is the identical one therein alluded to. It is addressed to P. G. L. W . . . , a Christ Church undergraduate, and on the other side is written, "I shall be very happy to come."—G. A. H . . . ; and on consulting the University Calendar of the year in question I find that both these gentlemen were then in residence. I purchased it a year ago from

a gentleman who appears to have collected at the period, and it has a time-worn appearance, which would also help to justify my supposition.

These interesting extracts prove conclusively that the then leading journal of the day carefully chronicled the existence of any College emissions that came to its knowledge, a practice, however, that must have subsequently died out, for I am not aware that the other varieties that came afterwards received a similar recognition; but this fact might be owing to the circumstance that they were practically unheard of outside Oxford.

As regards the College post cards, I was informed by the Hertford messenger that those issued by that College were chiefly utilised for conveying orders to tradesmen, the tobacconist being especially favoured in this respect; and to show that this practice was adopted elsewhere, I may state that I was lucky enough to pick out of the old correspondence of a well-known Oxford cigar merchant a *used* Merton post-card, dated June, 1885. It is not addressed in any way, but on its *face* is written—

"1 lb. Tin of Tobacco.
"from H—— in
"the Turl.
"J. O. B."

This, I should imagine may be termed a fair though curious illustration of the method in which a large portion of the post cards were used, but it is to be hoped that the wording of the request is in no wise typical of the manners then current in Merton College. The fact that in the case of three Colleges the arms were embossed in the *centre* at the top of the card has led some collectors to doubt their use in a postal sense. As, however, it will be seen that I possess two *used* copies, which undoubtedly performed all the functions of a post card, and as direct evidence is otherwise forthcoming from the Colleges in question that they were sold and used in a similar way to the adhesives, such scepticism should speedily vanish.

In concluding this paper I cannot help expressing an opinion that there is a big future in store for the Oxford University emissions, a remark that applies in a less degree to those of the sister University; for already the collectors of them include among their number several of the most prominent philatelists of this period, whilst the late Mr. Tapling, who appears to have neglected nothing with any pretensions to the qualifications of a postage stamp, held them in high esteem, and previous to his untimely and sad decease had acquired all the then known varieties, and if we may judge from the additional gifts in College issues which have recently been made to his collection, by the time it comes on view it is not unlikely that the College section will be very nearly completed. In speaking of the "then known" varieties I should explain that when Professor Napier first took up the subject, something like eighteen months ago, upwards of a dozen varieties which were then absolute strangers to him were afterwards chronicled in his paper, and it is not at all improbable that others may ultimately be unearthed.

As I imagine I have already trespassed enough on the valuable pages of this journal, I must leave other remarks on the subject for a subsequent occasion.

Envelopes of the United States.

By GILBERT HARRISON, N.P.S. and A.P.A.

Further Notes on the Subject (Vide *London Philatelist*, January, 1893).



A SHORT while ago we made a discovery, which we hasten to make known to all whom it may concern, that is, to all people who are interested in the envelopes of the United States.

A small lot of Reays was sent to us, consisting of some of the greatest known rarities, and among them appeared a set of the War Department series—

3 cents, dark red on white, size No. 5
3 „ „ amber 3rd „
3 „ „ cream „

—which hitherto have been quite unknown, though included in many lists.

Besides the satisfaction of acquiring the greatest rarities in this series of Reay's War Department, which have always been our favourites, it is real good business to clear up the vexed question of their existence. The compilers of the work on the Stamped Envelopes of the United States, reviewed by this journal in January, 1893, included these—Horners Nos. 226 and 227, in their list of the series in vermilion as Nos. 1728 and 1733, and added a note stating that they had been listed, but were still quite unknown. We made a strong protest in our review against their being included in any list so long as they are unknown. They have made their appearance at last, and in the ordinary course of events we should withdraw our objection to them, but we see now that there is no occasion to do so, since the compilers have included them in the series of vermilions, and that colour is without doubt an impossibility in that series.

However, we have no longer any hesitation in accepting Nos. 1706, 1707, and 1708 of the new list, as we can now be sure that both the Nos. 3 and 5 sizes were issued together in the series of the dark reds.

For regularity's sake we give the omissions from the Reference List:

1873. Three cents, dark red, one die, four knives.

No.	Die.	Paper.	Knife.	Size.	Wmk.	Gum.	Remarks.
Say 1706½	110	amber, 3rd qual.	27	5	B 1	S	unknown till now.
Say 1708½	110	cream	27	5	B 1	S	unknown till now.

Occasional Notes.

THE RECENT EXHIBITION OF THE LONDON PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

LENGTHENED as were our notes on this interesting occasion, in the last issue of this Journal, they were not unfortunately inclusive of all the rarities. In several instances stamps that were of interest were not mentioned specifically, and almost unavoidably so; but it is to be regretted that by an oversight one of the principal exhibitors should have been omitted. The gentleman in question—Mr. A. de Worms—can, however, be under no apprehension that his treasures were not duly appreciated, as hardly any case in the Society's rooms elicited more frequent infractions of the Tenth Commandment.

MR. A. DE WORMS' EXHIBIT.

THAT Ceylons would form an integral part of Mr. de Worms' stamps goes without saying. It was also evident that even since the recent exhibition of Ceylon and India Mr. de Worms' collection had prospered exceedingly. The gems only were to be seen, but these included varieties not previously shewn, and indeed his collection of the stamps of this country may now be said to be unrivalled. The other Colonies, as well as the mother country, were represented by many rare stamps, and in one case by a specimen that had no companion in the Exhibition, and is of great rarity—the 5 c. British Columbia, *imperf., unused.* We append a list of the principal rarities shewn by Mr. de Worms:

Ceylon . . .	Imperf., two complete sets in perfect condition, including 1s. (2), 2s., nearly all unused; 4d., exceptionally fine copy.
	Perf. and no watermark, two complete sets of each issue, unused, and 1s., no watermark, unused, *imperf.*
	Crown and CC, 2d., yellow-green (3), and block of 7 5d., brown, all unused.
	Crown and CA, 16 cents and 24 c., plum, both unused.
	Pairs imperf., ½d., 1d., 2d. (2), 6d., blue paper; 10d., 1s. 9d., all unused.
	Pairs imperf., ½d., blue paper; 6d., 1s., 2s., used.
	Pairs, no watermark, ½d., 1d., 6d., unused; 5d., 1s., used.
	Rouletted 2d., watermark Star (2).
British Guiana .	1st issue, 12 c. (two shades).
	1851, 1 c. (2 and a pair), 4 c. (2).
	1856, 4 c., red (2), blue.
	1862, a copy of each type.
Great Britain . .	Pair 1d., V.R., unused.
	Pair 1d., rose, large Crown, perf. 16, unused.
	4d., Small Garter (2), unused.
	6d., 10d. (pair), 1s., embossed, unused.
	2s., brown, unused.
Mauritius . .	1848, ten copies, some very early impressions.
	Large Fillet (2), Greek border, 1d. (3), 2d. (2).

Newfoundland .	1st issue, in both shades.
New Brunswick .	The Connell and 1s. (2), etc.
Nova Scotia . .	1s. (2), etc.
Vancouver Island .	5 c. and 10 c., unused and used.
Trinidad . . .	Lithographed issue (7).
Bahamas . . .	Imperf., 1d., strip of three, *used*, no watermark ; two sets unused.
New South Wales .	Sydney, 1d., two unused ; pair (registered), unused.
South Australia .	1st 1d., imperf. ; 3d., red surcharge ; both unused.
Victoria . . .	5s., blue on yellow, unused.
India . . .	Two sets provisional "Service" stamps.
Labuan . . .	6 c. on 16 c., 8 c. on 12 c. ; pair.

SOUTH AFRICAN PHILATELY.

IN addition to the new-comer in the Philatelic arena, whose proceedings elsewhere are noted, we are informed that the formation of a Philatelic Society in Durban is also in contemplation. Influential support is already said to be promised, and the election of the Governor as President is considered as not improbable.

Reviews.

THE STAMPS OF BRAZIL.*

MONSIEUR VIEIRA, who is a member of Philatelic societies in Paris and Brazil, has produced a succinct and interesting list of the Brazilian stamps, the printing, with illustrations by the side of the text, and the paper, all being worthy of warm commendation. The historical portion will be found to contain very readable matter, including the date of the discovery of Brazil by Pedro Alvarez Cabral, A.D. 1500. We wonder what sort of Jubilee stamp will be good enough to celebrate the 500th anniversary, and can only fondly hope, with a reasonable degree of probability, that we may not be called upon to describe it. The existence of the copper plate of the first issue in the Mint at Rio is a piece of information. The vexed question as to the perforated issue of 1850 (small figure of value) is carefully considered, the author's conclusion being that the values most in demand, *i.e.* 20, 30, 60, and 180 reis, were undoubtedly perforated ; but as to the other values he is "not sure that they were perforated." The work further embraces all the Envelopes, Post and Letter Cards, and has a chapter devoted to the stamps issued during the Paraguay war, 1865–70, which however seem to us to partake of the nature of franks. Some remarks on forgeries, and an appendix with the prices at which the foregoing can be obtained, most sensibly placed at the end of the book, bring the contents to 80 pages. We notice one or two slight errors, but the work is an excellent one, and does M. Vieira credit.

* *Historic Catalogue of the Postage Stamps of Brazil.* By C. OTTONI VIEIRA. Garnier Frères 6, Rue des Saints-peres, Paris.

New Issues.

Under this head will be found notes of the new, and variations of the current issues. We do not profess to chronicle everything, but with the kind help of correspondents, are desirous that all the important novelties may be included. Speculative stamps—i.e. those not really required for postal purposes—will be considered on their merits, and Jubilee issues will not be chronicled.

GREAT BRITAIN AND COLONIES.

CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.—*Le Collectionneur* chronicles the ½d. wrapper with the stamp printed in green, instead of grey-green.

Wrapper. ½d., green on buff.

CEYLON.—We have received from Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. specimens of lately-issued stationery. The letter card of 5 cents is now printed in brown on blue, with instructions for opening on the front, and for extra postage on the back. A district letter envelope of 2 cents, bearing the inscription, "*District Letter Envelope, price 2½ cents. This envelope will not pass through more than one Post-office, will only be delivered when called for, and will not be redirected.*" The 2 c. wrapper is now printed in deep violet.

The 5 c. post card is now printed on *white* card in place of buff.

The 2+2 c. reply card has been provided with a blind perforation in black in place of the roulette.

Letter Card. 5 cents, brown on blue.
Envelope (for District Letters). 2 c., green on green.
Wrapper. 2 cents, deep violet on white.
Post Cards. 5 c., blue on *white*.
2+2 c. (reply), perforated instead of rouletted.

GOLD COAST.—Owing to the theft of a number of the stamps of 20s., this value has now appeared in new colours, the design being printed in *brown*, and the value and name in *black*, on *red* paper.

Adhesive. 20s., black and brown on red.

LAGOS.—*La Revue Philatelique* chronicles the following new cards:

Post Cards. 1d., carmine on buff.
1+1d. ,, ,,

NEW ZEALAND.—The *Monthly Journal* has seen a copy of the current 6d., perf. 12½ at bottom and sides, and perf. 10 at the top; also the ½d. with no apparent watermark, perf. 10 all round.

NIGER COAST.—We have received from Mr. H. M. Gooch specimens of the permanent (?) new issue, with engraved name of colony. The stamps are of the same size and shape as the first issue, but with an alteration of design; the colours are also changed. Six values, engraved in line by Messrs. Waterlow and Sons, printed on white wove paper.

Adhesives.

½d, green.	2½d, blue.
1d., vermilion.	5d., dark violet.
2d., carmine.	1s., black.

SAMOA.—The permanent 5d. value has appeared, oblong in shape, and of very unconventional design, consisting of a St. George's Cross on colour. In the first quarter is a five-pointed star, and in the third and fourth quarters the words "FIVE-PENCE" in coloured capitals. The cross itself has a crown in the upper part of the vertical branch, and the figure of value in the lower, while the horizontal branches bear the words "SAMOA POST." Wmk. Small Star, perf. 11½.

Adhesive. 5d., carmine, perf. 11½; wmk. Small Star.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA.—According to the *I. B. J.* the 1d. card has been surcharged "O. S." in black.

Service Post Card. 1d., brown, surch. "O. S." in black.

STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.—*Johore.*—Other values beside the 4 c., chronicled last month, have, according to the *Monthly Journal*, been surcharged with the new value of 3 cents. Our contemporary chronicles the following:

Adhesives.

3 c., in *black*, on 2 c., yellow and lilac.
3 c. ,, ,, 5 c., green and lilac.
3 c. ,, ,, 6 c., blue and lilac.
3 c. ,, ,, 1 dollar, carmine and green.

ZULULAND.—The *I. B. J.* chronicles a permanent issue of the usual colonial type, which is to supersede the surcharged issue now in use.

½d., lilac and green.	6d, lilac and black.
1d., lilac and red.	1s, green and green.
2½d., lilac and pale blue.	4s., green and red.
3d., lilac and bistre.	£1, red and lilac.

£5, red and black.

EUROPE.

BELGIUM.—We are glad to find that the supposed error (kaartbriej) in the 10 c. letter card, chronicled in the February number, turns out to be due to a broken "f." The *A. J. of Ph.* informs us of the issue of the 25 c. letter card with the Sabbatical stamp.

Letter Card. 25 c., blue on rose.

BULGARIA.—The 5 stotinki, green, has appeared on pelure paper, perf. 10½.—*Timbre-Poste.*

Adhesive. 5 stot., green; perf. 10½.

GREECE. — *L'Echo de la Timbrologie* chronicles the 40 lepta of first type on *blue* paper (? print) without the figures on back.

Adhesive. 40 lepta, violet on *blue; no figures on back.*

NORWAY.—The 10 öre has now appeared with the word "Norge" in the redrawn Roman type.

Adhesive. 10 öre, rose; *new type.*

AMERICA.

COOK ISLANDS.—The *Monthly Journal* has news of a change in colour of the current 1d. value from brown to *dark blue.*

Adhesive. 1d., dark blue.

LIBERIA. — The triangular monstrosities issued lately have now been provided with a *roulette.*

Adhesive. 5 c., black and carmine; *rouletted.*
Service Stamp. 5 c., green and lilac, black surcharge; *rouletted.*

SALVADOR.—The *Monthly Journal* chronicles the 25 c. of 1892 surcharged "un—centavo" in two lines, with the surcharge in *blue* instead of black.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.—According to several contemporaries, the 10 c., orange (Express), has been withdrawn from circulation.

OTHER COUNTRIES.

ANGOLA.—The *I. B. J.* announces that it has received a copy of the 50 c. in the type that a short time back was said to have been issued for the Congo.

Adhesive. 50 c., blue; perf. 12.

CHUNG KING.—We have received from Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. an extraordinary specimen, purporting to be an issue for this town. The stamps are of upright rectangular design, lithographed in strips of 10. The centre is occupied with a view of water, with Chinese junks and a pagoda. "CHUNG KING" at top, "2 Candarins" at base, Chinese inscription at sides. Red impression on wove paper; perf. 12½ at sides, imperf. at top and bottom.

Adhesive. 2 candarins, red.

DUTCH INDIES.—*L' Echo de la Timbrologie* chronicles a fresh value of the type with Queen's head.

Adhesive. 30 c., light green.

FRENCH COLONIES.—*Benin.*—The *A. J. of Ph.* announces that the 1, 2, 4, and 20 c. values of the obsolete French colonies stamp exist surcharged "BENIN" in black.

Adhesives. 1 c., black on blue.
2 c., brown on buff.
4 c., claret on lavender.
20 c., red on green.

Djibouti.—Messrs. W. King & Co. send us specimens of two new stamps, of similar design to the lately-issued "Obock," but one-third larger. A view of Djibouti (?) occupies the centre, with two natives at the sides armed with spears. "R. Protectorat de la Cote des Somalis" at top; "DJIBOUTI, 1893-94," at base; value in figures in the top corners, and "Service—Postal" in the lower. Messrs. W. King & Co. have only received two values at present; viz., 1 and 2 c. Coloured impression on white wove; wmk. quadrillé pattern, paper; imperf.

Adhesives. 1 centime, black and red-brown.
2 centimes, red-brown and black.

Soudan.—Messrs. Whitfield King inform us that they have received special stamps for this colony, values 1 c. to 1 franc the same as the other colonies.

PHILIPPINES. — Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. send us the 2 c. value, current issue, in a new colour.

Adhesive. 2 c. de peso, *brown.*

PORTO RICO.—*L'Echo de la T.* chronicles the 5 and 10 c. stamps in new colours. The *A. J. of Ph.* informs us of a new value in the shape of a 4 c. stamp.

Adhesives. 4 c., slate violet.
5 c., red-brown.
10 c., olive-green.

PORTUGUESE INDIA.—*Le Timbre-Poste* has seen a 1 tanga value of the new type. (See Angola.)

Adhesive. 1 tanga, rose.

Philatelic Societies' Meetings.

THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY, LONDON.

Honorary President.—H.R.H. Duke Alfred of Saxe-Coburg Gotha.
Hon. Vice-President.—H.R.H. The Duke of York, K.G.

Council for the Year 1894-95:

President.—The Earl of Kingston.
Vice-President.—M. P. Castle.

Hon. Secretary.—J. A. Tilleard.	*Hon. Assistant Secretary.*—R. Pearce.
Hon. Treasurer.—C. N. Biggs.	*Librarian.*—T. Maycock.
E. D. Bacon.	E. B. Evans.
A. W. Chambers.	D. Garth.
R. Ehrenbach.	T. Wickham Jones.

The twenty-sixth meeting of the season 1893-94 was held at Effingham House, Strand, on Friday, the 20th April, 1894, at 7.30 p.m. The Vice-President occupied the chair, and the following members were in attendance, viz., Messrs. R. Ehrenbach, R. Meyer, G. B. Routledge, W. Silk, W. Barnard, R. Pearce, E. J. Nankivell, T. Maycock, J. C. Potter, and J. A. Tilleard.

After the minutes of the last meeting had been read and confirmed, the Chairman announced the receipt from Messrs. Alfred Smith & Co. of a handsomely bound copy of the Monthly Circular for the past year, and from Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., of a copy of the last edition of "Album Weeds," both of which were directed to be acknowledged with the thanks of the Society.

The business of the evening consisted entirely of the revision of the Reference List of the Stamps of Labuan, which was proceeded with and adjourned for completion.

The twenty-seventh meeting of the season was held at Effingham House, on Friday, the 27th day of April, 1894, at 7.30 p.m. The members present were:—The Vice-President (in the chair), and Messrs. F. A. Philbrick, E. D. Bacon, R. Meyer, G. Smith, C. N. Biggs, H. R. Oldfield, W. Silk, T. Maycock, C. J. Daun, G. B. Routledge, A. B. Creeke, Hastings E. Wright, R. Pearce, E. J. Nankivell, J. A. Tilleard, D. Garth, R. Ehrenbach, and J. C. Potter.

After the minutes of the last meeting had been read and confirmed various stamps, sent for opinion, were passed round. Amongst these were a ½d. Dominica on half of the 1d. stamp (watermark Crown and CA), and a copy of the 1s. engraved Nevis stamp, perforated 13, both forwarded by the Scott Stamp and Coin Company, Limited. In regard to the first-mentioned stamp the general opinion was that the surcharge was forged, the Crown and CA paper not having come into use for some years after the ½d. surcharged stamp was issued. The members present were also of opinion that there was not sufficient evidence to show that the Nevis stamp was ever issued in the state in which it was shown.

The Rev. E. Thos. Fyffe, R.N., proposed by Mr. C. J. Mumby, and seconded by Mr. G. Churcher; Mr. J. Speare Lambert, proposed by Mr. C. J. Lambert, and seconded by the Assistant Secretary; and Mr. J. S. Rich, of New York, proposed by Mr. Clotz, and seconded by Mr. de Coppet, were elected members of the Society.

Mr. Bacon then read a paper by Lord Kingston, entitled "Notes on Humphrey's retouch of the One Penny stamp of Great Britain, 1854," tabulating all the prominent points in which these stamps differ from those printed from plates prepared from

die I. After some discussion, in which, amongst other members, Mr. Philbrick, the Vice-President, and Mr. Wright took part, on the motion of the Assistant Secretary, seconded by Mr. Philbrick, a hearty vote of thanks was accorded to Lord Kingston for his interesting paper, which, with his consent, it is proposed to publish in the *London Philatelist.*

THE twenty-eighth meeting of the season was held at Effingham House, on Friday, the 4th May, 1894, at 7.30 p.m.

The chair was taken by the Vice-President, and the other members in attendance were: Messrs. R. Meyer, E. D. Bacon, H. R. Oldfield, W. Silk, A. W. Chambers, C. N. Biggs, R. Pearce, E. J. Nankivell, T. Maycock, J. A. Tilleard, D. Garth, and Gordon Smith.

The minutes of the last meeting having been read and confirmed, the revision of the reference list of the stamps of Gibraltar, which constituted the sole business of the evening, was proceeded with, and was completed.

THE twenty-ninth meeting of the season was held at Effingham House, on Friday, the 11th May, 1894, at 7.30 p.m.

The following members were present, viz., Messrs. A. W. Chambers, C. Biggs, T. Maycock, R. Meyer, G. Smith, T. Wickham-Jones, J. G. Tolhurst, P. de Worms, A. de Worms, R. Pearce, E. J. Nankivell, J. A. Tilleard, F. Ransom, and J. C. Potter.

In the absence of the President and Vice-President, the chair was taken by Mr. A. W. Chambers, and the minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed.

The Assistant Secretary reported the receipt, from Stanley Gibbons, Limited, of Mr. Millington's Catalogue of Stamps of the British Empire, and from Mr. W. Morley of his handbook of the Revenue Stamps of Great Britain and Ireland, both of which were directed to be acknowledged with the thanks of the Society.

The Treasurer then explained the position of matters in regard to the annual balance sheet, and (on the motion of Mr. Maycock, seconded by Mr. Wickham Jones) Mr. A. W. Chambers and Mr. A. B. Creeke were appointed auditors to audit the accounts for the year, prior to their being submitted to the annual general meeting.

Mr. S. H. Cotton, proposed by Mr. A. de Worms, and seconded by Mr. J. W. Gillespie; and Mr. Thomas W. Ludlow, proposed by the Secretary, and seconded by the Assistant Secretary, were elected members of the Society.

Mr. Tilleard showed a collection of imperforate stamps of the De la Rue series of the postage and telegraph stamps of India, sent by H.R.H. the Duke of York. The stamps, which were very much admired, consisted of impressions from each plate put to press since the Indian stamps have been prepared by Messrs. De la Rue & Co. On the motion of Mr. Gordon Smith, seconded by Mr. Pearce, a hearty vote of thanks was accorded to His Royal Highness for graciously affording the members present an opportunity of inspecting this interesting and valuable collection.

Mr. Nankivell referred to the question of what means could be taken to insure uniformity in the description of colours of stamps in the Society's works. An interesting discussion ensued, in which most of the members took part, but no definite conclusion was arrived at as to the best mode of attaining the object in view.

THE thirtieth meeting of the season 1893–94 was held at Effingham House, on Friday, the 18th May, 1894, at 7.30 p.m. The members present were: Messrs. M. P. Castle, E. D. Bacon, R. Meyer, R. Ehrenbach, Gordon Smith, C. N. Biggs, A. Ludwig, A. de Worms, P. de Worms, H. F. Lowe, R. Pearce, D. M. Finlay, J. A. Tilleard, and T. Maycock.

The chair was taken by the Vice-President, and the minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed.

The business of the evening consisted solely of the revision of the Reference Lists of the Stamps of the Ionian Islands and of Labuan. The former was completed subject to a reference to the publication committee to describe the Postmarks found on used copies of the Stamps. The List of Labuan was proceeded with, and adjourned for completion.

Mr. Gordon Smith called attention to apparent differences in the last issue of Labuan Stamps on unwatermarked paper, and it was determined that enquiries should be made in regard to these stamps prior to the completion of the List.

THE thirty-first meeting of the season—being the Annual General Meeting of the Society—was held at Effingham House, on Friday, the 25th May, 1894, at 7.30 p.m. The following members were in attendance, viz., Messrs. E. B. Evans, F. A. Philbrick, D. Garth, E. D. Bacon, Gordon Smith, R. Meyer, H. R. Oldfield, R. Ehrenbach, E. S. Gibbons, F. E. Horton, J. G. Tolhurst, A. W. Chambers, T. Maycock, T. Wickham Jones, W. Silk, M. E. Hughes-Hughes, C. J. Daun, P. de Worms, E. A. Elliott, A. B. Creeke, Hastings E. Wright, R. Pearce, C. N. Biggs, A. de Worms, and J. A. Tilleard.

In the absence of the President and Vice-President the chair was taken by Major Evans, and the minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed.

The Secretary then read his Report on the proceedings and work of the Society during the past year; and on the motion of Mr. Gordon Smith, seconded by Mr. Gibbons, a hearty vote of thanks was accorded to Mr. Garth for his services, and for his Report, which was directed to be entered on the minutes.

The Balance Sheet and Accounts of the Society for the year, together with the Report of the Auditors, was then read by Mr. Chambers; and upon the motion of Mr. Gordon Smith, seconded by Mr. Hastings Wright, it was resolved that the Accounts as rendered be received, adopted, and filed by the Secretary.

On the motion of Mr. Pearce, seconded by Mr. Oldfield, a vote of thanks was accorded to the Treasurer and Auditors for their services.

The members of the Council having retired in accordance with the Statutes, the meeting proceeded to the consideration of the constitution of the Council for 1894–5, and the following members were elected to serve, viz., Lord Kingston (President), Mr. M. P. Castle (Vice-President), Mr. J. A. Tilleard (Secretary), Mr. R. Pearce (Assistant-Secretary), Mr. C. N. Biggs (Treasurer), Mr. T. Maycock (Librarian), and Messrs. E. D. Bacon, A. W. Chambers, R. Ehrenbach, E. B. Evans, D. Garth, and T. Wickham Jones.

In the course of the proceedings Mr. D. Garth explained to the meeting the reason which prevented him from again putting himself in nomination for the post of Honorary Secretary, and on the motion of Mr. Gordon Smith, seconded by Mr. Philbrick, it was resolved that "this meeting deeply regrets the retirement of Mr. Garth from the Secretaryship of the Society, the duties of which have been discharged by him with so much ability and to the great advantage of the Society, and offers him a sincere vote of thanks for his services during his term of office." On the motion of Mr. Gordon Smith, seconded by Mr. Hastings Wright, the meeting also passed a vote of thanks to the retiring Council and Officers for their services during the past year.

Mr. Philbrick then read a paper entitled "The Houses of Parliament envelopes." After referring to the fact that these envelopes were the first to be issued bearing any official notice on their face of the reduction of the postage rate to one penny, the paper proceeded to give the reasons for the issue, with full particulars in connection with the history and descriptions of the envelopes, specimens of which were handed round for inspection by the members present.

On the motion of the Secretary, seconded by Mr. Hastings Wright, a hearty vote of thanks was accorded to Mr. Philbrick for his interesting paper, which, with his consent, it is proposed to publish in the *London Philatelist.*

The Philatelic Society, London.

LIST OF MEMBERS.

H.R.H. Duke Alfred of Saxe-Coburg and Gotha, K.G., &c.
H.R.H. The Duke of York, K.G.
H.I.H. The Grand Duke Alexis Michaelovitch of Russia.

J. H. Abbott.
Major J. G. Adamson.
P. J. Anderson.
W. Armistead.
W. B. Avery.
E. D. Bacon.
W. Barnard.
A. R. Barrett.
G. B. Barrington.
A. T. Bate.
Mrs. C. A. Baynes.
W. D. Beckton.
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F. G. Bepler.
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H. W. Bolland.
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F. Breitfuss.
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M. Burnett.
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Major St. L. Burrowes.
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C. F. Casella.
M. P. Castle.
S. M. Castle.
E. L. Cator.
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E. Chambers.
H. Champion.
J. H. Chapman.
J. S. Chappelow.
Colonel Chermside.
Mrs. H. L. Chowne.
G. Churcher.
H. R. G. Clarke.
H. Clotz.
E. P. Collett.
C. Colman.
F. O. Conant.
Sir Daniel Cooper, bart.
Surgeon E. Cooper, R.N.
Capt. F. Cooper.
F. de Coppett.
C. B. Corwin.
S. H. Cotton.
W. Cowland.
A. B. Creeke, jr.
J. M. Cripps.
C. Dack.
C. J. Daun.
A. A. Davis.
H. F. Deane.
H. E. Deats.
T. P. Dorman.
A. G. Driver.
A. F. S. Duro.
R. Ehrenbach.
E. A. Elliott.
C. F. Ellis.
A. C. Emerson.
Mc. H. England.
J. D. Enys.
J. H. Escolme.
Major E. B. Evans.
T. D. F. Evans.
P. Fabri.
P. Von Ferrary.
H. Ferrier-Kerr.
Miss Pfeil de Feyl.
Dr. D. M. Finlay.
O. Firth.
Rev. T. S. Fleming.
C. E. Fox.
H. C. French.
Rev. E. T. Fyffe, R.N.
W. Gaddum.
D. Garth.
C. Geldard.
L. Gibb.
C. Gibbons.
E. S. Gibbons.
G. F. H. Gibson.
H. J. Gillespie.
J. W. Gillespie.
A. A. Good.
D. C. R. Greathead.
G. A. Greathead.
J. T. Green.
R. Greening.
Earl de Grey.
H. Grey.
J. H. Hallett.
C. Harrison.
G. Harrison.
W. Harrison.
W. J. Hardy.
H. C. Hart.
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J. D. Henderson.
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David H. Hill.
F. C. Hill.
Pearson Hill.
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Rev. W. H. Holman.
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Dr. A. Houison.
E. F. Hubbuck.
M. E. Hughes-Hughes.
A. F. Basset Hull.

T. W. Hunter.
G. J. Hynes.
W. E. Image.
J. Jacobs.
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J. F. Jones.
T. Wickham Jones.
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Dr. J. N. Keynes.
D. A. King.
The Earl of Kingston.
T. W. Kitt.
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J. S. Lambert.
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F. A. Larmour.
A. B. Langridge.
E. Lentz.
C. Lindenberg.
P. J. Lloyd.
G. Lockyer.
H. Loveridge.
H. F. Lowe.
E. C. Luard.
C. J. Lucas.
T. W. Ludlow.
A. Ludwig.
A. A. Lyall.
D. J. Macfie.
Dr. F. Mallman.
J. N. Marsden.
W. Matthews.
T. Maycock.
G. F. Melbourn.
Baron Carl Merck.
R. Meyer.
Dr. G. Michelsen.
H. M. Millington.
J. B. Moens.
J. N. A. Mostyn.
Major C. J. Mumby.
Capt. W. J. Myers.
E. J. Nankivell.
G. F. Napier.
B. W. Neave.
N. St. J. Newton.
G. B. T. Nicholl.
T. G. Nicholson.
J. A. Nix.
Capt. C. L. Norris Newman.
Capt. F. Northey.
T. Notthafft.
H. R. Oldfield.
Capt. St. G. Ord.
Lieut. B. Oxehufond.
J. V. Painter.
A. Passer.
Dr. A. G. Paterson.
W. Pattison.
R. Pearce.
B. E. Pemberton.
O. Pfenninger.
F. A. Philbrick, Q.C.
W. Pimm.
J. C. Potter.
D. A. Quiggin.
Mrs. Raahange.
Lieut. A. R. Raby, R.N.
The Earl of Ranfurly.
F. Ransom.
Rev. G. H. Raynor.
Rev. P. E. Raynor.
A. W. Rawcliffe.
J. H. Redman.
E. W. Reeves.
Baron A. de Reuterskiöld.
J. S. Rich.
F. M. Rigge.
Vernon Roberts.
J. S. Robertson.
L. Rodet.
B. P. Rodd.
G. B. Routledge.
Capt. R. H. Sadler.
Dr. H. Sankey.
L. Scarth.
E. S. Schwabe.
Lieut. L. Schwarz.
W. Scott.
Prince Boris Shahoffscoi.
J. F. Sharples.
E. Shorthouse.
J. Siewert.
W. Silk, jr.
A. B. Slater, jr.
Major A. Smith.
Gordon Smith.
J. E. Sparrow.
W. T. Spink.
S. G. Stein.
A. Stendell.
R. T. Stevens.
W. M. Stewart.
Lieut. F. Street.
W. Strohmeyer.
Major H. A. Tapp.
Dr. R. S. Taylor.
Mrs. Tebay.
W. Thorne.
J. K. Tiffany.
J. A. Tilleard.
J. G. Tolhurst.
J. S. P. Tompsett.
G. L. Toppan.
W. J. Trounce.
Rev. W. N. Usher.
J. Van Alphen.
F. C. Van Duzer.
T. Vasmer.
Dr. C. W. Viner.
J. Walker.
E. L. Waterlow.
E. H. Watts.
T. Martin Wears.
E. F. Weber.
L. S. Wells.
F. West.
A. E. L. Westaway.
W. A. S. Westoby.
Mrs. Weston.
W. T. Willett.
H. Winckmann.
W. E. Williams.
A. H. Wilson.
W. T. Wilson.
R. Woodman.
Baron de Worms.
A. de Worms.
P. de Worms.
H. E. Wright.

BRIGHTON AND SUSSEX PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

Honorary President.—BARON DE WORMS.

Committee for the Year 1894:

President.—M. P. CASTLE. | *Vice-President.*—J. H. REDMAN.

Hon. Sec. and Treasurer.—A. DE WORMS.

Hon. Librarian—O. PFENNINGER.

W. T. WILLETT. | H. STAFFORD SMITH.

J. W. GILLESPIE. | R. J. WOODMAN.

THE twelfth meeting of the season was held at Markwell's Hotel, Brighton, on Wednesday, March 28th, at 7.45 p.m. Present—Messrs. W. T. Willett, A. de Worms, J. W. Gillespie, O. Pfenninger, A. H. Thomas, E. E. Manwaring, R. J. Woodman, P. de Worms, H. Stafford Smith, H. Davis, R. J. Thrupp, and two visitors, Messrs. G. F. Gordon-Dill and S. H. Cotten. In absence of the President and Vice-President Mr. Willett took the chair. After the minutes of the previous meeting had been read and confirmed Mr. H. Davis was elected a member of the Society. Considerable interest was taken in inspecting Mr. Woodman's collection of United States, comprising nearly all issues complete, the 1869 series and the "Departmentals" being specially fine. Of the former he showed the whole set unused, besides several good specimens of each value used.

THE thirteenth meeting of the season was held at Markwell's Hotel, Brighton, on Monday, April 9th, at 7.45 p.m. Present—Messrs. M. P. Castle, P. de Worms, J. W. Gillespie, O. Pfenninger, E. E. Manwaring, W. T. Willett, R. J. Woodman, A. de Worms, J. H. Redman, R. J. Thrupp. The President in the chair. The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, Messrs. S. H. Cotton, G. F. Gordon-Dill, and W. E. Hughes, all proposed by the Hon. Secretary, and seconded by Mr. P. de Worms, were elected members of the Society. The Vice-President then read a long and interesting paper on the stamps of Belgium, in which he gave a very concise description of each issue. He demonstrated the same by exhibiting his fine collection, containing most varieties unused as well as used. The President also showed some very fine specimens of the earlier issues unused, and proposed a vote of thanks to the Vice-President for his paper, which was seconded by Mr. Willett, and carried.

THE fourteenth meeting of the season was held at Markwell's Hotel, Brighton, on Monday, April 23rd, at 7.45 p.m. Present Messrs. M. P. Castle, A. de Worms, E. E. Manwaring, R. J. Woodman, H. Davis, R. J. Thrupp, O. Pfenninger, J. W. Gillespie, P. de Worms, H. Stafford-Smith, W. H. G. Cruttwell. The President in the chair. After the minutes of the previous meeting had been read and confirmed, the Secretary stated that as there was a somewhat large balance in favour of the Society, he proposed that £5 should be granted to the Librarian for the purpose of purchasing Philatelic books. Mr. J. W. Gillespie seconded the proposal, which was carried after some discussion. The Secretary also read some notes on the stamps of Mauritius, and illustrated the same by his collection, in which each issue was well represented, with the exception of the first, of which he showed photographs. The President proposed a vote of thanks to the Secretary, which was seconded by Mr. Stafford-Smith, and passed.

THE fifteenth meeting of the season was held at Markwell's Hotel, Brighton, on Saturday, May 5th, at 7.45 p.m. Present Messrs. J. W. Gillespie, Robert J. Thrupp, O. Pfenninger, A. Upton, P. de Worms, A. de Worms, W. T. Willett. In the absence of the President and Vice-President Mr. J. W. Gillespie took the chair. The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, a copy of *The Stamps of the British Empire*, from Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., and *The Revenue Stamps of Great Britain and Ireland*, from Mr. W. Morley, were received as donations to the library, and accepted with the best thanks of the Society. The Secretary read some notes on the stamps of British Guiana, and showed his collection of that country, which contained fine specimens of the early issues,

and the provisionals of 1862. He also showed a large number of "forgeries," kindly lent by Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Ltd. Mr. Gillespie proposed a vote of thanks to the Secretary, which was seconded by Mr. Thrupp, and carried.

THE sixteenth meeting of the season was held at Markwell's Hotel, Brighton, on Monday, May 21st, at 7.45 p.m. Present Messrs. M. P. Castle. O. Pfenninger, E. E. Manwaring, R. J. Woodman, A. H. Thomas, P. de Worms, R. J. Thrupp, J. W. Gillespie, A. de Worms, W. T. Willett, and one visitor, Mr. F. E. S. Williams. The President in the chair. After the minutes of the previous meeting had been read and confirmed, the Secretary read a letter from the Vice-President, regretting his inability to read his promised paper on the Stamps of Luxemburg. After a discussion with regard to business for the next session, it was decided to follow the precedent of the last, and to invite members to read notes and papers on special countries, with a view to a more complete and closer study of the stamps. It was held advisable to restrict the number of issues to be discussed each evening, and the Secretary was requested to call attention, when forwarding notices, to Rule 12: "That every member attending any meeting of the Society must bring his collection of the stamps named for study at such meeting." The Secretary stated that as the list of members had not been sent for publication this year, he proposed doing so at the end of the present session, which was agreed to. It was arranged that members wishing to use books in the Society's library during the recess between the sessions, could do so by communicating with the Librarian, Mr. O. Pfenninger, 79, West Street, Brighton. The Secretary presented to the library a copy of the Catalogue of the Philatelic Exhibition of 1890, which was accepted with thanks. The President showed a large number of very fine specimens of the Swiss cantonal stamps, including all the rarities unused.

A. DE WORMS, *Hon. Sec.*
27, ADELAIDE CRESCENT, BRIGHTON.

LIST OF MEMBERS.

Biggs, C. N.	Marshall, C. F. D.
Brown, Colonel A. M.	Pfenninger, O.
Castle, M. P.	Rean, W. H.
Castle, S. M.	Redman, J. H.
Clark, H.	Sang, E. J. W.
Cotton, S. H.	Smith, H. Stafford.
Cruttwell, W. H. G.	Thomas, A. H.
Davis, H.	Thrupp, R. J.
Dill, G. F. Gordon.	Upton, A.
Gillespie, H. J.	Willett, W. T.
Gillespie, J. W.	Woodman, R. J.
Griffith, H.	Worms, Baron de (*Hon. President*).
Harrison, W.	
Hodgson, G. G.	Worms, A. de
Hughes, W. E.	Worms, P. de
Manwaring, E. E.	Wright, H. E.

LIVERPOOL PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

President.—J. H. T. COTTIER.
Vice-Presidents.—F. B. BRADBURY AND L. MARKS.
Hon. Secretary & Treasurer.—W. HALFPENNY.

W. F. H. HILL. | M. BROAD.
A. W. HENDERSON. | S. G. TWEDDLE.
S. H. CECIL.

THE fornightly meeting of the above Society was held at the Alexandra Hotel, Dale St., on Monday, April 25th, Vice-President, Mr. L. Marks, in the chair.

During the evening Mr. F. B. Bradbury read a very interesting paper on Watermarks, Paper, and Perforations, which Mr. Thos. Ridpath beautifully illustrated with the aid of limelight, showing to perfection the various details explained to the numerous company present.

Both gentlemen must have gone to great trouble to provide this lecture, which was of a kind well calculated to stimulate members to study this important branch of Philately.

The Liverpool Society is making rapid progress, its members now being 49, twenty of whom have joined this year, and it is hoped that the same interest which is now being shown in the Society will continue.

WM. HALFPENNY, *Hon. Sec.*
23, DACY ROAD, ANFIELD, LIVERPOOL.

LEEDS PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

President—OLIVER FIRTH.
Hon. Secretary—W. DENISON ROEBUCK. | *Hon. Treasurer*—EUGENE EGLEY.

THE fourth annual meeting was held at the Leeds Municipal Buildings on Saturday, 5th May, 1894 (anniversary of the first penny stamp). Mr. John H. Thackrah, senior Vice-President, occupied the chair, and was supported by ten members and associates. The retiring President (Mr. O. Firth) and the Rev. T. S. Fleming sent apologies for unavoidable absence. A hearty vote of thanks to Messrs. Stanley Gibbons and Co. for the gift of their newly-published work on the *Stamps of the British Empire*, and to Mr. Walter Morley for the *New Handbook of Revenue Stamps of Great Britain*, was passed. It was also resolved that the Secretaries congratulate the London Philatelic Society on the attainment of its twenty-fifth year of existence.

The annual report was then read by Mr. T. K. Skipwith, one of the Secretaries, and was of a very satisfactory character, the Society being in a flourishing and healthy condition. The exhibits at the fourteen meetings held have been both numerous and interesting, and at eleven of them papers have been read or particular stamp issues described. The membership has increased, and is now twenty-six, consisting of twenty full members and six associates or junior members under twenty-one years of age; and the attendance at the meetings has averaged a little over eleven at each meeting, as compared with eight during the two previous sessions. The library has been materially added to by the purchase or donation of various valuble standard works as well as current periodicals, and the Hon. Librarian reports that the members make good use of the library. The books are now housed in a commodious bookcase in the meeting-room, the cost of which has been partly defrayed out of the Society's funds, and partly by a special subscription among the members. The Exchange Club has been carried on with much vigour and success, and the Society has been under great obligation to Mr. A. N. Skipwith for his efficient discharge of the very onerous and laborious duties of Exchange Manager. The report concluded by mentioning that the Secretaries had practically completed the syllabus for the session of 1894–95, and that the Committee recommended that an Exhibition of Revenue and Fiscal Stamps of all nations, and particularly of the British Islands, be held during the last week of June to celebrate the bi-centenary of the passing of the first Stamp Duty Act during the reign of William and Mary, on the 29th of June, 1694, and stating that the offers of support they had received warranted the belief that such an exhibition would be as great a success as the Jubilee Stamp Exhibition held in Leeds in 1890 (from which the Society dated its foundation) was. The balance-sheet was read by the Hon. Treasurer, Mr. E. Egly, and both it and the Report were unanimously adopted. In the course of the discussion the members present approved of the proposed holding of an exhibition, and offered their best support to the Committee in making the arrangements.

The election of officers for the ensuing year was then proceeded with. Mr. T. K. Skipwith, to whom the Society is so largely indebted for his services as one of its Secretaries throughout its existence, was chosen President. Mr. John H. Thackrah and Mr. W. B. Simpson were re-elected Vice-Presidents. Mr. W. Denison Roebuck, F.L.S., was re-elected Hon. Secretary, and Mr. J. F. C. Sieber was chosen as his colleague, to fill the vacancy caused by Mr. Skipwith becoming President. Mr. Eugene Egly and Mr. F. J. Kidson were re-elected as Hon. Treasurer and Hon. Librarian respectively.

Votes of thanks were then passed to the retiring President and to Mr. James Yates and the Leeds Public Library Committee, after which the evening was devoted to the exhibition of stamps and comparison of collections. One of the most interesting exhibits was by Mr. John H. Thackrah, who showed the English Penny Red, large Crown, perf. 16, with double perforation at top, and postmarked Jan. 29, 1858, which appears to be the earliest yet known date. Mr. Kidson showed a set of the seven stamps of North Borneo surcharged for Labuan.

PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF W. AUSTRALIA (FREEMANTLE).

MINUTES of meeting held May 5th, 1894, Mr. Clifton in the chair. Also present Messrs. Wade, Abrahams, Snellgrove, and Levine. The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. The following rule to be added to the Exchange rules: "That the Exchange Superintendent have first selection from the Exchange Books in return for his services." The two stamp albums from the G.P.O. were kindly lent by the P.M.G., and much admired.

Mr. Clifton showed his magnificent collection of Western Australia stamps, arranged according to Mr. C. J. Phillips' article on the stamps of Western Australia, including the following rarities: 2d., chocolate; 4d., oct., blue; 1s., oval—all rouletted; 6d., swan wmk. on blue paper, and a complete lot of the Imperial Official Stamps with holes.

The 2d., yellow, wmk. CA, was exhibited, perf. 12 on top and two sides, and 11½ at bottom. This has not been chronicled or noted before. Measured by Lincoln's and Vindin's gauge. Some other collections were also shown. A vote of thanks to the Chairman closed the meeting.

ALF. J. LEVINE, *Hon. Sec.*

JOHANNESBURG PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

WE are indebted to the Hon. Sec. of this newly-formed body for a report of the initial proceedings, as given in the *Johannesburg Standard* of April 24th last. We have much pleasure in noting the rapid growth of Philately in South Africa, and beg to tender our sincere wishes for the future welfare of the Johannesburg Society.

A large number of stamp collectors assembled on Thursday night at Handel House, Y.M.C.A. Buildings, with the view to the formation of a Philatelic Society. After the preliminaries had been gone through, Mr. A. A. Osborne was elected Chairman. He proceeded to lay the constitution, as prepared by a special Committee elected for that purpose, before the meeting. After certain modifications and amendments had been ruled, it was adopted. The election of officers was next considered, and resulted in the following nominations: Hon. President, Isaac van Alphen (Postmaster-General, Pretoria); Hon. Vice-President, Emil Tamsen; President, A. A. Osborne; Vice-President, J. Schuler; Secretary, Sallo Epstein; Assistant-Secretary, S. A. Klagsbrun; Treasurer, A. Landau; Librarian, Samuel Epstein; Superintendent of Exchange, M. Z. Booleman; Executive Committee, L. Graumann, H. H. Nelson, W. A. Nellist, and Glen Donovan.

Mr. Osborne then addressed the meeting at some length on the objects of the Society. The large number of collectors in Johannesburg amply justified the formation of a society such as was now being planned. He thought there was much scope for its operations even outside the Transvaal.

Mr. Emil Tamsen, well known in Philatelic circles, in a few well-chosen words, thanked the meeting for the compliment paid him in electing him Hon. Vice-President, and though his time was always fully occupied, this Society should have a place in his mind.

Mr. Lewis Graumann hoped that those present would do their utmost to introduce new members, and so increase its power. There were many aspects, he said, to Philately, and he further explained its geographical and historical bearings. There was something still more attractive to the Johannesburg mind—its material aspect. There was a catalogue value for stamps which well repaid the enthusiastic collector. Among distinguished men they could boast of the Duke of Edinburgh, the Duke of York, Professor Napier, and a host of others too numerous to mention.

Mr. Booleman said he was delighted to see the advancement stamp collecting had taken since he first landed in South Africa. He would do his utmost to help the Society to a firm basis, and to keep it there.

A vote of thanks was accorded to the Chairman, and to Messrs. Landau and Lichtenstein for kindly placing their room at the disposal of the Society, and the meeting was adjourned.

The second meeting takes place on Wednesday, the 2nd May. Those desirous of joining should communicate with the Secretary, Mr. Sallo Epstein, P.O. box 582, Johannesburg.

The Market.

AUCTIONS.

Messrs. Cheveley & Co.,

held their 56th sale on May 28th last, when the following were disposed of for over £2 :

	£	s.	d.
Oldenburg, second issue, ⅓ gr., black on green, unused	3	12	6
S. Australia, P.S. on 10d., yellow, perf. 10 at top, 11½ at bottom and right side	4	0	0
New Zealand, 1d., blue paper, pair	4	0	0
Ditto, 1d., blue paper, strip of three on original	5	15	0
Cape, woodblöcks, block of four, 1d., red	8	0	0
Antioquia, first issue, 1 peso, red, unused, with gum	4	0	0
Bolivar, small 10 c., green	5	0	0
Colombia (1862), 20 c., carmine	4	5	0
Ditto (1863), 50 c., red, error, postmarked	16	10	0
Pacific Steam Navigation Co., 1 real, blue on *bleuté*, used, with Lima postmark	5	15	0
Peru, medio peso, rose	8	5	0
Ditto, embossed, 1 dinero, green, inverted shield, used	2	6	0
Buenos Ayres, steamship, 3 pesos, green, unused	2	12	6
Ditto, steamship, 5 pesos, orange	5	15	0
Guatemala (1881), 5 c., red and green, with inverted centre, used	5	5	0
Mexico, eagle, 3 c., brown, unused, surch. Mexico, in Gothic type with date	2	18	0

Mr. W. Hadlow.

At the 38th sale, held on Wednesday, June 6th, we note the following of interest :

	£	s.	d.
Great Britain, V.R. (with trial obliteration)	6	0	0
Switzerland, 4 c., Vaud	9	15	0
Great Britain, £5, orange on blue.	2	16	0
Spain (1753), 2 reales, red	3	10	0
Naples, ½ tornese, cross	2	8	0
Great Britain, 1d., rose-red, perf. 16, wmk. Large Crown, on white paper, gum	5	7	6
Ditto, 1½d., lilac-rose, orig. gum	2	2	0
Ditto, 3d., carmine, secret dot, imperf. and unused, orig. gum	6	17	6
Ditto, 6d., lilac, Plate 4, hair lines, imperf. pair with gum	4	12	6
Ditto, 1s., green, Plate 3, hair lines, imperf. and unused, with gum	8	16	0
British Columbia, 10 c., blue and carmine, perf. 12½, unused, gum	2	17	6
Peru, medio peso, orange, unused.	3	5	0
Victoria, 6d. orange, beaded oval (mended)	2	8	0
South Australia, 9d., grey, perf. and rouletted	3	3	0

The J. W. Scott Co., Ltd.

We have received the catalogue of a successful sale held by this firm on May 22nd last. We cull the following interesting lots that realised over $10 (£2).

United States, 1867, 3 c., rose, *grilled* all over, on original	$10.00
Ditto, 1868, 90 c., blue	10.00
Ditto, 1869, 90 c., black and carmine	10.00
Ditto, Agriculture, set unused	12.15
Ditto, Justice, 1 c. to 24 c.	10.00
Ditto do. 90 c.	19.00
Ditto, Navy, 1 to 30 c., unused	14.00
Ditto, State, $5, green & black, unused	80.00
Ditto, 1845, New York, 5 c., black	12.00
Confederate States, Athens, 5 c. purple, type A on original	41 40
Ditto, 5 c., purple, both types on one letter	50.00
Petersburg, 5 c., red	16.75
Tellico Plains, 5 c., red, unused	100.00
Ditto, 5 c., red, second variety, ornament turned up, unused	100.00
Ceylon, 1857, 1s. 9d., green	12.00
Great Britain, £5, orange	12.00
Mauritius, 1848, 1 p., orange-red, first state of plate	20.50
Ditto, 1d., orange-red, early state of plate	12.75
Ditto, 2d., blue, early state of plate	14.50
Natal, 1857, 1 shilling, embossed	22.00
New Brunswick, 1 shilling, mauve	75.25
N. S. W., Sydney, 1 p., red, unsevered pair	12.80
Peru, ½ m. peso, rose	40.00
Saxony, 3 p., red	27.00
Virgin Islands, 1868, 6 p., rose, perf. 15, unused	12.00
Canada, 1857, ½d., pink, ribbed paper	17.00
Newfoundland, 1s., orange	40.00
Nova Scotia, 1851, 1s., violet	41.25

The Winser Collection.

The purchase of this well-known collection by Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Limited, for a sum amounting to some thousands of pounds, is a further evidence of the financial development of stamp collecting. In common with other collectors we have had an opportunity of inspecting Mr. Winser's collection, and were much gratified at the many magnificent and rare stamps therein contained. Germany is certainly the loser by the transaction, and we congratulate the enterprising firm on their purchase.

Alterations of Address.

Messrs. D. A. Vindin & Co. have vacated their premises—143, Strand—in favour of Mr. F. R. Ginn, who has found a more central position necessary for his growing business. Messrs. Vindin have removed to 58, Chancery Lane. The W.C. district is rapidly becoming a veritable nest of stamp dealers, and the more the merrier. We wish them all good luck.

Correspondence.

A WARNING TO DEALERS AND COLLECTORS

AGAINST CERTAIN DANGEROUS FORGERIES OF THE HIGH VALUES OF THE FIRST ISSUE OF AFGHANISTAN, DATED 1293, AND COMMONLY KNOWN AS "THE TABLET ISSUE."

To the Editor of the "London Philatelist."

Dear Sir,—Some years ago I noticed in a French Circular sent by a dealer an advertisement offering certain rare stamps of Afghanistan. I wrote for them, and they were sent to me in due course. They were not precisely the stamps in the advertisement, the high values of the tablet issue dated 1293 turning out to be violet stamps instead of black stamps. The stamps that came were as follows:

1289. ½ rupee, violet.
1293 (1). ½ „ „
1293 (1). 1 „ „ (2).
1293 (2). Shahi, brown-violet.
1295 (2). Strip of three shahis, black.

I found after examination that there was little doubt that the 1289, the 1293 (2), and the 1295 (2) strip of three were all forgeries, the worst being the 1289 ½ rupee. The colour was one that never occurs for these stamps, and there were slight variations in the details of the type that could not occur in the genuine type, though it was a close copy of one of the types in the 1289 plate. The 1293 (2) shahi was also bad, though evidently taken from one of the types. The three 1295 (2) shahis, black, well known as "The Skeleton Type," and much prized by collectors, would have taken in almost anyone, and the evidence against the strip seemed very slight at first. But I found two variations from the genuine that condemned the stamps. There was in one of the three genuine types a little break in the outer circle, but in the strip the circle was closed up all round. The other point, which to my mind was strong as Holy Writ to condemn all three, was the fact that, though they had been able to get the correct paper to print on, the laid lines were horizontal, and in the many thousands of the small stamps that I have been able to examine, I have never found a single one that was not on the usual laid paper with *vergeures*. There is a paper in the earlier issues that shows both horizontal and vertical lines, being doubtless in square sheets, while these can only be rectangular.

There was not much trouble with these forgeries, but the two types of the high values, Nos. 8 and 12 in the 1293 tablet plate, which "Messieurs les Faussaires" had selected for their nefarious operations, are the most dangerous forgeries that have ever come on the market. I first noticed that the two specimens of the same type did not vary a hairline from one another, a thing unprecedented in that issue. I have consulted many people as to how the genuine tablets were printed, and the most probable theory, as I think, seems to be that they were roughly engraved on soft metal, and that the differences in specimens of the same type are due to the rough workmanship of the natives who printed them off.

But whatever was the process they employed in that country, it only concerns us to examine the types as they are now, and to see if any in the plate agree with other specimens of the same types. I had the

French dealer's ½ rupee and his two rupees, and on turning over my own collection I found a ½ rupee, black, and a rupee, violet, of the suspected types, bought rather dear for that time for the sake of scarce varieties of paper from a well-known London firm, who afterwards told me they had obtained them from the same source. Besides these, I had a violet ½ rupee, and was quite unable to recollect where I had got it. I judged I had plenty of the raw material to help to determine for certain how it was with them, and fortunately I owned an immense number of all values of the genuine stamps, including numerous varieties of printing and paper, and an almost complete plate of the 24 types even at that time.

After examining the suspected types and the known genuine ones with a Coddington lens—the best 12s. 6d. worth I ever invested in—I found that in every case the latter differed more or less from one another in the details of the printing, probably owing to the running of the ink and the rough work of the natives. Whereas the forged types were as dead identical with each other in both values, and had certainly been printed by a reduplicating process, and there was no possible room for any doubt as to identical types of the two values being forgeries.

I consulted my friend—Lieut. F. H. Napier, R.N.—"and a good judge too" in such matters, and we both came to the same conclusion; namely, that they were photo-lithographic imitations, and by far the most dangerous forgeries that had ever appeared in any country.

Lieutenant Napier then informed me that he knew of a firm of expert engravers and lithographers—Messrs. George Waterston & Sons, Edinburgh—who would be the best people for our purpose; and we both agreed that it was quite worth my while to send a few specimens of the good and the bad types to the Edinburgh firm, and ask them to decide which was good and which was bad for the benefit of philately. Messrs. Waterston replied that they were not quite sure how the native stamps were printed, but the forged types, which they very easily recognised, were certainly photo-lithographs, and poor ones too. They also informed me that they made a great speciality of photo-lithography, and would be glad to turn out for me a much superior article, which it would be quite impossible for anyone to detect. Not much! We know better than that, and that nothing is possible in the fake line that can escape the lynx-eyed philatelic expert, armed with his microscope, lens, &c., as there is always the crassest ignorance about when the fakers are at work. But our Edinburgh friends were a high-class firm, and most obliging throughout our correspondence, so I merely replied to them that I would not avail myself of their kind offer, as I hoped I had some character to lose.

After receiving this confirmation of what I was already sure of from those gentlemen, I judged it was advisable to return to the Frenchman his set of forgeries. I then wrote him that I had clearly proved myself, and also had the highest authority of expert lithographers in confirmation, that all the Afghan stamps that he had sent me were photo-lithographic forgeries. I also requested him to return them to me, with any more specimens that he had, in order that I might submit them to M. Legrand or other authorities on Eastern stamps, and have this unpleasant matter thoroughly investigated in the interests of philately. I received neither any acknowledgment of the stamps nor any reply to my request, and I went no further in the matter, except that I considered it "rather too thick" for my taste. Here we are well ahead of our transatlantic friends in the States, where friend Corwin writes me they still adhere to the old-fashioned "too thin."

It remains now to warn all whom it may concern against these dangerous forgeries, and to offer to all collectors and dealers to decide for them whether any specimens of the ½ rupee or 1 rupee—in black or violet, of the 1293 tablet issue, that they send me, before deciding to buy, are good or bad. I was recently at Messrs. Stanley Gibbons' place in the Strand, and was shewn a ½ rupee that had just come in from the Continent, and I knew at once that it was one of the forgeries, though I took it home to make sure.

I know them so well now that I can usually recognize them at half a glance, for there is a curious look in the head of the ½ rupee type—in fact, "a smile on the face of the tiger."

In conclusion, I must strongly recommend anyone to submit anything of the kind to me, and not to put any faith in conjecturing whether they are good or bad.

I am, yours faithfully,

GILBERT HARRISON,

Member L. P. Soc., N. P. Soc., and A. P. Association.

THE

London Philatelist:

THE MONTHLY JOURNAL OF

THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY, LONDON.

VOL. III. JULY, 1894. No. 31.

The Disposal of Collections.

THERE has been quite a ripple in the Philatelic pond on the Continent, with regard to the purchase of the Winzer Collection by a leading firm of dealers in this country. Various paragraphs have gone the round in the Philatelic journals, imputing slackness of enterprise and depreciatory valuing on the part of the German stamp trade, in allowing such a valuable collection as that of the well-known Dresden Philatelist to leave the Vaterland. It appears, however, in the column of our contemporary, the *Illustriertes Briefmarken Journal*, that in the case of at least one eminent firm there was no lack of enterprise, as they were prepared and ready to purchase on the owner's terms, and that there has therefore been a close finish, the English horse winning by a short head! It is not of course specially within the province of this journal to enter into the merits of this controversy, and we are only concerned (taking note of British pluck and energy as regards the trade) with its aspect as affecting collectors, and naturally through them the trade. The fact that this important collection was valued entirely by its owner, and sold absolutely at his figure, without reduction and after a close competition, is one that should be viewed with more than equanimity by those of us who are collectors. With the modern development of prices the collector is of necessity—unless a Crœsus—an *investor*, and is fully entitled to take all reasonable steps to see that his money is well invested. If he is careful in buying, and in selling what he does not especially require, he is only exercising the most conventional of rights, and does not, in our opinion, thereby in any way cross the line of dealing. Any speculator, or

even the ordinary client of a stockbroker, might as well be dubbed a stockbroker, as a collector who occasionally has transactions or "bargains" a dealer.

But to return to our collection and its moral. It is made clearly evident that there is great competition to secure really fine stamps, and that a satisfactory realisation of a collector's "Philatelic investment," or hoard, is within the reach of everyone who has "gone in for" really fine stamps of the straightforward countries. There can be no doubt but that the result of the auctions has been to materially strengthen the collector's position as to disposal, by its wholesome competition. Nor is this an evil without mitigation to the trade. The very confidence begotten by this knowledge has induced, and will still further induce, men of wealth and position to take up the pursuit, even to the point of investing thousands of pounds, with security of feeling as regards the soundness of the investment, combined with the rational pleasures of forming a collection.

The Adhesive Stamps of Brunswick.

By ROBERT EHRENBACH.

A Paper Read before the London Philatelic Society, January 27th, 1894.

THE few remarks I can make on the subject of these stamps do not contain much new information; but I shall be well satisfied if what I have to say, especially on the rouletted issues, will in future prevent collectors from buying these stamps, unless perfectly satisfied with their genuineness. To buy these stamps at auctions is very dangerous, as with only seven days allowed for returning them, if necessary, it is practically impossible to obtain an opinion on them. Anyhow I sincerely hope that after the remarks I am making to-night, no one of the gentlemen present will be taken in by the 1 gr. black and orange, and the 3 gr. black on rose, with roulette, etc.

Issue I.—This came out on the 1st of January, 1852, and consisted of three values, the 1, 2, and 3 gr. on thick white wove paper, varying but slightly in thickness and texture.

The type is, as you all know, a galloping horse surmounted by a crown, in an horizontal oval shaded by vertical lines; above and below this oval there are two bands, the upper one bearing the name of the country (Braunschweig), and the lower one the denomination of value. On both sides of the inner oval small ovals containing the figures of value are found, and the whole design is framed by an outer rectangle of double lines. There are 120 stamps, twelve horizontal rows of ten, in the sheet, and the gum used was either reddish-brown or white with a brownish tint, similar to that used for the stamps of Hanover; the stamps on sheets are printed about 2 to 2½ mm. apart from one another.

Of the 2 and 3 gr. only one type is found, while of the 1 sg., rose, there are three, viz.:

a. With no dots on the figures of values.
b. With a dot on the figures on the right side.
c. „ „ „ left side.

And on type *a.* a misprint in the lettering exists, the lettering of the word *Silbg* reading SIL3 instead of Silb.

The variety of shades is not great, and the stamps are apparently very carefully executed.

Although the second issue came out in March, 1853, the stamps of the first issue were not called in, but were all used up, which is also the case with all later issues, and among the stamps on entire sheets I possess, there are some dated July 29, 1854, and one 3 gr. even as late as January 18, 1855.

As mentioned, the second issue came out in March, 1853. The design is the same, as also the values and the number of the stamps in the sheets.

The paper on the other hand was altered into coloured paper, probably in accordance with the custom of other large German States, viz., Prussia, Thurn and Taxis, Wurtemburg, Baden, and Hanover, &c., which all used coloured paper at that time. The paper taken was a so-called handmade paper of very rough and coarse texture, showing as watermark a post-horn turned to the left in a rectangular frame, though in some instances it is also found turned to the right—this is very often the case with the 1 sg., orange. Up to now I have only heard of two distinct varieties of this post-horn being chronicled, but this is decidedly wrong, as by the sketch of the watermarks of an entire sheet I am handing round, you will see that every single post-horn differs more or less in size and shape. What a boon for specialists of "Brunswick stamps," to be able to collect 120 varieties of watermarks to every stamp, both used and unused, and to plate them by this means! To these three values, two low values, of 3 pfennig = $\frac{1}{4}$ gr., and 4 pfennig = $\frac{1}{3}$ gr. were added as a complement of the series on the 1st March, 1856.

The $\frac{1}{4}$ gr. did not long remain before the public, for the design of this stamp was changed on February 1, 1857. It is not quite correct to call this stamp a $\frac{1}{4}$ gr., as the stamps consisted of four sections each of $\frac{1}{4}$ gr., each section being allowed to frank as a $\frac{1}{4}$ gr., a $\frac{1}{2}$, a $\frac{3}{4}$, or 1 gr., and so on.

The design is a square of 26 mm. divided into four sections, each of which shows the figure of value $\frac{1}{4}$ in an oval, surmounted by a Crown; below the oval are the words "GUTE GR."; on the outer side of each section the inscription reads "3 PFENNIGE"; and on the top and bottom is the word "POSTMARKE." Although there are only 100 stamps, ten rows of ten on the sheets, the old watermarked paper is used, of course showing the 120 watermarks spread over the 100 stamps.

About this time, but probably later (the dates Lindenberg and Moens give is 1st March, 1856 respectively, January, 1861, seem both to be incorrect), the colour of the 1 gr. was changed from orange to yellow, and this change of colour was followed up in September, 1862, in the case of the 3 sgr., which was then issued, printed in rose on white paper.

On the 1st of January, 1863, a new value of $\frac{1}{2}$ gr.—5 pfening—was added, the colour of the paper of this value being green.

I now come to the most interesting part of the stamps of this country—viz, *the rouletted issues*—and in what I have to say about these I shall be quoting largely from a paper by Mr. Ludwig Berger in Braunschweig, who is considered the greatest authority on these stamps, and who has been for long years in contact with the postal authorities of his country, and thus able to speak with authority on this difficult subject. I am very thankful to him that he has consented to allow me to use his paper, and I hope the members present will be pleased to acknowledge his courtesy.

When it was first decided to try the rouletting in Brunswick a good opportunity was found when, in July, 1864, the 1 sgr. was again changed and issued in yellow on white. The first rouletting machine was a line roulette 12½. The roulette is always very indistinct, owing to the bluntness of the machine, and the coarse hand-made paper in addition rendered it even more difficult. Thus it was very difficult to separate the stamps without tearing those annexed. In fact, after the trials with this machine on the above-mentioned stamps had failed, it was decided not to go on using it for the other values, but to order a fresh and new machine at once. It was a Mr. Müller who supplied it, and this time it was one giving "a *perçage en arc* 16 to 16½." It must have been supplied very soon after the first one, as I know of a copy of 1 sgr., yellow *percé en arc*, dated 14th of August, 1864. But owing to the texture of the paper even this machine did not work very satisfactorily, and especially the ½ gr. and the 2 gr. were most difficult to separate from the sheets.

The few sheets of the 1 sgr., black on yellow that were left, were rouletted with this machine, while in the case of the ½ gr. only very few were rouletted, most of them being continued to be used imperforate. This accounts for the extreme rarity of these two values. That the 1 sgr., black on orange, and the 3 gr., black on rose should have been issued rouletted, is impossible, these values being already obsolete for a number of years, and no remainders of any stamps could be left at the various offices, because all sheets of stamps were, according to a rule in the Brunswick Head Post-office, sent in weekly from the printers in order to be checked, and entered into the ledgers of the head office week by week. Later sheets of the 2 gr., blue, show a much brighter shade and are on thicker paper. This value, the 1 sgr., yellow on white, ⅓ gr., and the 3, rose, were continued to be rouletted, but were also, with the exception of the 1 sgr., sold imperforate to the public.

The roulette *en arc* of these stamps must always be in conformity with that of the following issue of 1865–66, of course allowing for slight irregularities, which were bound to occur on paper so badly adapted for rouletting as the hand-made paper used for these stamps was. The roulette always fits exactly on that of the last issue, except that it is about two to 2½ mm. shorter on two sides, and it is a mistake to believe that the dividing lines should be equally large on both issues.

From these remarks it will be easily gathered that no other values can exist rouletted than those mentioned in the appended reference list.

In December, 1865, or January, 1866, the last issue came out; it consisted of four values on white wove paper, without watermark, 100 stamps in ten rows of ten in the sheet, *percé en arc* 16. The design is a galloping horse

surmounted by a crown in an upright oval, an outer oval containing the figures of value in small circles on both sides, Braunschweig above and Groschen below.

REFERENCE LIST.

ISSUE I. January 1, 1852.
1 sgr., rose on white, *three types*.
a. Error on Type I., lettered "SIL3."
2 sgr., blue on white.
3 „ vermilion on white.
Shades of all values.

ISSUE II. March, 1853.
1 sgr., black on brown-orange.
2 „ „ blue.
3 „ „ rose.
March 1, 1856. And shades.

Complement of Series.

$\frac{1}{4}$ gr., black on brown and shades.
$\frac{1}{3}$ „ „ white.

ISSUE III. Change of design. February 1, 1857.
$\frac{1}{4}$ gr., black on brown and shades.

ISSUE IV. Change of colour, first design; date uncertain.
1 sgr., black on yellow, shades.

ISSUE V. Change of colour, first design; date uncertain.
1 sgr., black on yellow, shades.
September 1, 1862.
3 sgr., rose-red on white, shades.

ISSUE VI. January 1, 1863.
$\frac{1}{2}$ gr., black on green and shades.

ISSUE VII. *a*. *Percé en lignes*, July 1, 1864.
1 sgr., yellow on white, shades.

b. *Percé en arc*, August, 1864.
$\frac{1}{3}$ sgr., black on white.
$\frac{1}{2}$ „ „ green.
1 „ black on yellow.
1 „ yellow on white, shades.
2 „ black on blue.
2 „ „ lighter blue, thicker paper.
3 „ rose-red on white, *shades*.

ISSUE VIII. December, 1865, or January, 1866.
$\frac{1}{3}$ sgr., black on white.
1 „ rose-red on white, variety of shades.
2 „ blue „ „ „
3 „ brown „ „ „

Varieties imperforate.

$\frac{1}{3}$ sgr., black. | 1 sgr., rose. | 2 sgr., blue. | 3 sgr., brown.

A stamp similar to the $\frac{1}{4}$ brown of 1857 (Issue III.) was prepared ($\frac{1}{4}$ brown on white) but never issued, probably it is a series of rejected sheets of the 1857 stamps.

Notes on Humphry's Retouch of the One Penny Great Britain, 1854.

By the EARL OF KINGSTON, President.

A Paper Read before the Philatelic Society, London, on the 27th April.

THE alterations consequent on Humphry's retouch of the *facsimile* of the original die, engraved by Charles Heath in 1840, appear to be somewhat lightly passed over, in any of the works I have read dealing with English stamps.

Allusion is made, of course, to these alterations, but only in a general way, not giving any precise data by which the many important differences between the two dies can be distinguished readily and at once.

I have on many occasions had stamps sent to me for identification, not only poor, indifferent copies, but fine early specimens, about which there should be but little doubt. To aid those who have not made a special study of these dies I have endeavoured to tabulate the most prominent points of variance, so that should one test fail in its object others may be brought into requisition.

I have selected six distinct points. Of these, Nos. III., IV., and VI. will perhaps be thought the most important in the case of medium impressions. Nos. IV. and VI. are generally visible, in cases where all the other tests are pretty well effaced. Occasionally, of course, a specimen will be found so utterly worn that identification becomes impossible, but such poor copies are hardly worth consideration.

For the study of Die I. I have taken the earliest and best impressions obtainable. For the study of Die II. also early copies, but specially a copy of the so-called Royal Reprint, 1864, struck on Large Crown paper from a spare unused (reserve) plate. I have also had the advantage of studying a proof on India paper from Die II. itself, kindly lent to me by Mr. E. D. Bacon.

No. I. *Profile of Nose.*

In Die I.

The line from the bridge of the nose to the extremity is somewhat of a concave line rather than straight, and the tip of the nose appears thin and sharp, giving it a pinched expression.

In Die II.

The bridge of the nose has been redrawn and raised in a slight degree, and the curve of the nostril slightly altered. It often happens that this

test is not quite satisfactory in cases where a superabundance of printing colour or pigment has been allowed to remain on the plate, blurring the outline.

No. II. *Shape of Mouth and Upper Lip.*

In Die I.

The upper lip is short, and separated distinctly from the lower lip, leaving the mouth partially open.

In Die II.

The upper lip is slightly lengthened, closing the mouth somewhat. On the lower lip several lines have been added as shading, making the lip fuller in appearance than in Die I.

No. III. *Shading of the Eyeball and Eyelids.*

In Die I.

The eyeball is lightly shaded by fine and delicate lines, which end very neatly at the lids, both above and below.

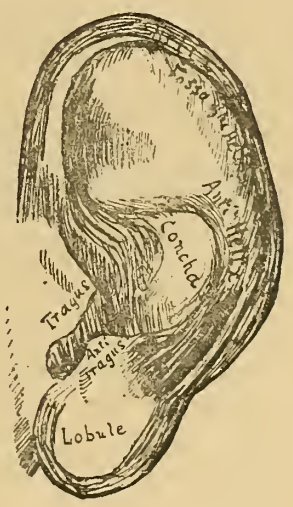
The upper eyelid is softly shaded and with great care, giving it a natural appearance.

In Die II.

The eyeball has been reshaded by some half-dozen coarse, hard, curved lines, nearly all of which, instead of terminating properly at the lower lid, cut across it and downwards into the cheek under the eye.

The fine shading of the upper lid is replaced by a series of short, hard cuts, which cut it up into a number of segments most unnatural in appearance, making it look like a string of beads.

No. IV. *The Shading of the Ear.*



I consider this to be one of the most important and surest tests between the two dies.

As it is necessary to be particularly clear on this point, and as amateur description generally fails in lucidity, I give a short technical description of the different parts of the ear alluded to, and append a rough sketch in further illustration.

The external rim of the ear is called the *helix*.

Another curved prominence parallel with and in front of the *helix* is named the *anti-helix*.

The narrow curved depression between the *helix* and *anti-helix* is styled the *fossa of the helix*.

The deep cavity leading to the internal ear is called the *concha*.

Beneath this we find the *lobule* or *lobe*. (See illustration.)

In Die I.

The *fossa of the helix* is plainly delineated, visible even in very worn specimens. This line extends from where the hair covers the top of the

ear right down to the *lobule*. It penetrates the surface of the latter, perhaps a little too far for correct drawing.

The horizontal shading lines on the *helix* and *anti-helix* stop short at the margins of the *fossa* on both sides respectively, and do not interfere with its clear delineation.

The shading lines are delicate, and are not much in evidence in slightly-worn impressions.

The edges of the *concha* are well drawn with regard to natural shape, and possess a clearly-defined contour.

In Die II.

We find the horizontal lines of shading much coarser and much more numerous than in Die I. They practically cover the whole surface of the ear, extending, without the semblance of a break, across from the *anti-helix* to the *helix*, seriously interfering with the plain view of, and rendering indistinct, the line of the *fossa*. The *lobule* is likewise entirely covered with these horizontal lines, and the *concha* loses its shape, becoming a ragged and misshapen cavity.

No. V. *Shading of the Cheek.*

This example is only to be found on comparatively early impressions.

In Die I.

The cheek is shaded by proper stippling, grouped so as to follow the natural lines of the face.

In Die II.

The stippling has been covered by a series of cut lines crossing the curve of the cheek, and forming a diagonal pattern with the original stippling.

No. VI. *Band at back of Ear.*

This is a most important point, and generally visible in very worn copies.

In Die I.

A band or roll, having the appearance of twisted hair, will be found extending from the hair at top of ear in a downward direction, leading round the back of the head, and disappearing under the pendant curl. This band looks quite soft, as if the hair composing it was very loosely twisted.

In Die II.

This band has been reshaded by very deep regular cuts, which take away the soft natural look, and the band assumes the character of a coarse, hard hempen cable.

[This interesting paper of the President should have been published in our last issue, but was delayed mainly owing to the illustration not being to hand.—Ed.]

Philatelic Notes.

NOTE.—*Under this title will be found all notes relating to postal issues other than those that are chronicled as current novelties, or which form the subject of special articles. The co-operation of Philatelists is invited in order to make this column of a varied and interesting nature.*

MODENA.

DR. DIENA has lately submitted to us a sheet of the 5 cents, olive-green, of the first issue, consisting of four panes of six horizontal rows of ten stamps each, *i.e.*, 240 in all. In the lower right hand pane number eighteen has the error "CNET" and fifty, "CENI." In addition to this there are the varieties of the big period and misplaced letters. It is seldom that an entire unsevered (and valuable) sheet like this is to be seen, and it has therefore a just claim to be philatelically noted.

TASMANIA, 2/6, *LAKE.*

WE are indebted to Mr. A. F. Basset Hull for the following interesting note on the 2s. 6d. fiscal, in response to our suggestion as to his kind co-operation :

"In your February number you publish a paragraph describing a curious variety of the St. George and Dragon fiscal in dull lake. By an evident slip of the pen the value 1d. is assigned to the stamp, which of course must be the 2s. 6d. value, as there is no 1d. value in the series, and dull lake is one of the shades in which the higher value is found.*

"A reference to page 92 of my *Stamps of Tasmania* will explain the *raison d'être* of the 'bisected' impression found adhering to a stamp taken from the bottom row.

"It will be remembered by those who have perused the work referred to, that the plates for the St. George and Dragon series were engraved by Mr. Alfred Bock in Hobart, and having somewhat primitive appliances with which to produce the impressions from his steel die on the copper plate, he was unable to arrange the impressions with anything like regularity. Hence it will be found that the stamps in many cases touch or even overlap their neighbours, so that when the perforating machine was brought into use, its rigid lines of punctures could not accommodate themselves to the erratic register of the stamps, and many were shorn of portions of the design, while others bore away with them more than they were entitled to.

"In 1880 a re-issue of the St. George and Dragon stamps took place for revenue use, and in 1882 all revenue stamps were authorised to be used as postals.

"In August, 1888, the plate of the 2s. 6d. was cut in halves for greater convenience in printing, and the upper half was used. In cutting the plate the eleventh row was sacrificed in order to leave a slight margin at the bottom of the plate. The printing was made on the TAS (Type II.) paper, and the colour was a much richer shade of lake than that of 1880.

"The 'bisected' stamps will be found adhering to all the bottom row of the sheet."

* The obvious correction was made in the April number.—EDITOR.

THE FOURPENNY BLUE ERROR OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

MR. L. GIBB writes to us as follows:

"Reading notes on above stamp on pages 45 and 96 of your journal, I find upon looking at the one in my collection it is of a rather light shade of the bright blue, perf. 11½ horizontally, 12½ vertically, and the Star watermarked well in centre, only being a little to one side; postmark indistinct, reading "ADEL." Comparing the position of watermark in mine with that in the collection of late Mr. Tapling, and taking colour (shade) into account it looks as if there was more than one sheet used."

DISCOVERIES.

BAVARIA.—Mr. Robert Ehrenbach informs us that he has lately seen a rather striking novelty in the first issue of this country—no less than the 1 kreuzer, black, *tête-bêche*. The specimen in question was one of a block, and was placed on the left outer edge of the sheet. The stamps themselves were quite of the normal kind, without thread, and presenting no variation from the ordinary issue. This is quite a discovery, and it will be interesting to learn how many sheets were so printed before the error was found out, as must inevitably have speedily been the case, or it would have been noted years since.

OLDENBURG.—From the same enterprising collector of Germans we have also another interesting, if minor, variety, which, however, we had also recently seen in another quarter—probably the same specimen. It consists of the 1 groschen, blue on white, of the third issue of Oldenburg of the rough printing, impressed very distinctly on either side. The impression on the reverse does not occur evenly, thus shewing two vertical halves of adjacent stamps, but is so remarkably distinct, the wonder is that it was not noticed before being again imprinted. The specimen is obliterated on its useful side, and leaves no ground for doubt as to its entire authenticity.

GREAT BRITAIN.—Mr. W. Morley, whose indefatigable exertions in the unearthing of abnormal varieties of our own stamps deserves every recognition, writes us as follows. (Taken altogether, Great Britain will soon be quite a difficult country to collect—even used!)

"I have made another discovery in English, having found Plate 17 of the 4d. in *green*. An *undoubted* copy, used, numbers both sides clear and distinct.

"It bears the number on postmark of 107; viz., Bradford, Yorks, so no doubt that office had an entire sheet at one time."

VICTORIA.—At the meeting of the Philatelic Society of Victoria, on May 1st, Mr. C. B. Donne shewed a vertical pair of the netted corners one penny of this country, the upper one being unwatermarked, and the lower watermarked with a single-line numeral 1. We have possessed a couple of single specimens for many years, innocent of any watermark; and it seems very probable that they are also stamps on the sheet that have accidentally escaped being watermarked. The same thing probably applies to the 1s., blue on blue, of 1865, which exists both with and without a thin line 1, as also in the case of the 1d., 2d., and 4d. of the laureated series without water-

mark, assumed to have been issued about 1867. A further like instance is the case of the 6d., blue, laureated, of the same year, of which series we also have in our collection the 10d., grey, without watermark—a variety whose existence is known to but a select few. In all these cases the watermark may not have extended over the whole sheet—perhaps as in the case of the 1d. and 2d. New South Wales on fiscal paper—having the four corner stamps without the watermark. Whatever may be the real cause of their existence they form interesting and eminently collectable varieties, and it is to be hoped that some more pairs may be found so as to lead to a solution of the question.

Another discovery was shewn at the same meeting by the President, Mr. David H. Hill, which must also be of great rarity; viz., two of the 4d. beaded oval issue, rouletted on the original paper, and watermarked "Fourpence." The specimens hitherto known consisted of the same stamp, but with watermark of thin-lined 4, both imperf. and rouletted; and Mr. Hill's find is quite a "bolt from out the blue." The acquisition of all these varieties, not to mention the 6d., black, with watermark 4, and the 6d., orange, will constitute an alarming barrier "to completeness" in this issue of the Victorian stamps. For ourselves, *when* we have seen Victoria "complete," used and unused, we shall be prepared, *à la* Naples, to see, and then die!

Occasional Notes.

IMPORTANT, TO MEMBERS.

THE acting Secretary, Mr. Gooch, will be away from July 31st to August 25th inclusive, by order of the House Committee. The Society's rooms at Effingham House will therefore be closed entirely on and between those dates. Communications by letter may, however, be addressed as usual.

EMPLOYMENT OF HIGH VALUE STAMPS.

THE question has often been asked by the initiated as to whether there is any real employment for high value stamps, such as 10s., £1, and over. The following paragraph in a daily contemporary affords a fitting illustration of their "reason for existence":

"The practice of sending the product of the mines of South Africa by post is growing so rapidly that in one mail alone the gold sent weighed a ton and a quarter. The Cape Town postal authorities do not mind the transmission of small parcels of the metal, but enough is as good as a feast, and accordingly they are discouraging the wholesale use of their system as a carrying agency. They are attempting to divert the traffic to the shipping companies, the Postmaster-General in his report magnanimously pointing out that it is not the function of the Post-office to compete with the ordinary means of transport."—O. W. G.

A WORD OF WARNING.

ONE of our most prominent Philatelists sends a kindly note of warning, which it behoves to place before our readers, so that they may duly be forewarned. Our friend writes: "I think our members might be warned against so-called 'worn copies' of the Great Britain, 1840 (black), Penny. I had some sent me, but the 'taste' revealed *acid*, and I tried nitro-sulphuric acid, and with eminent success, producing very worn types *indeed!*"

A SWEDISH PHILATELIC COMPANION.

MR. F. W. ANDREEN, the President of the Stockholm Philatelic Society, has published a pretty little companion in the guise of a pocketbook for collectors, with calendar, notebook, duplicate stamp pockets, perforation gauge, &c. There is also much useful information, such as lists of all the Scandinavian Philatelic Societies and of the Swedish stamps, while the book is pleasantly enlivened by excellent illustrations, including one of the 2d. Post-office Mauritius.

ALBUM DE SELLOS DE PORTUGAL E ACORES.

WE have received a copy of the above, being an album for Portugal and its colonies only, from Mr. C. F. Casella, issued as a souvenir of the late Henrique celebration. The album is oblong in shape, bound in half roan, and of very handsome design, made to accommodate adhesives, envelopes, and postcards. The edition seems to be a very complete one, including all emissions down to the lately issued Henrique stamps. The publisher or price is not stated in the book.

THE VIENNA PHILATELIC EXHIBITION.

FROM the accounts we have received, this "function" seems to have enjoyed great success, both as regards the number of visitors and the objects displayed. Among these we note a Turkish collection comprising almost every variety, normal and abnormal, the property of Jénop Bey Meraméldijan; two fine collections of Swiss stamps by Messrs. O. Oberholzer and Reich-Langhans; several fine exhibits of Roumanian stamps (but apparently no specimen of the 81 paras), that of Count von Horrak having a pair of the 1879 issue, 5 + 10 bani, red, postmarked together, an "error" that has hitherto elicited scant credence as to its real existence; fine collections of Austria (Mr. St. Resel), Sweden (Mr. H. Lichtenstein), Bavaria (Mr. H. C. Joris), Saxony (Mr. E. Petritz); and many other noteworthy exhibits both of stamps and literature. The winners of medals and diplomas have the privilege of defraying their cost, but as the former article in "original gold" costs £50, it may, in the eyes of winners, be deemed more of a luxury than a necessity!

THE DARK CONTINENT.

THE acme of nonsensical and useless new issues has perhaps been reached in the labels for the French colony—the Protectorate of the Somali Coast or Djibouti. The design is for all the world like a drop scene at a theatre, a view of Somali (Town!) and its easily-counted inhabitants occupying the centre, while to the right and left dusky warriors in "large size" watch over their devoted home. The size of the stamps is nearly two inches long by one wide. The reason suggested for these abnormal dimensions can only be that suggested by the editor of the *Timbre-Poste* in his witty remarks hereon—that the stamps are made extra large to prevent the Somali niggers from swallowing them while in process of being lubricated! Ineffable trash made for the delectation and exploitation of those who collect anything in the shape of a label, but beneath contempt to anyone who considers that Philately aims at being a pursuit for people not absolutely bereft of sense.

THE Philatelists of Bradford intend forming a society, and a meeting will be called in the autumn for that purpose. Will the Secretaries of other societies kindly send a copy of their rules to Mr. W. H. SCOTT, Old Post Office Chambers, 1, Piccadilly, Bradford.

THE address of MR. F. R. GINN is now 143, Strand, W.C., instead of Holland House, Tottenham.

Reviews.

THE STAMPS OF MODENA.*

THE appearance of this work will be hailed with acclamation through the realms of Philately. Among the most neglected stamps have been those of fair Italy, a fact partly attributable to the dearth of authoritative Philatelic writings thereon. As a group, whether regarded historically or from a purely Philatelic aspect, the Italian stamps should hold their own amidst all-comers, and we heartily welcome the appearance of this work as a sign of their recrudescence.

No worthier champion on their behalf could have been chosen than Dr. Diena, whose name deservedly stands in the forefront of distinguished Philatelists, and were any vindication of the author's claim thereto desired, it would be amply forthcoming in the *Stamps of Modena.* The appearance of a volume containing 226 large pages on the stamps of this Duchy alone will be a veritable awakening to those who have imagined the Italian stamps as of but meagre interest. The exigencies of our limited space forbid our entering upon a detailed review of all the interesting matter contained, which we can best briefly epitomise by saying that this volume

* *The Stamps of the Duchy of Modena and of the Modenese Provinces.* By Dr. EMILIO DIENA, 3, Via Torre, Modena.

embraces all that it is necessary to know about the Modenese stamps, either from an official or a collector's point of view, set forth in the most succinct and scientific manner. A modestly worded preface and a complete list of all the writings referred to (an excellent innovation) precede the "historical" portion of the work, which extends to over 100 pages, and embraces "chapter and verse" for all the issues, with the official decrees and correspondence *in extenso*. The "descriptive part" commences with a disquisition upon the arms of the country, and in the first issue makes its mark by solving a hitherto dubious point as to the exact date of Issue 1, which is now antedated some months—to the 1st June, 1852. The watermark of letter "A," sometimes found upon the 1 lira, stands for the maker's name, Amici, of Modena. The numbers of the stamps of each value issued are given, as also an invaluable list of the several errors of the inscription of value, which we gather (from an imperfect knowledge of Italian) to be not common to all the sheets printed. M. Diena calls attention to the rarity of the *sky-blue* of the 40 cents, which he places as undoubtedly of the first issue, and contends most justly is a very much under-appreciated stamp. The issue of the Provisional Government (colour on white) is assigned to the 15th October, 1859, and is treated in an equally exhaustive manner. The remaining portion of the book is devoted to the historical and descriptive accounts of the several newspaper stamps. The second issued of these (29th March, 1853) was the well-known variety with "large B.G.," of which Dr. Diena says only 12,000 were issued, which is a conclusive proof of its rarity. If the Italian stamps had more adherents it would be found that British North American shilling values were common stamps beside these. We do not gather which Dr. Diena considers the first round newspaper stamp as entirely collectable, and we infer that the last of the series—the 10 c.—was never in circulation. A carefully-compiled index to all the principal matters discussed will be found of great use, notably to those unacquainted to any great extent with Italian. It is indeed to be regretted that the work could not also have been issued in French or English. The work is illustrated with eight pages of *facsimile* reproductions of the arms of the country, essays, the types of stamps, and the various obliterations. The typography and general appearance of the book are most excellent, and we take our leave of the volume with a high appreciation of its excellence in every way, with our congratulations to the learned author, and with the hope that it may be but the forerunner of other productions from Dr. Diena's pen.

THE ENVELOPES OF BADEN, HAMBURG, AND BREMEN.*

The two little volumes bearing the above designations, in succession to those reviewed in the March number of this year's *London Philatelist*, have duly made their appearance, and are in every way worthy of their predecessors. In the preface to the former, Mr. Lindenberg justly calls attention to the fact that very little has ever been written about the Baden envelopes, and characteristically alludes to it as stepmotherly treatment of such an interesting theme.

* *The Envelopes of the German States.* No. 8, Baden; No. 9, Hamburg and Bremen. By C. Lindenberg (Landgerichts-direktor). Dr. H. Brendicke, 61, Potsdamer Strasse, Berlin.

The consideration of those two "rare birds," the 12 and 18 kr., worthily occupies a considerable portion of the work. Their rarity is well accounted for in view of the small number issued, *e.g.*,

	Small Size.	Large Size.
3 kr. ...	209,200	50,700
6 „ ...	120,700	30,300
9 „ ...	69,000	20,600
12 „ ...	8,500	2,000
18 „ ...	8,500	2,200

The author exhaustively considers the question of the necessity for the issue of the higher values, calling attention to the large number returned —nearly half of the issue—to the Post-office on their withdrawal, as also to the fact that used copies are of the greatest rarity. From the foregoing statements collectors will gather that the issue of these two high values was uncalled for, that their user was of the most limited, and that therefore they worthily maintain their old prestige as great rarities among their class. In contradistinction, the 3 kr., small size—of which over 200,000 were issued—was so rapidly used up, that while postmarked specimens are to-day readily obtainable, even the Berlin Postal Museum itself remains without an unused specimen. On page 28 Mr. Lindenberg calls attention to the presumed existence of the 12 and 18 small size, with the larger of the two *pattes*, stating that, despite every enquiry, he had been unable to authenticate a copy, and therefore disbelieved in their existence—a statement that will hardly discourage collectors of these German envelopes, as they have enough to cope with. Issue II. (with head to right) was more plentifully issued, in hundreds of thousands for the smaller sizes, but in the larger shape 40,300 were issued for the 3 kr., and about half that number for the 6 and 9 kr. Issue III. as II., but with long gum, saw no less than 10,760,500 for the 3 kr., and the best part of a million each for the other two values. The large size of the low value *only* was emitted to the extent of 69,900 copies. The fourth and last varies from the third by the fact of the paper being of a blueish-white tone, and the brighter colourings of the embossed stamps. Of the 3 kr. over fifteen millions, and of the 6 and 9 kr. about one-third of a million, all small size, were issued. The list of reprints numbers nine only, of which no less than six are of the two high values, thus indicating the demands made for them. Some interesting figures as to the numbers withdrawn from circulation on Baden joining the German Federation close a most interesting and valuable work.

The envelopes of Hamburg present less interest to a non-Teutonic mind, as their greatest difficulty is acquirement in used condition, readily accounted for by the learned author's statement that they were only in issue for a year and three-quarters. Mr. Lindenberg acknowledges in this, as in the preceding and other volumes, his indebtedness to dealers, notably Messrs. Senf, and leading amateurs, and here gracefully thanks our distinguished member, H.I.H. the Grand Duke Alexis, for what we cannot better designate than his sportsmanlike action in forwarding the whole of his extensive collection of these envelopes for Mr. Lindenberg's examination. *Noblesse oblige!* The

question of the reprints is considered at full length, and much space is worthily devoted to a crucial examination of the varieties of watermark, *patte*, &c. It is apparent that the second and third issues, where the watermarks commence, embrace an infinity of errors, the author stating that, despite the long lists thereof appended, he has reason to fear they are not complete. We have no doubt of this, as there are many worthy folk who like to see Philatelic labour in print before they can add to it.

The envelopes of Bremen will not sound tempting to those whose acquaintance therewith formerly consisted of one particularly easily forgible black hand-struck impression, on a thin white envelope that was always unused. It appears, however, that there are no less than six issues of this uninteresting-looking envelope, each with sub-varieties; that there are two dies differing slightly from each other; and that though forgeries abound, they have never been reprinted. Used copies do not bear any cancellation, and the local surroundings of each "used" specimen must be weighed. Difficult as these envelopes are to get together, this work should be of extreme value to collectors of them. We can only take leave of these handbooks in again congratulating Mr. Lindenberg on the splendid service he has rendered to Philately by his able and exhaustive monographs.

MESSRS. SENF'S CATALOGUE.*

Messrs. Hilckes and Co., who are agents for the publishers in this country, have sent us a copy of the new "Brown Senf." This work is now so well established in the saddle of public favour in Germany and Europe that there is little need to add to our encomiums of previous issues. It has increased in bulk some forty pages since its last appearance in blue, and all the later issues seem to have been most carefully compiled and added. A new feature, and a distinct improvement, is the addition of a period between the marks and pfennigs to all those priced specimens which the publishers generally have in stock, thus avoiding the unnecessary making of lists of wants, based on the imaginary prices for specimens, which collectors fondly hope to secure as quoted. Perhaps the wish is reciprocal. The enormous sale and success of this catalogue has been largely due to the fact of its having been accepted as an arbiter of prices, and we are decidedly of opinion that to maintain this success its arbitrament must continue to be a fair one. We have no sympathy with the speculating effort to corner stamps, and drive up the prices; but it must be obvious to anyone acquainted with market values of to-day that in the vast majority of prices quoted as to German and European stamps, and to a large number of Colonials and others, the figures quoted by Messrs. Senf *do not represent the fair buying or selling values*. It may be that Messrs. Senf imagine they can lead, and the market will follow, in which case they are justified in varying from accepted prices; but if, as is again probable, this should not eventuate, the issue of their 1895 Catalogue, on the lines of ignoring the real values of stamps, will inevitably recoil on their own heads in the shape of greatly diminished circulation and loss of prestige. For excellence of material, extreme portablility, and *comfort* of reference, no praise can be too high for this collector's *vade mecum*.

* *Illustrated Postage Stamp Catalogue*, 1894. Gebruder Senf, Leipsic.

New Issues.

Under this head will be found notes of the new, and variations of the current issues. We do not profess to chronicle everything, but with the kind help of correspondents, are desirous that all the important novelties may be included. Speculative stamps—i.e. those not really required for postal purposes—will be considered on their merits, and Jubilee issues will not be chronicled.

GREAT BRITAIN AND COLONIES.

BAHAMAS.—The colour of the 2½ pence envelope is now deep blue in place of ultramarine. *Envelope.* 2½ pence, deep blue.

BRITISH GUIANA.—The following is a cutting taken from the *Official Gazette* of April 21st:

"GENERAL POST-OFFICE,
"*19th April*, 1894.

"On and from the 1st of June the SURCHARGED STAMPS noted below will not be available for the prepayment of postage, viz.,

"1 dollar, green, surcharged one cent.
2 ,, ,, ,, one cent.
3 ,, ,, ,, one cent.
4 ,, ,, ,, one cent.

"Postage stamps which by this notice will become obsolete can be exchanged for current issue stamps of equal value on application at the public counter of the General Post-office up to 31st May, proximo.

"F. W. COLLIER, *Postmaster-General.*"

CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.—Our publishers have shown us a specimen of the "Three Pence" (on 4d.), black and lilac-rose, surcharged with a thick figure "3," identical in type with that found upon the later 3d. stamp. It is possible that a sheet of the "Three Pence" on 4d. may have been accidentally overprinted in this manner with the other 3d. stamps of same colour.—*Monthly Journal.*

CEYLON.—There is every reason for hoping that the surcharging of stamps has been definitely stopped in this colony. We insert the following clipping from the *Times* of Ceylon (French Colonies, Tonga, etc., please copy!):

"THE SALE OF STAMPS.—Several complaints have, we hear, reached the Treasurer from stamp vendors with regard to the failure of the supply of 30 cent postage stamps. The stamp office has run out of these, and stamp vendors have been requested to await the arrival of a fresh supply expected in a few days. Under the old system the deficiency would have been at once supplied by the process of surcharging stamps of other values, but that practice has now been discontinued under instructions from Government."

HONG KONG.—The paragraph relating to these stamps in our May number should have been placed under "British Colonies." There is a further trifling with Geography in our June issue, for which we apologise to the Map of the World. The two paragraphs relating to Cook Islands and Liberia were intended to be read lower down in the *same* column, under "Other Countries."

MALTA.—The *Monthly Journal* has news that a sheet of the current 4d. has been found imperforate. No copies have as yet been seen, so we cannot verify the statement, and reserve the chronicle for future date.

SIERRA LEONE.—Registration envelopes of the sizes F, G, and H_2 have been supplied for this colony by Messrs. De La Rue and Co. The stamp is circular, with inscription "Sierra Leone Registration Fee, Twopence." *Registration Envelope.* 2 pence, blue; sizes F, G, H_2.

STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.—From several contemporaries we learn of a change in colour in the 12 cents, purple, the new colour being claret.

Adhesive. 12 cents, *claret.*

SWAZIELAND.—The *Monthly Journal* chronicles an error in the 5s. value—"Swazieland" without the final "d."

Adhesive. 5s., black and grey; *error* "Swazielan."

EUROPE.

GERMANY.—From the *Ill. Brief. Journal* we learn that the current stamps have secret marks, consisting of crowns, eagles, and posthorns, printed in ink which is only visible when damped with alkali.

AMERICA.

BRAZIL.—We are informed of a new issue in preparation for this country. "We await further developments" before saying more.

The 700 reis, Southern Cross type, was issued in May last.

Adhesive. 700 reis, brown.

CHILI.—We have received from Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. a new post card, consisting of the current design, but printed in blue on green card.

Post Card. 2 c., blue on green.

GUATEMALA.—The 75 cents, carmine, has been surcharged in black "10 centavos," in two lines, with 1894 above.

10 c. on 75 c., carmine; black surch.

URUGUAY.—With reference to the paragraph on the contemplated new issue for this State on page 137 of the *London Philatelist* of this year, Mr. W. T. Wilson has kindly sent us the accompanying notice from the *Montevideo Times* of May 23rd:

"POSTAGE STAMPS.

"The Post-office is now putting into circulation the new series of postage stamps recently received from London. The values are divided as follows:

Types of 1899, colours altered.	1 cent, blue	3,400,000
	2 cents, reddish-purple	1,000,000
	5 cents, rose	3,000,000
	7 cents, emerald-green	50,000
	10 cents, deep orange	430,000
	20 cents, brown	50,000
	25 cents, scarlet-vermilion	25,000
	50 cents, deep lilac	20,000
	1 peso, sky blue	15,000
Types not known.	2 pesos, vermilion	5,000
	3 pesos (?)	5,000
	Total	8,000,000

"These stamps have been printed by the well-known firm of Waterlow and Sons, Limited, of London, and delivered here at a cost of 25 cents the thousand. The plates from which they are printed are deposited in the Uruguayan Legation in London. It would be quite impossible to compete with them either in price or workmanship in this country, whilst the quality of the latter may be considered a safeguard against forgery. It will be remembered that there were several forgeries of high values of the 1892 emission in Buenos Ayres, made easy by the inferior manner in which they were engraved by a local firm.

"The 1 cent stamps of the new issue were put in circulation on May 15th, and are of the same type or design as the 1890 emission, but of a different colour. The other values we have not yet seen, nor are we aware of the official notice having been issued putting them in circulation, but doubtless they will appear very shortly. The 2 and 3 pesos values will be a novelty, and will form fine prizes for collectors, as both their value and the limited number put in circulation will ensure their remaining a rarity. Of course there will be the usual rush to secure a stock of the new stamps for European dealers, many of whom take considerable amounts. We hear that one German firm alone has an order to remit $5000 worth as soon as they appear. This is a considerable source of revenue to the Post-office. Should Dr. Ciganda's Bill be passed—changing the tariff on newspapers—a ½ cent stamp will be necessary, which will either be provided by printing here or by surcharging the remainders of one of the withdrawn emissions. We have heard nothing at present about any new issue of post cards, envelopes, or wrappers. The latter are conveniences which the Post-office has long been without."

We add therefore to our chronicle the only value yet used.

Adhesive. 1 c, blue, perf. 15.

OTHER COUNTRIES.

CHEFOO.—Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. send us specimens of the lately-issued ½ cent post card and 1 c. letter card. The stamp on both is of the same type as the adhesive.

Post Card. ½ cent, green on white.
Letter Card. 1 cent, red on blue.

CHINKIANG.—Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. write: "We enclose photo of design for new Chinkiang postage stamps, the values of which will be as follows: ½ c., red; 1 c., blue; 2 c., brown; 4 c., green; 5 c., orange; 6 c., yellow; 10 c., mauve. These stamps will be lithographed in Shanghai, and issued on July 1st. Chinkiang is a port on the Yangtsze, distant 250 miles from Shanghai."

Last month we chronicled a new issue of 2 candarin stamps for this port. Mr. D. Benjamin writes as to this issue that it consisted of 2000 stamps, all of which are now exhausted. The stamps were issued by the Chinkiang Transport Co., Limited, a public company having its chief office in *London* (!) We have a firm belief that this stamp's character is on a par with its appearance. This is not faint praise!

FRENCH COLONIES.—All the colonies have received envelopes of 25 centimes value, black on rose.

Benin.—This colony has been provided with a series of stamps similar to the other colonies.

Obock.—We have received from Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. a 2 francs value of the triangular series, printed in two colours.

Adhesive. 2 francs, pale lilac, orange centre.

Soudan.—While awaiting the permanent *issue*, *Le Timbre-Poste* informs us that the 75 c. and 1 fr. current French issue were surcharged *Soudan Fais* and the value, 0.15 on 75 c., and 0.25 on 1 franc.

Adhesives. 0.15 c. on 75 c., carmine; black surch.
0.25 c. on 1 franc, olive-green ,,

HAWAII.—We now chronicle the two new post cards alluded to in our May number, received from Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. They are of very handsome design, the work of the American Bank Note Co., New York. The inscription on the 1 cent card is in Hawaiian, and that on the 2 c. in English.

Post Cards. 1 c., vermilion on reddish-yellow.
2 c., green on white.

TONGA.—Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. send us the 2½ on 2d., with surcharge in *black* in place of red.

Adhesive. 2½ on 2d., green; *black* surch.

Philatelic Societies' Meetings.

THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY, LONDON.

THE attention of members is drawn to the notice in "Occasional Notes" as to the temporary closing of the Society's Rooms during the Secretary's absence.

MANCHESTER PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

THE fifteenth meeting of the session was held on Friday, March 30th, 1894, sixteen members being present, the Vice-President in the chair. Mr. Greenhow was elected a member of the Society.

The Treasurer read a paper on the Papal States, pointing out the manner in which these stamps were printed, and that the number on a sheet varied many times in the same value; and in addition dealt with the almost innumerable varieties of paper employed in the printing of these stamps.

THE PLYMOUTH PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

THE fourth annual meeting, being the final meeting of the session, was held at 9*a*, Princess Square, on Wednesday, May 23rd. Present—The President (in the chair) and eight members.

Mr. F. E. Remfrey, of Venn, was elected as member.

Hearty votes of thanks were passed to Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Limited, for a copy of their recent publication on the *Stamps of the British Empire*, and to Mr. Walter Morley for a copy of the *Handbook of the Revenue Stamps of Great Britain and Ireland*, which had been presented to the Society's library.

The accounts for the session, showing a small balance in hand, having been audited and found correct, were received and adopted.

The whole of the officers were re-elected, and Messrs. Mayne, Milton, Millman, and Harvey elected as members of the committee.

Votes of thanks were passed to the officers and committee for services rendered during the past session, also to Mr. William Earl for again having placed a large room at his offices at the disposal of members for their meetings.

On the proposal of the Hon. Secretary, seconded by the Vice-President, it was resolved that, in order to increase the utility of the exchange branch, a limited number of corresponding members might be admitted as members of the Society at one-half the subscription of ordinary members, and the committee were empowered to draft new rules for the purpose.

It was resolved that a list of the books and pamphlets comprising the library of the Society be printed and circulated among the members.

Since the foregoing, the committee have held several meetings and drafted new exchange rules; copies of the same will be forwarded to collectors who wish to become corresponding members of the Society.

Captain G. H. W. Stockdale, R.E., has been elected ordinary member, and the following gentlemen corresponding members: Messrs. Leonard, Kuttner, Kirkpatrick, and A. de Worms.

Mr. A. Preston Pearce having intimated that, at the conclusion of the Leeds Exhibition, he and Mr. Lundy would be willing to lend their exhibits of fiscal stamps to the Society, it was resolved that these gentlemen be thanked for their kind offer, and that the same be accepted.

A sub-committee was appointed to carry out the arrangements of a private exhibition for the members and their friends, regret being expressed that it was impossible in the short time available to hold a public exhibition. There is a probability that the Society will open the new session in October next with an exhibition of postage stamps.

ASHER LEVY, *Hon. Sec.*
190, UNION STREET, PLYMOUTH.

The Market.

MESSRS. VENTOM, BULL & COOPER held a two days' sale on May 30th and 31st last, at which the following lots were sold among others :

	£	s.	d.
Hamburg, 1st issue, 4 sch., green, imperf., with Heligoland post-mark	4	10	0
Tuscany, 60 crazie, red, unused	11	5	0
Labuan, 6 c., in red, on 16 c., blue, unused (fine ?)	9	0	0
New Zealand, *pelure*, 2d., blue, imperf., unused	2	8	0

The same firm held a sale on June 14th last, the following realising over £2.

Oldenburg, 2nd issue, ⅓ gros., black on green, unused (fine ?)	3	0	0
Ditto, used (do.)	3	5	0
Austria, Mercury, 50 kr., rose	3	3	0
Spain, 1851, 2 reales, red, unused	17	0	0
Ceylon, 8d., brown, imperf.	10	15	0
India, 2 annas, green, unused	3	0	0
Egypt, 1st issue, 5 piastres, rose, unused, *error*, inscription of 10 pres.	2	2	0
New Brunswick, 1s., violet	8	8	0
Newfoundland, 1s., carmine-vermilion	16	15	0
Ditto, 1s., orange-vermilion	10	10	0
United States, 1868, 90 c., with grill, unused	2	6	0
British Guiana, 1853, 1 c., brick-red	2	6	0
Ditto, provisional issue, 1862, 2 c., black on yellow, pearl border	3	0	0
Bolivar, 1st issue, 10 c., green	4	4	0
New South Wales, 2d., blue, plate I.	2	2	0

Correspondence.

GREAT BRITAIN, 2½D. PLATES 2 & 3.

To the Editor of the "London Philatelist."

DEAR SIR,—On page 37 of your journal for February, 1894, Mr. Hastings Wright in his "Stray Notes on the Postal Adhesives of Great Britain" writes of the 2½d. value that Plates 2 and 3, watermark Anchor, are never found on blued paper.

Perhaps I may be allowed, with all due deference for his opinion, to say that my experience is different. I possess copies of these stamps very distinctly blued.

Faithfully yours,

KINGSTON.

KILRONAN.

COLLEGE STAMPS.

DEAR SIR,—Various statements have been made implying that the Hertford mauve, perf. 12½ and imperf., are reprints ; but so far as I can judge, they are simply opinions given by various writers who have looked into the College Stamps within the last year or two. Now my experience upon these very stamps is such that I cannot accept the statement that they are reprints, without better and clearer evidence than has been brought forward up to the present time.

About the year 1884 or 1885 I had business relations with Messrs. Spiers and Son, of Oxford, who supplied these stamps to the College, and was on very friendly terms with them. I asked Mr. Spiers if he had any College stamps he could give me for my collection. From a drawer he produced portions of sheets of Hertford and Keble. I only saw a portion of a sheet of each, the Hertford being both perf. and imperf. I asked him with reference to the imperf. whether they had been supplied to the College, and used in that state ; but he could not say whether this was so or not. These are the facts. I therefore fail to see why these should be classed as reprints. What object could there be in reprinting them at this period, as there was no demand for them, and no interest was taken in them?

With reference to the six sheets of each imperf. and perf. stated by Mr. Turner to have been acquired from Messrs. Spiers and Son "prior to 1890," I think it quite probable that these were a part of the same lot from which those I received came, and as they correspond in every particular I must certainly consider them to be remainders of a second printing, whether supplied or not to the College remains to be proved.

Professor Napier, in his able paper on the College Stamps published in the *Monthly Journal*, states, as a result of an examination of Mr. Spiers' books, that only one lot of 15,000 stamps were supplied to the College in 1875. Now as these books were carefully kept, is it not possible by further reference to find out definitely when they purchased others from the London firm who printed these stamps? This should help to settle this question.

Yours faithfully,

W. T. WILSON.

THE

London Philatelist:

THE MONTHLY JOURNAL OF

THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY, LONDON.

VOL. III. AUGUST, 1894. No. 32.

New Post Card Regulations.

WE understand that the Government have made the concession which has been repeatedly urged upon them by Mr. Henniker Heaton in regard to private post cards. The public will in future be able to use their own cards with a halfpenny stamp affixed, instead of having to purchase the official stationery.

The full regulations have not yet appeared, but there can be no doubt that they will be stringent as regards both size and quality of the cards to be used. Unless something like uniformity is attained in these respects there will be an obvious risk of loss in transit, and we trust that, in addition to the foregoing, the Government will lay down explicit instructions as to what shall be printed on the front side. Unless this is done, there will inevitably be an infinite variety "issued" by enterprising stationers and manufacturers, to constitute an attraction to the uninitiated collector. If therefore, as seems probable, there should be a holocaust of varieties of "private post cards," we can only earnestly impress upon their would-be collectors that these varieties are unofficial in every sense, and of no more Philatelic value than German locals or Hamburg-Heligoland Reprints. Although this warning may sound superfluous, it is really hardly so in view of the modern tendency to "catalogue" everything English, from an Irish postmark to a brace of missing punctuations in the perforations.

There can be no doubt that the innovation is a sensible one. The Post-office exists mainly as a great public benefit, and not as an instrument for raising taxes. The compulsory payment of one penny for every packet of 10 (white) post cards, *i.e.* over 16 per cent. of the value, has been in the nature of

a tax on the letter-writing public that should have been swept away long since. The stationery trades will now have an opportunity of competing for the manufacture and sale of this card, and the inevitable result will be the gain of the British public.

One effect of this new departure will probably be to give the death blow to the absurd system at present in vogue, by which a penny post card can be purchased for a penny, but two halfpenny ones cost one penny farthing!

It is to be hoped that the size will be increased to about that of the current German cards, as with the present dimensions, after writing or printing the sender's address, there is but scant room for a dozen or two of words. Another *desideratum* is the colour of the card, which should be uniformly white, as shewing the writing more plainly. In both business and private circles there will probably be a largely extended use of these cards, nor do we think the postal revenue likely to suffer thereby: the greater the convenience the greater the usor—a lesson that the railway companies are slowly learning at the hands of the third-class traveller.

Notes on the Enbelopes for Temporary Postage, used at the Houses of Parliament in 1840.

A Paper read before the Philatelic Society, London, 25th May, 1894.

By FREDERICK A. PHILBRICK (Past President).

(*Revised and augmented by the Author.*)



FOR some time I have endeavoured to collect such information as was available, and to collate all the specimens of which particulars were to be obtained, of the envelopes issued by the Postmaster-General for temporary use by members of Parliament in 1840. This issue has always appeared to me to present some features of peculiar interest, as connoting the earliest but tentative application of Rowland Hill's great plan of uniform Penny Postage, and also as being the first with an official notification on the face of the letter of the reduction of the postal rates.

In 1839 Parliament passed the Act establishing the new system, and authorising the Treasury to fix new rates for the entire Kingdom. On the 9th December of that year the uniform rate of 4d. for postage of a single or half-ounce letter was established for the United Kingdom. On January 10th, 1840, the fourpence was lowered to one penny; but it was not till the following May that any stamps, covers, or envelopes were ready and issued for public use.

Meantime, beyond some necessary changes in the postmarks applied to the letters in the offices, there was no outward and visible sign or public notification of the new rates on them. The writers prepared and posted

their communications exactly as their grandfathers had done before them, the rates being defrayed in all cases in money.

The privilege of franking enjoyed by members of both Houses of Parliament ceased under the Act when the penny rate came into force, and to obviate as far as might be the inconvenience thus occasioned, it occurred to those who were entrusted with bringing the new system into operation, that a plan might be commenced there under favourable auspices, which would afford some assistance when the issue of stamps became general. After discussion it was resolved to procure from Her Majesty's Stationery Office a supply of blank envelopes, and to imprint on their face the new reduced rate, with certain instructions to meet the circumstances.

On 12th January, 1840, Mr. Vardon, the Librarian, writing from the Library of the House of Commons, informed Rowland Hill:

"I have written to the Stationery Office, ordering the stamps requisite for working out the plan at the House of Commons. I shall deliver no stamps without the money, so as to check the returns."

What these propositions were subsequently appears; but it may here be stated that the issue was intended to be limited to members of the Houses of Lords and Commons, a separate colour distinguishing them. The envelopes were to be supplied through the Librarian of each House only, with each of whom an account was to be opened. It was also intended that each member should before posting sign his name on the cover, but by some accident this regulation was omitted to be printed on them. To prevent complication in Post-offices, the officials of which could *not* be expected to know the details of this experiment, the covers were to be posted at the Houses of Parliament only, and were to be of no avail if posted elsewhere.

The colour chosen for the House of Lords was red, that for the House of Commons black. Similar regulations were adopted for each House.

Parliament met on 14th January, 1840, and a paper, of which the following is a copy, was distributed to the members on the 16th. It is printed on laid foolscap paper in largish type:

"LETTER COVERS, which will pass free through the Post-office, are prepared for the use of Members of Parliament, and may be bought at the Office for the sale of Parliamentary Papers in the Members' Waiting-room.

"These covers being available for the Houses of Parliament only, will be charged if posted elsewhere.

"The last bag from the House of Commons for the General Post will in future be despatched at half-past six o'clock.

"The covers will pass free by the London Penny Post, if put into the bags after two o'clock."

Copies of this paper were also circulated in the Libraries of both Houses.

The speech from the Throne contained the following paragraph:

"I have lost no time in carrying into effect the intention of Parliament by the reduction of the duties on Postage, and I trust that the beneficial effects of this measure will be felt throughout all classes of the community."

Rowland Hill, whose duties in introducing the new system required

constant communication with the Chancellor of the Exchequer and other Treasury officials, had an office assigned him at 11, Downing Street, and his memoranda shew he was in daily consulation with the Treasury, and also with the Speaker of the House of Commons at this time (13th January).

One great feature in the problem to be worked out was to protect the Department against the danger of forgery, and the host of suggestions made had all to be considered, and, as is well known, it was not till the beginning of the following May that stamps and envelopes were ready for public use.

Meantime, to carry out the proposals for a temporary issue for members, the final arrangements had been concluded by Rowland Hill and the officials of the two Houses. He notes in his diary, under date 14th January, 1840, "Went to P.O. with Mr. Vardon and arranged the matter."—R.H.

In these days of machine-made envelopes, folded exact to a hair's breadth, one finds it difficult to bring the mind back to the period when the folding was all done by hand, and consequently variations in size, which now would strike the eye of the unobservant, were the rule and not the exception. The unfolded blanks were machine-cut, and, after being folded, were printed with the legends and in the colours as arranged.

There were three distinct forms of these envelopes:

1. For the House of Lords, red imprint.
2. „ House of Commons, black imprint.
3. „ Houses of Parliament, also in black.

The reason for this third set, applicable to both Houses, seems to have been a later idea; but from the dates on such used copies as I have met with, there is ground for supposing the actual issue took place very shortly after the Parliamentary Session had commenced. The inscription on the House of Lords envelopes was headed "(Temporary)," in the centre of the upper part of the face, and then in two lines below,

"To be posted at the HOUSE OF LORDS only."
"Post Paid—ONE PENNY.—Weight not to exceed ½ oz."

Two sizes are known: the smaller on plain, thickish, yellow-wove paper, measuring 122 × 83 millimetres. The larger, on bluish paper vertically laid, 130½ × 90½ mm. In both one flap (the left regarding the envelope face to the spectator) is truncated, the others pointed.

An interesting copy of the former, directed by F.M. the Duke of Wellington to Mr. H. Nuttall Tomling, who was Clerk of Indictments on the Western Circuit, was shewn at the recent Exhibition of the Society, postmark dated 1st May, 1840; a copy, also addressed in the great Duke's autograph, is in the Tapling Collection, postmark dated 31st March—year indistinct, but no doubt 1840.

The larger size is scarce, but an entire copy was on view at the Society's recent exhibition; it bears the signature of the Earl of "Ellenborough" at the lower left corner, and is postmarked 4.2.40. The habit of franking which required such signature was familiar to those accustomed to use the old privilege, and it is not unlikely the Lords were requested to authenticate the envelope by signature as the members of the Lower House.

In type the legends on the two sizes are almost identical, though there are

two distinct settings up, and in the larger one the second line ends with a final dot, which is omitted in the smaller. The straight line too beneath the legend is differently placed with regard to the lettering above, but is of the same length, viz. 42 mm. The only other copy of the larger size I have a note of is that belonging to Mr. Ferrary, but his specimen is not entire.

The House of Commons.

There only appear to have been one size and one paper in these, but in speaking of sizes the variation due to hand folding must not be lost sight of. The legend is printed in black, and runs in two lines:

"To be posted at the House of Commons only."
"Post Paid.—ONE PENNY.—Weight not to exceed ½ oz."

With a straight line beneath, 42 mm. long.

The normal size is 130 × 95 mm., and the paper thin wove, unwatermarked, and bluish in tint.

There are two settings up of type known; in one the lower straight line shews a break, but in the other it is continuous.

The dates of the postmarks I have seen are chiefly in March, 1840, and most specimens bear the signature of the sender, as on a frank, and in compliance with the request of the Speaker.

Houses of Parliament.

There were two values of these, 1d. and 2d., designed for use by both Lords and Commons, and though, as remarked, one would expect them to be of a later issue, the postmarks I have seen are early in January, 1840. The legend is in black,—

"To be posted at the Houses of Parliament only.
"Post Paid.—ONE PENNY.—Weight not to exceed ½ ounce."

This is found both with and without a plain line, 42 mm. below bottom line of legend. The paper in the former variety was plain blue wove—one flap truncated. Size, 125 × 90 mm.

The second variety has a line of 42 mm. beneath legend. The paper is bluish *laid* foolscap, with the common Britannia watermark in oval under a Crown, a manufacturer's mark. Size 128 × 90. Postmarked 28.1.40., on a cut copy.

There is another or third variety, with lower line, differing only in being printed on bluish *wove* unwatermarked paper. The copy I know is postmarked in January, 1840.

Same TWOPENCE, rather larger in size; inscription as before, but the legend in the second line reads,

"Post Paid.—TWOPENCE.—Weight not to exceed 1 oz."

The paper bluish laid, watermark makers' name "Harris and Tremlett, 1839," in open line capitals, diagonally, and by comparison looks identical with that used for the second variety of the One Penny above described. The size is 137 × 93 (my own copy which is cut).

Mons. Mahé informs me that M. Ferrary's copy measures 136 × 98, the material variation from mine being in the depth.

My copy, too, is franked by a member who, disregarding the instructions, posted it at Bridge St., Westminster, addressed to the Earl of Lichfield, the Postmaster-General. The clerks in the office sent it on, but noticed the breach of directions, underscoring the special part in red ink. There is no postmark of date; but M. Ferrary's is marked 13 Mar., 1840.

Besides these envelopes bands imprinted in black "Par. Pro. (*i.e.* Parliamentary Proceedings) to be posted at the House of Commons only, Post Paid," without any value expressed, were in use in 1840 and still are current. These are of little Philatelic interest, nor do I think they stand on the same footing as the temporary envelopes—the subject of this paper. Certain Parliamentary papers by statute are transmissible through the Post free of charge from the Houses of Parliament, and these bands bearing only the imprint given above, and no designation of value, hardly claim title to further notice in this paper.

The appearance of these envelopes, and the forthcoming general issue to the public, naturally attracted the attention of members of Parliament to the subject. One reads in *Hansard's Debates* on 17th January: Sir Robert Peel asked the Chancellor of the Exchequer (the Rt. Hon. F. T. Baring) when the stamped covers would be introduced, and if, in the event of a likelihood of great delay, it might not be possible to introduce them in the Metropolitan District. Mr. Baring, in reply, felt a difficulty in fixing a definite period; the delay had not arisen from his being unable to introduce them with facility, but from its being of the utmost importance to introduce stamps which would effectually prevent the danger of forgery.

The next day (18th) Sir R. Peel said that the Chancellor of the Exchequer appeared to have anticipated his suggestion of a partial experiment of stamped covers in providing them for the use of members of Parliament. He thought there ought to be an understanding whether these were for the exclusive use of members only. The only regulation appearing on them was that they should be posted at the House of Commons. He wanted to know if any hon. member was at liberty to purchase several hundreds or thousands and distribute them among his friends.

Mr. Baring said the cover which the right hon. gentleman held in his hand *had no power of franking* a letter by the post, but for the convenience of members an arrangement had been made, not under warrant, but after communicating with the Post-office authorities, by which the Librarian of the House was to take under his charge the sale of these stamped covers, and an account to be opened against him at the Post-office. It was undoubtedly open to any member to purchase a number and distribute them among his friends; but he apprehended no bad consequence, as the sale could only be to members by parties acquainted with members. He also proposed that each member should sign his name on the cover; that regulation had been omitted by some accidental error.

The Speaker said he would give directions to the Librarian to sell covers to none but members, and to receive none but such as had the member's signature in the corner.

On February 27th, in answer to Sir R. Peel's enquiry, Mr. Baring could not say how soon the general issue to the public would take place; it was

intended in the first instance to limit their use to the Twopenny Post district, or at all events not to extend them beyond the local posts, namely, the district formerly subject to a 2d. rate, and which now formed the London district.

The pages of *Hansard* contain no other reference I have found to these temporary envelopes; but the reason for the signature of the member, as to a frank, is clearly explained by the Speaker's instructions to the Librarian, and the answers of the Chancellor of the Exchequer account for the limited use of these envelopes.

Most of those preserved to this date have been discovered among collections of franks, which are in a sense the forerunners of stamp collecting. I fear, however, but few remain to reward the research of the Philatelist, though now and again one crops up.

As closely connected with the subject, it may be of interest to note that on 8th May, 1840, Sir Robert Peel asked if it was intended to permanently retain the ornamental engraving which appeared on the outside of the (Mulready) covers? He did not question the merits of the design as a work of art, but it was inconvenient, and if curtailed would afford more space for the address. Mr. Baring said the persons appointed to give a judgment on the design had come to a different conclusion from that which appeared to be the general opinion. He thought too much space was occupied by the figures. There would be scarcely any expense in changing the design, the object of the engraving of which on the cover was to afford as much check as possible against forgery.

SUMMARY.

Issue—16th January, 1840.

1. House of Lords, printed in red (Temporary), one penny.
   - (*a*) Small size, 122 × 83 mm., on yellow wove paper, 1st setting up.
   - (*b*) Larger, 130½ × 90½ mm., on bluish laid paper, 2nd setting up, dot after ½ oz.
2. House of Commons, one penny, printed in black, on unwatermarked thin bluish wove paper.
   - (*a*) Small size (130 × 95), continuous straight line below legend.
   - (*b*) „ „ broken „ „
3. Houses of Parliament, in black, size 125 × 90 mm.
   - I. One Penny.
     - (*a*) On plain bluish wove paper, not watermarked, with lower line
     - (*b*) „ „ „ „ without „
     - (*c*) On bluish laid paper, maker's watermark Britannia, with lower line, 128 × 90 mm.
   - II. Twopence.
     - (*a*) On bluish laid paper, large size, 137 × 98 mm.

Of postmarks the earliest date I have found is 16th January, 1840, on the "Houses of Parliament," variety (*a*). The latest is on the "House of Lords," 1st May, variety (*a*) also.

I wish to acknowledge my obligations to Mr. E. D. Bacon and Mons. Mahé for details of specimens in the Tapling and Ferrary collections, and I should be grateful for particulars of any omissions from this list, if sent to the publishers of the *London Philatelist.*

Half Hours with the Australian Stamps.

A Paper read before the Philatelic Society, London, November 9th, 1893.

By M. P. CASTLE, Vice-President.

THE SECOND PLATE OF THE 2d. LAUREATED SERIES OF NEW SOUTH WALES.



T somewhat short notice I have been asked to read a paper to-night, and I must apologise if the subject is neither in importance or length of treatment one of a very important nature. In the November number of the *London Philatelist* there were some notes on a list of the more salient or principal varieties of the type-engraved stamps of New South Wales. Mr. A. J. Derrick, of the Sydney Philatelic Society, had read a paper before that body giving the leading characteristics of the earlier issues, and pointing out the principal collectable varieties both as to type and paper. To Mr. Derrick's excellent list the editor of the *London Philatelist* added a number of varieties, but with regard to this particular plate intimating an intention to deal with them at a subsequent plate. I will, however, now forestall him in this laudable intention! I should mention that Mr. Derrick, in his list, calls this plate No. III., according to tradition, but I believe it is now an established fact, that this was really an intermediary or *second* plate, being used while or before the so-called plate III. was being re-engraved on the old metal. I would like here to interpolate a remark or two on the object of Mr. Derrick's paper—the collection of the leading varieties in each plate to the exclusion of the remainder of the types. I have personally strained my eyes too many thousands of times in "plating" to turn round and rend anyone who was guilty of the same enfeeblement of one's powers of vision, and I do not for a moment wish to discourage anyone who "seriously" collects a type-abounding country from his long and interesting struggle to achieve finality. Still it is obvious, and daily growing more so, that completeness in even a limited sphere in this direction is beyond the attainment of the general body of Philatelists. The point of Mr. Derrick's paper which I wish to strongly emphasise, is that—because *complete* plates are beyond a collector's reach, he should either be discouraged or cease collecting the stamps of that particular country. Nothing is more to be avoided than this, as it would inevitably have a bad effect upon the philatelic future. Comparisons *are* odious, but must always exist as regards collections; even those who think themselves practically perfect as regards a particular country often have their egotistically pleasant dreams rudely dispelled by the sight of an almost immaculate collection. Even this would be distanced by a post-office official collection *ab initio*, with complete sheets of every issue and every printing. Not even the post-offices have these, so practically there is no philatelic perfection, and every collector is but toiling up one step or other on the slopes of Parnassus!

Further than this, the pressing need, notably in New South Wales, for the formation of entire plates has passed away. Thanks to the more recent exertions of Philatelists in this country and Australia we know now the exact position and number of all the types of the separately engraved sheets. These have been reproduced, and will again ere long be so with far greater excellence, so that a collector who but takes the leading characteristics of each plate, could mount and bind the photographic reproduction at the end of his volume (as in catalogues, etc.), and his collection, even if not so extensive as one with all types, would be equally based on scientific lines. The collection that acknowledges the existence of all varieties will always be regarded as founded on true philatelic lines, and would always invite and repay inspection. If I were re-starting the collection of the Australian colonies, I should probably content myself with the leading varieties, and, limited to this, the stamps of this quarter of the world would yield to none in the advantages they offer to collectors. I have ventured to make these remarks, as I have noted of late a tendency to collect type stamps on each paper—laid, wove, ribbed, etc., and the same again unused. This is, of course, a matter of fancy, and is true "bloating," as Mr. M. Burnett dubbed the science of accumulation; hence I think the advocacy of a system that counteracts this tendency is one that is worthy of the attention of the members of this London Society.

The inferiority of the work executed by Mr. Jarvis compared with that of his predecessors (Messrs. Clayton and Carmichael) is too evident to require any comment in this paper, and moreover the history of his and other contemporaneous engravers' efforts has been so fully unearthed that there is no occasion for me to occupy time or space by "recounting a twice-told tale." This plate of the Laureated series commonly known as "the twopenny, Star," was engraved on copper and rapidly wore away with use, hence among the large proportion of worn dies that are found it can readily be imagined that the few slight differences in detail to which I propose to call attention should have escaped the notice of collectors. One error however is well known—unmistakably an orthographical one—the word WALES misspelt WAEES in the third stamp in the third row, No. 23. Beyond the necessary variations in all separately engraved stamps I do not, however, find any particular prominent variety in the lettering of the other stamps on the sheet, although the "E" of WALES on Nos. 7, 8, and 9 has such a small middle stroke as to make it almost like an "L" with an additional upper stroke, as on the 3d. of the Carmichael series. As regards the 6-rayed star in the angles, the foliate ornaments at right, and the looped lines on either side, I cannot find, on a cursory examination, anything that really constitutes an exception, such as would make it a collectable variety to a "non plater."

The bust of the Queen has been provided by Mr. Jarvis with a variety of expressions more or less grotesque, and a pronounced squint has been developed, in some cases absolutely in variance with the then girlish and charming expression of Her Gracious Majesty. The treatment of the hair is also one that would hardly have commended itself to the *perruquiers* of even 40 years ago, while the Laurel Crown or wreath is certainly very large if not very fine. This wreath is apparently attached to Her Majesty's *chevelure* by

a ribbon or band that encircles the head, and being tied in a knot behind displays its two ends. The relative position and size of these ends, which have somewhat irreverently been christened "bobtails" by modern writers, varies considerably, and in Nos. 10, 41, and 50 on the plate these "tails" disappear, and have as a substitute but a very short excrescence, which might well be taken for a malformed laurel leaf. There may be other types similarly treated, but unfortunately the obliterations of ancient days in the Australian colonies were super-imposed, with a sublime indifference to the labours of future Philatelists.

It will be seen on closely examining the label at the base containing the words of value, "TWO PENCE," that the engraver probably first lined out an oblong rectangular space, by making at either end a number of vertical strokes on the inner sides of the angle stars. He then apparently cut off each corner by making a few oblique strokes, thus making the rectangular-shaped space into an oblong octagon. This was done in a crude and irregular fashion, that I may almost designate spasmodic and careless.

It will be seen that even this simple operation was not effected by Mr. Jarvis without mistakes. In specimens Nos. 22, 23, 24, and 25, on the third row, the right hand of this label containing the value has only the lower corner so cut off, and is thus left a seven instead of an eight-sided figure or shape. On the same row, No. 30, a still more patent error has been committed; at the right hand the engraver has omitted to cut off either corner, and the label is therefore but six-sided instead of eight. In Nos. 38 and 39 the same mistake has been narrowly escaped, the left hand upper corner being only cut off by a single thick stroke that has, with many others, apparently disappeared on the recent reprinted plates of this value. There are probably other noteworthy variations on the plate, but with the limited time at my disposal in making these notes they have escaped my notice.

There are no very marked differences of the paper, which is of a stout wove texture, varying from pale greyish-blue to blue; but, as in the case of other values of the Laureated series, this stamp is met with shewing a ribbing in the paper horizontally, as in the specimens now submitted. There is also to be noticed the remarkable deterioration in the die; specimens shewing the entire details and in the earliest stages of the plate are, in my judgment, scarce, thus shewing that, as with the Sydneys, the wear was most rapid.

To sum up the list of collectable varieties for the "non-plater," I venture to cite the following:

Plate II., with 6-rayed Stars in angles.

2d., blue, shades; paper greyish-blue to full blue.
2d., paper ribbed (or *rayé*) horizontally.
2d., blue, worn die; generally on the blue paper.
2d., No. 23; error WAEES.
2d., seven-sided label of value (Nos. 22, 23, 24, 25).
2d., six-sided „ „ (No. 30).
2d., head without hanging ribbons (Nos. 10, 41, and 50).

A "non-plater" could thus take the three varieties of paper, *i.e.* the two shades and the ribbed, and the four varieties of error, *i.e.* WAEES, the one six

and one seven-sided label, and one ribbonless or "bobtail," and this with a worn specimen would make eight stamps in all; add to this a couple more for shades, and I will challenge anyone looking through a collection containing these ten stamps to say that it does not represent all that is most interesting, and assuredly all that is necessary for the average collector, say of this country and its colonies, to acquire.

The somewhat marked way in which I have emphasised my views as to the non-necessity of "taking all plates" has been elicited by frequent expressions of discouragement to me on the part of brother collectors, and will, I trust, afford a legitimate excuse for this short note, that would otherwise hardly be afforded by the contents of the paper itself.

Philatelic Notes.

NOTE.—*Under this title will be found all notes relating to postal issues other than those that are chronicled as current novelties, or which form the subject of special articles. The co-operation of Philatelists is invited in order to make this column of a varied and interesting nature.*

MARGINAL WATERMARKS.

NEVIS.—Mr. W. T. Willett informs us that he has a specimen of the 1867 issue of this country of the engraved series, 4d., yellow, showing a portion of a watermark consisting of the letters "S U," and would be glad to hear of other copies with a view to ascertaining the full inscription.

DISCOVERIES.

BARBADOS.—Mr. W. Thorne, the Vice-President of the Philatelic Society of New York, who has recently been spending a visit to this country, gave us the pleasure of making his personal acquaintance, and we were enabled to inspect a portion of his well known Philatelic riches. Among the West Indian stamps we noticed a shade of the 1882 issue of Barbados, which, so far as we are aware, has not been chronicled in any of the leading works. It consists of the 1d., *rose violacé*, of a "rose" shade, in full colour, but partaking distinctly of a violet tone, rendering it quite distinct from and darker than the ordinary rose.

CHILI.—From the same collection we were also enabled to inspect a sheet of the 1852 issue of this country, which Mr. Thorne rightly thinks it would be of interest to communicate to collectors, as not having been mentioned in any catalogue, and of which he also possesses a used specimen. Chili, 1852, 5 c., full warm red; watermark numeral, varying in size; paper thickish white hand-made wove, but ribbed vertically. In the centre of the sheet is a watermark, the Chilian Arms, with scrolled motto below measuring 3 to 3½ inches in width, and placed vertically in relation to the stamp. (More varieties to excite the wrath of the modern Pendragons!) The sheet contains 72 stamps in six horizontal rows of 12 stamps, and is from the design engraved by Messrs.

Perkins, Bacon & Co. Mr. Thorne would be glad to know if other collectors are acquainted with this variety.

WEST AUSTRALIA.—From Dr. E. Diena we have a specimen of the 1d., bistre, watermark CC and Cr., perf. 14, imperforate horizontally. The stamp in question has been roughly separated from its neighbours, and both above and below has a jagged edge, but as the remnant of paper left shews an outside vertical measurement of 15 mm., we fail to see how it could have been perforated horizontally, and it is probably therefore part of a row that the perforating machine failed to finish.

Occasional Notes.

PRESENTATIONS TO THE "TAPLING COLLECTION."

BERMUDA.—1 sh., green, watermark Crown C.C., *perf.* $14+12\frac{1}{2}$.—Mr. W. W. Blest.

GREAT BRITAIN.—A specimen of the 3d., 1860, embossed Inland Revenue, with a rough perforation of 12, which is probably unofficial.—Mr. W. Morley.

A specimen of the 1 sh., 1871, embossed Inland Revenue, perf. $12\frac{1}{2}$.—Mr. E. D. Bacon.

An unused pair of the current $\frac{1}{2}$d., printed on the gummed side.—Mr. A. B. Creeke, jun.

The current $\frac{1}{2}$d., with marginal letters J. L. & K., and the current 1d., with letters P. Q. & R.—Mr. A. Levy.

(The following letters are still wanted: $\frac{1}{2}$d., without line; letter E, $\frac{1}{2}$d., with line; letters B., C., D., E., F., G., H., and I., 1d., without letter; 1d., with line, letter N crossed out and O printed in its place.)

Two of the current registration envelopes, with errors.—Mr. Wm. Brown.

Telegraph form A 1., with 6d., reddish lilac stamp, dated 12. 8. 87. The form is similar to that of the current 6d. A 1., but it has "Harrison and Sons, Printers, London," in the right lower corner, in place of "Printed by McCorquodale & Co., Limited."—Major E. B. Evans.

NEW SOUTH WALES.—An unused specimen of the 5 sh., issue April, 1861, *perforated 12.*—The Earl of Kingston. [Very rare.—ED.]

(In the list given in the May number, the Gt. Britain Telegraph, "4d., plate 4," is of course a misprint for "3d.")

MEXICO.—Three stamps of the eagle series, with surcharges not in the collection.—Mr. W. T. Wilson.

IMPERIAL PHILATELIC PATRONAGE.

THAT most gracious of sovereigns, His Majesty the Emperor of Austria and King of Hungary, once more evidenced the catholicity of his sympathies by paying a visit to the recent Philatelic Exhibition at Vienna. His Imperial Majesty was personally conducted around the exhibits by Herr Heinrich Koch, the principal promoter of the affair, and was apparently interested in all he saw, while the leading exhibitors had the honour of a

personal introduction to the Emperor, who left behind him such a pleasant and gracious impression that the exuberance of delight led to an impromptu toasting of His Majesty by all the Philatelists present after his departure.

IMPERIAL PENNY POSTAGE.

THE battle-royal on this subject is still being waged, the condition of success varying from time to time, and judging from the following resolution, adopted at the recent Australasian Postal Conference, the achievement of this most desirable and sensible aim is still far away:

"That with regard to the proposals from time to time made for penny postage between Great Britain and the Colonies, and, more recently, that such be adopted for letters from the United Kingdom, leaving the rate from the Colonies as at present, this Conference, while recognising the desirableness of adopting the lowest possible rate, desires to express the opinion that the heavy cost of providing speedy and regular communication does not admit of any further reduction being made at the present time, the reduction to 2½d. in 1891 having resulted in an annual loss to the Colonies of about £40,000, and that the partial reduction proposed—namely, in the rate from Great Britain—would be most undesirable, as such a measure would compel the Colonies to reduce their inland and inter-colonial rates from 2d. to 1d., involving a probable loss to them of a quarter of a million per annum in addition to that already mentioned as the result of the reduction to 2½d.; and that a copy of the foregoing be transmitted to the Imperial Government."

HER MAJESTY'S PHILATELIC PORTRAITURE.

A LETTER recently appeared in *The Times* reflecting upon the want of likeness in the portraits of Her Majesty the Queen as depicted upon the stamps of this country and its colonies. It is true that for many years the same youthful face (and charming picture) served for all the presentments of Her Gracious Majesty, and that her portrayers dealt too leniently with the changes that are inevitable to human nature. This anachronism has however more recently been modified by the issue of stamps in various colonies, shewing Her Majesty of later years in her widow's dress, and we are informed on excellent authority that a still further step in this direction is contemplated in the new issue of stamps for that vast realm whence Her Majesty derives her title as Empress. We are informed by a correspondent, who has seen the dies, that in the new issue for India the stamps of 2, 3, and 5 rupees, as well as the newspaper wrapper, have been supplied with an excellent likeness of the Queen. The design is taken from the well-known picture by Angeli, which represents Her Majesty *as she is*, and is in every way an admirable portraiture. The head on the wrapper is somewhat larger than that on the stamps, but in both cases is a distinct improvement on those current in this country.

FORGERIES OF SPAIN WITH CENTRE INVERTED.

MR. M. GIWELB writes as under a most useful warning against a remarkably clever swindle:

"I wish to call your attention to a most dangerous forgery which had made its appearance a short time ago—it is the Spanish stamp of issue 1865, 12 cuartos *imper-*

forated and *perforated*, with inverted head. The manipulation is carried out in the following manner: A real stamp is taken, and by chemicals the red colour of the centre removed; the centre thus becomes white, and is carefully scraped down very thin. Then another genuine stamp is taken, and the head is cut out just outside the inner blue line, and also scraped down very thin. This head is then placed upon the white centre of the above described stamp, and, being put under great pressure, becomes so even that it absolutely defies detection. The only slight difference that is noticeable at first sight is the colour of the red in the centre, which is paler than in the proper stamps. I happened to be in Paris at the beginning of this month, and a friend of mine warned me of the existence of these forgeries, and also told me they are being made in Paris. After my return home I soon received a letter from abroad containing two of these 'precious' things, one perforated and one imperforate. I knew very well that they were forgeries, but could not find out how it was done. I put the one stamp in water and left it there for half a day, but it came out intact! I bent it about from the back, put it under a strong microscope, measured it *all ways;* in short, I spent several hours, but all in vain. Next day I met a very prominent Philatelist, and invited him to come and look at these 'inverted heads.' He came with a friend of his, and then the three of us started a most minute examination, but could find nothing. I put the stamps in boiling water, but they came out just the same as they were put in. We had nearly given it up, when it occurred to me to try the outside of the stamp. I simply bent the stamp from the outside, and there, behold! the centre peeled off so nicely that we were all taken by surprise. We examined the stamps again, with the result I have described above. I hope you will give publicity to this matter."

NEW FORGERIES.

THE Philatelic Protection Association hereby warn Philatelists against the following dangerous forgeries which have been brought under their notice:

TURKEY.—Gibbon's type 3134. Issue 1884–1887, 25 piastres, black and grey, and 25 piastres, carmine and yellow. Very dangerous forgeries. These are also reported to the Association by Mr. W. Stotzer, Berlin.

UNITED STATES.—Issue 1869, 15 cents and 24 cents, with reversed centres. Very dangerous forgeries of both these values have been seen by the Association, emanating from Paris. They are both made up most cleverly from genuine specimens. The central design being peeled off without injuring the back of the stamp in any way, then reversed and re-placed under high pressure. Collectors and dealers are advised to closely examine any specimens that may be offered.

VICTORIA.—Gibbons' type 3389 and 3390. Issue 1874–9, 1d., green on *yellow*; 1d., green on *grey*; 2d., lilac on *green*; 2d., lilac on *buff*. A number of the ordinary varieties on white paper, changed to the tints enumerated above, have lately been placed on the market. The paper has a stained and blotched appearance, the colouring matter not having been evenly distributed, whilst the postmarks are of a later date than the originals. FREDK. R. GINN, *Hon. Secretary.*

[We have examined a large number of the Victorians, and can fully confirm what is said hereon by the P.P.A.—ED.]

PHILATELY IN INDIA.

WE can testify from personal experience both as to the number of postage stamp and well-informed collectors in the "Capital of India," and at the time being expressed our surprise that a city embracing so many Philatelists as Calcutta should be without a society. This has however since been altered, as the Philatelic Society of Bengal was formed in February of this year, and already numbers over 60 members. Our *confrère* Mr. G. J. Hynes, the Deputy Director General of the Post-office of India, is President; Mr. E. A. Lyall, Vice-President; and Mr. E. Berthoud, Hon. Sec. (1, Wood Street, Calcutta). The heartiest congratulations of all at home will be forthcoming to this latest and most successful of Philatelic Societies.

A still further evidence of the Philatelic awakening of India is that afforded by the appearance of the *Philatelic World*, published by Mr. B. Gordon Jones, 6, Mission Row, Calcutta, the first number of which lies before us. The matter therein consists of 16 pages of good readable matter, printed in excellent legible type, and includes an interview with the President of the Calcutta Society, and a comprehensive review. There is a tendency to follow the American lead in adopting articles from other journals, which should only be indulged in to a limited extent; but altogether the *Philatelic World* redounds vastly to the credit of its Editor, and we wish them both every success.

THE PHILATELIC AWAKENING OF ITALY.

WE have recently alluded to the marked evidence of the rise of Philately in Italy, and a further proof is now forthcoming in the foundation of a Philatelic Society in Naples, under the Presidency of Signor L. Petroni. The Hon. Sec. is Signor R. Palmieri (8, Via Monteroduni, Naples), and the head-quarters of the Society, which is nigh the *Circolo Filatelico Napolitano*, are Ottagono Galleria Umberto I., N. 8, Naples. It appears that there are over thirty Foundation Members, and that the Society is therefore on a very solid basis. There must be a large number of collectors in the Peninsula, and we anticipate that this Society is only the forerunner of many others. The more the merrier.

IN THE STRAND.

THE change of domicile of Mr. F. R. Ginn to No. 143, Strand, was briefly noted in our last issue, and we have now been enabled by personal inspection to ascertain that the new tenant is not only installed, but is apparently as well seated in the saddle as if he had been a tenant for years of these commodious premises. For purposes of examination of stamps no better rooms could be devised, as the whole front is composed of large windows, beneath which the philatelic fly who walks into the web can pick out his want without any strain on his optics! Various books of Australian and Colonial stamps were shewn us by Mr. Ginn, containing many fine stamps, while his collection of the United States stamps, part

of which he also shewed, was an absolute proof that no one is a better judge of perfect condition and "splendid copies" than the enterprising vendor. Mr. Ginn is clearly one of the coming dealers, and has doubtless exercised a wise discretion in shifting his quarters to the "Highway of Philately."

ENGLISH AS SHE IS SPOKE.

MESSRS. BERNARD AND CO. have sent us the following, and as we think it interesting we give our readers an opportunity of sharing the pleasure we found in its perusal. Any work emanating from Dr. Legrand cannot fail to be of general interest, and we wish it and Messrs. Bernard and Co. every success in its distribution. We understand that the Exhibition has made a successful *début*, and hope to give full information later on.

Paris, August 1, 1894.

DEAR SIR,

We beg to inform you we think publish in a short time the "MANUEL DE L'AMATEUR DE TIMBRES" by the Dr LEGRAND.

The well known competency of the author in point of *timbrology*, his particulary knowledges in that matter, on account of whom he was nominated President of the Timbrologic Exhibition in 1892, guarantee to the work a great success near to the *philatelist* amateurs. They shall find in this Hand-book all the necessary indications for the distinction and classification of their postage-stamps. Numerous engravings intercalated in the text will besides guide them in their inquiries.

In short, the Dr LEGRAND's Handbook will be for the collectors an indispensable and very perfect *vade-mecum*, of about 400 pages in-8° square.

Convinced that our new book shall soon be in the hands of all the *timbrophiles*, we think it should be very profitable to adjoin to the book a few pages reservated to the publicity, interesting the collectors. We have fixed as after the price of the advertisements, viz:

1 page . .	16 × 8 centimeter	50 francs	= £ 2.	payment against sending of the work.
1/2 page .	8 × 8 —	30 —	= £ 1 S. 4	
1/4 page .	4 × 8 —	20 —	= S. 16.	

The cheapness and the sure produce of this publicity make us hoping you will give us an order for attracting upon your house the notice of all the collectors, which all shall soon possess the Dr LEGRAND's Hand-book.

Awaiting the favour of an early answer, we remain, Dear Sir,

Yours Truly,

E. BERNARD & C°

TIMBROLOGIC SECTION at the BOOK'S EXHIBITION

In remembrance of this Exhibition, we shall publish in a few days, WITH LICENCE OF THE ADMINISTRATION

1° a *Postal-card.* — 2° a *Letter-card.* — 3° an *Envelope;* the three things are illustrated; *they are stamped by the Post-Office.*

These things, which interest all the timbrophiles, will be alone sold into the Book's Exhibition of the Industry's Palace.

If you will apply yourself to the sale of them, we shall send you any specimens with our terms.

Reviews.

CATALOGUE OF THE WINZER COLLECTION.*

THE *raison d'être* of this little work is expressed in the preface as being "a really trustworthy price list of those stamps which range in order of merit from 'scarce' to 'very rare.'" It is obviously hardly within the scope of this Journal to express any opinion of the way in which this want has been carried out; but even if the *dicta* of this eminent firm be not taken as absolutely infallible, we think it only right to pass such a work briefly under review, in order that our readers may have an opportunity of forming a judgment for themselves. In general the prices are very high, and would make the shade of Pemberton turn in its grave. The best test will, however, be their sale, and in this we have the authority of Messrs. Stanley Gibbons to say that in the short period that has elapsed since the publication of the Catalogue, nearly 25 per. cent of the stamps quoted have been disposed of. The rise in the prices of unused stamps, notably those of Europeans, is a prominent feature in the Catalogue, which embraces 56 pages of clearly-printed type on excellent paper, and will no doubt command a wide sale as being a useful guide to collectors. The essential feature of this book is that it actually represents "living" and real stamps, accurately described as to condition, and is therefore the reverse of the vast majority of priced catalogues, which simply either reveal the ignorance of their compilers as to true values, or are, like diplomacy, a method of concealing the real policy.

MESSRS. MEKEEL'S CATALOGUE.*

Of making catalogues there is no end, and the modern Philatelist can employ all his leisure in comparing the various methods of collation and valuation! The latest comer, as may be expected, emanating from such a widely-known firm as Messrs. Mekeel, has much to recommend it. In size it resembles that of M. Moens, and, according to the now accepted plan, the text (except in the case of the United States stamps) is accompanied by the necessary engravings, which are excellently rendered. The first part extends to "Phillippines" (*sic*), and contains 288 pages, the specimens being, with very few exceptions, priced either unused or used, a middle course, and hence safer than the futile effort to price every stamp. The type is both legible and clean, and the paper of good quality. A few minor blemishes in the grammatical line, and perhaps a tendency to follow other good examples, do not detract from the value and merit of the work, which we trust will find many subscribers in this country.

* *A Priced List of the Rare Stamps of the Winzer Collection.* Stanley Gibbons, Limited, 391, Strand London.

† MEKEEL'S *Standard Catalogue.* First Part. C. H. Mekeel, Stamp and Publishing Co., Station C, St. Louis, U.S.

New Issues.

Under this head will be found notes of the new, and variations of the current issues. We do not profess to chronicle everything, but with the kind help of correspondents, are desirous that all the important novelties may be included. Speculative stamps—i.e. those not really required for postal purposes—will be considered on their merits, and Jubilee issues will not be chronicled.

GREAT BRITAIN AND COLONIES.

CAPE OF GOOD HOPE. — Messrs. W. King & Co. send us a specimen of the new type 1d. The design consists of a figure of Hope, resting on an anchor, with a background of Table Bay, enclosed by a horseshoe frame, bearing the words "Cape of Good Hope"; numerals of value in upper corners, "One Penny" "Postage" in a label at base; wmk. Anchor, perf. 14. The general appearance of this design is not unpleasing, and it is certainly a variation from the monotonous series of De la Ruvians.

Adhesive. One Penny, carmine.

CEYLON.—Messrs. Ridpath & Co. send us two fresh minor varieties of the 2 c. reply postal card, and also a 5 c. of this country. The dividing line between the cards is now marked by a line of blue dots, appearing of course above the head of each card, whereas previously it was simply scored.

Post Cards. 2+2 c., blue, *with blue dotted line above.*
5+5 c. ,, ,, ,, ,,

NEW SOUTH WALES.—Mr. W. T. Wilson sends us a specimen of a letter card, which he informs us was issued on the 2nd of June last. This is probably the immediate forerunners of the like for all the Australian Colonies, in virtue of the resolution passed at the Inter-Colonial Postal Conference at Wellington in March last. There can hardly be much demand for them at 1½d., as against the 2d. letter rate. It bears the design of the current post cards, with numeral in the centre, the Royal Arms to left, and the inscription "New South Wales" letter card and directions.

Letter Card. 1½d., dull red-brown on drab, and the inner side white.

NEW ZEALAND.—Messrs. Stanley Gibbons have submitted us some stamps of the ½d. unsevered, the watermark "N.Z." shewing on some specimens and not on others, owing probably to the use of fiscal paper.

Adhesive. ½d., pink, current series; *no watermark.*

NIGER.—The 1d., blue, has been severed in half vertically and reduced to half its facial value by the super-imposition (a variation for the eternal word surcharge!) of "½" in red.

Adhesive. ½d., current type, blue; *surcharged in red.*

Mr. C. W. Perryman kindly sends us further information on these provisionals, referred to on pages 51 and 136 of this year.

The following choice lot of varieties exists on the types of current English stamps, surcharged "British Protectorate, Oil Rivers":

On the 2d., green, red and black.
½d., violet surcharge, italics, serif, large caps, lower case.
1/- ,, ,, ,, ,,
1/-, red ,, ,, ,,
1/-, black ,, ,, ,,

On the 2½d., lilac on blue and black.
½d., green surcharge, italics, serif, large caps, lower case.
½d., red ,, ,, ,, ,, ,,
½d., blue ,, ,, ,, ,,
½d., violet ,, ,, ,, ,,

Our correspondent sends us postmarked specimens of many of these varieties, as also portions of sheets, shewing that there are no type varieties on each sheet; but he is unaware of the exact quantities issued, and states that the large demand by dealers for the previous issue (overprinted O.R.P.) was the cause for the issue of these provisionals. We can only, however, refer to the remarks we made on page 51 hereon, with the further comment that the reason just cited would *not* necessitate the creation of twenty-one varieties, and that in each case the postmarked specimens submitted to us are accompanied by normal specimens of the engraved series (with "Oil Rivers" barred out, and "Niger Coast" printed above). This does not portend an absolute dearth of the stamps, and there can be no doubt but that the issue is to a very great degree speculative.

SEYCHELLES.—The *American Journal of Philately* supplies the quantities issued of the various provisional stamps. The in-

formation is said to have been obtained from an official source.

3 c. on 4 c., 42,000.
3 c. on 4 c., 120 (inverted surch.).
12 c. on 16 c., 11,760.
15 c. on 16 c., 24,000.
15 c. on 16 c., 120 (inverted surch.).
45 c. on 48 c., 7,930.
90 c. on 96 c., 4,560.

STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.—Various sources announce another change here, the 32 c. being now printed in bright rose, and surcharged as before "Three Cents."

Adhesive. 3 c. on 32 c. black and *rose.*

Perak.—The 5 c. of the Tiger type has been overprinted Service.

Adhesive. 5 c., blue, *surcharged in black* "Service."

ZULULAND.—We understand that only the 1d. value has as yet been issued of the new colonial type. The *A.J. of P.* states that the ½d. will be issued in October, and the remaining values in 1895.

EUROPE.

ITALY.—The 45 c. is now isssued in the type of the current 25 c.

Adhesive. 45 c, gray.

NORWAY.—Two distinct shades of the current 1 öre exist (with horn unshaded), greyish-brown and black-brown.—*I.B.J.*

ROUMANIA.—In our numbers for December and January last reference was made to the error of the 10 b. card of this country with the word ROUMANIE. It appears that some doubt has been expressed hereon, one well-known authority calling it an essay. Messrs. Ridpath & Co. have now sent us a specimen which has indubitably fulfilled its proper postal function, bearing the postmark of Bucharest and the date stamp of July 11, 1894, and has certainly, as far as we can see, nothing to militate against its authenticity.

We have omitted to chronicle the 25 bani in new type.

Adhesive. 25 bani, violet.

AMERICA.

BRAZIL.—A new letter card and a post card has seen daylight in this Republic. The former is outwardly grey and inwardly white; the Liberty's head, stamp inscription, etc., in mauve; and the "harmless necessary" landscape in blue, on both this and the latter, which is on white card, with orange-red stamp and inscription.

Letter Card. 200 r., mauve and blue on gray.
Post Card. 40 r., orange-red on white.

PERU.—*Mekeel's Weekly News* gives the following: "Though Peru furnishes a greater variety of surcharges than any other country, it is soon to introduce a novelty in this line by surcharging some of its old issues with a portrait of General Marales Bermudez. We believe this is the first time that stamps have been surcharged with a portrait; generally a new value or the name of the place where the stamps are to be used is overprinted. The new issue of Peruvian stamps will consist of eleven varieties, but the stock on hand of old emissions will be brought into requisition by the method as outlined."

UNITED STATES.—There are quite a number of speculations in the American journals as to the proposed new issues, but we think it advisable to "possess our souls in patience," and wait for definite information.

We hear of the appearance of two—the 6 c. and the 2 c., unpaid series—but have as yet not seen copies.

URUGUAY.—With reference to the new issue referred to in our last, we hear that the colour of the 3 pesos, which we were unable to give, is deep violet, and that a new design is represented by the 2 pesos.

OTHER COUNTRIES.

ABYSSINIA.—An entirely novel series of stamps for Ethiopia has been achieved, and no doubt is sadly wanted by the dusky Ethiopians, as also in Paris and London, where they seem to be well distributed. The stamps are of handsome design, a necessity of modern days, or they would not sell—to collectors. The four lower values bear the portrait of the Negus, Menilek II., and the higher ones a lion and banner within a circle. The stamps were engraved by M. Mouchon, of Paris.

Specimens sent by Messrs. Whitfield King & Co.

¼	guerche,	green;	perf. 14.
½	,,	rose.	,,
1	,,	blue.	,,
2	,,	brown.	,,
4	,,	lilac-brown	,,
8	,,	violet.	,,
16	,,	black.	,,

CHINA.—*Chunking.*—Like the Japanese, we have drifted into a belligerent attitude with the Celestial Empire, having been guilty of the heinous and altogether inexcusable crime of confusing Chunking and Chinkiang, which is worse than Tweedledum

and Tweedledee of historic fame. In our last issue, on page 178, the paragraph headed Chinkiang should have been headed Chunking, and the Transport Company mentioned should bear the later appellation. The Secretary of the latter Company, writing from the London office, denies the issue of the stamps by the Company, and knows nothing about them, but has promised to seek information hereon. We must drag on a miserable existence until this does arrive.

Kewkiang.—From various sources we hear of a new issue for this place, consisting of 10 values, and the announcement of a new design for the ½ cent, which has already been exhausted—*i.e.*, bought up—(*Timbre Poste*). With Chunking, Chefoo, Chinkiang, Kewkiang, Shanghai, Hankow, Hongkong, etc., no wonder our geography has become unsettled. If the four or five hundred million denizens of the Celestial Empire once taste the stolen sweets of surcharges and ephemeral issues, Philately will probably expire, smothered by "Chinese cheap labour." Seriously, however, this is but a speculative issue, and of no Philatelic value. The design of the Kewkiangs consists of a pagoda for the lowest values and a Chinese "design" for the others, both within rectangles, containing the proper inscription in English; perf. 11½.

Adhesives.

½ c., black on rose.	6 c., canary on white.
½ c., red on yellow.	10 c., black on yellow.
1 c., black on white.	15 c., red on yellow.
2 c., red on white.	20 c., violet on rose.
5 c., blue on yellow.	40 c., black on red.

CONGO (PORTUGUESE).—The *P. J. G. B.* has received a set of stamps, as under, of the new design, *à la Angola*, the perforations 11½ and 12½ existing probably on each. Portugal and Colonies, to adopt the modern vernacular, are "going strong" in the Philatelic running.

Adhesives. 5 c., yellow; perf. 12½.
10 c., lilac ,,
15 c, brown ,,
20 c., grey ,,
50 c., light blue; perf. 11½.
75 c., carmine ,,
80 c., light green ,,
100 c., brown on yellow ,,
150 c., carmine on rose; perf. 12½.
200 c., blue on blue ,,
300 c., blue on salmon ,,

COOK ISLANDS.—A variety of colour has been unearthed by *Vindin's Monthly*, *i.e.* the current stamp in deep blue instead of its normal hue, brown. It is printed on the N Z star paper, and perforated like the other current stamps. "How we wonder what you are!"

Adhesive. 1d., *deep blue*, current series.

DUTCH INDIES.—The 10 c. value has been issued with portrait of Queen Wilhelmina.

Adhesive. 10 c., red-brown.

FRENCH COLONIES.—*Benin.*—No less than twenty-nine varieties of the horizontal surcharge "Benin" are noted by the *Timbre-Poste*. Comment is needless.

French Soudan.—In the spelling of the word "Français," on the last issue, there are however only twenty-four varieties, which is moderate!

NATIVE INDIAN STATES.—*Nandgaon.* Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. send us specimens of the 1 and 2 annas of the current series, surcharged in large block capitals within a double-lined transverse oval, in blue, "M.B.D." (*This does not* stand for Most Beautiful Design.)

Adhesives. ½ anna, pink, surcharged "M.B.D."
1 ,, red ,, ,,

PORTO RICO.—We have to add two more values to those already quoted latterly, viz.:

6 c. de peso, orange.
80 ,, red-brown.

TONGA.—From Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. we have the current 1d. value surcharged in thick, block figures "½d." in *black* instead of red.

Adhesive. ½d., *black*, surcharge on 1d, blue, current.

Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. also send us specimens of the 8d. and 1s., both overprinted in accordance with the fashion of the day; the overprint consists of the word surcharge (why?) vertically in black block capitals, with "2½d." on the former and "Halfpenny" in the like type on the latter.

Adhesives.

½d., *black surcharge*, on 1s., brown; current issue.
2½d. ,, on 8d., lilac ,,

TRANSVAAL.—The forerunner of the new issue has been sent us by Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. The design consists of Arms and inscription similar to the last issue, but are contained within a double octagonal frame, having a background of horizontal lines. This specimen is postmarked July 23rd, and is on medium white wove paper.

6d., pale blue, new issue; perf. 12½.

The Market.

AUCTIONS.

Messrs. Cheveley & Co.

The following are interesting lots disposed of at the sale held on June 29th :

	£	s.	d.
Cape, woodblock, 1d., red	3	3	0
Ditto, triangular, 6d., lilac, rouletted	2	8	0
Mauritius, 1848, 1d., vermilion	4	7	0
Ditto, Greek border, 1d., red	3	0	0
U.S., 90 c., 1869	2	4	0
Nova Scotia, 1s., prune	7	5	0
Newfoundland, 4d., orange-vermilion	2	14	0
Canada, 7½, green, unused	4	7	0
Turks Island, 1s., prune	5	0	0
St. Vincent, 5s., lake, star wmk., unused	4	2	6

The same firm have been indulging in a Midsummer sale, their fifty-eighth being held on July 31st, and doubtless owing to the fact of the English summer being this year a myth, there was no perceptible variation from the ordinary prices attained. Among the lots we noted :

G. Britain, 4d., small garter, unused	11	10	0
Ceylon, set of 7, Service, unused	2	8	0
Victoria, emblems, 4d., block of 60 unused (a proof sheet on *thin* wove paper, no watermark but in the colour of the star issue)	5	0	0
West. Australia, 4d., rouletted, this rising	2	15	0
British Guiana, 1851, 12 c., cut	4	4	0
„ „ „ 4 c., blue	2	14	0
Nevis, 1d., perf. 11½, sheet	3	15	0
Tuscany, 2 soldi, unused (not sold)	11	10	0
U.S., set of periodicals, unused	17	10	0

The Scott Stamp and Coin Company.

We have received a catalogue of United States stamps, the property of the late Mr. Harrison Sanford, sold on April 30th. The following realised over $10 :

New York, 1843, 3 c., light blue, glazed paper	$13.00
Ditto, 1869, 24 c., green and purple, *without* grill, unused	21.00
Ditto, 1849, carrier, 1 c., gold on black	11.00
Agriculture, set unused	14.40
Baton Rouge, La, 1861, green and carmine	30.00
Fredericksburg, 5 c., blue, on orig.	12.75
Mobile, Ala, 2 c., black, unused	25.00

The Reich Laughans' Swiss Collection.

This noted collection of the stamps of Switzerland has recently changed ownership, having passed from M. Laughans to M. V. Sauer, of Geneva, who has since, we understand, redisposed of it to M. Cremieux, of Geneva, a gentleman who possesses a magnificent collection of the Helvetian stamps. The price paid by Mr. Sauer was £1200, which, from our knowledge of its contents, was a fairly full one. The Cantonals were not especially strong, there being only one set of five types of the 4 v. Zurich, or hardly any specimens of the Cantons unused. In the Orts-poste and Poste Locale, however, there were something like 300 specimens, all the types being made up (except the Poste Locale without frame, of which there were however over a dozen specimens). The principal distinction of the collection was in the Rayon issue, of which embraced a sheet made up of pairs and blocks of the 5 c. light blue, and another of the 10 c. yellow, composed of about three blocks, all *unused*, in addition to a very fine assortment of the sub-varieties that can be found in this most interesting issue. It is satisfactory that the collection has fallen into good hands that will appreciate it.

False Prophets.

A gentleman rejoicing in the euphonious appellation of Bossakiewicz has lately been expounding in the Philatelic press abroad his views on the "Rehabilitation of the Stamp," whatever that may mean, and strongly advocates "Specialismus," with which we certainly agree. He explains that this aim can be achieved "by limiting himself to the stamps of his favourite countries, he will still have matter enough to occupy him, and will be able also to make considerable outlays, as quite a number of stamps are quoted at high prices, and easily bring them to their owners."

After this lucid explanation there can be no excuse for anyone not specialising! As examples of the values of stamps in specialised countries our prophet quotes :

Mauritius, 1847, 1d.	£200
„ „ 2d.	£120
(The 2d. is outclassed !)	
Moldavia, 81 p., unused	£40
„ „ used	£24
(These are both cheap, the 81 p. not being even common used ! !)	
Canada, 12d.	£12
(Also worth buying !) etc. etc.	

We are also informed that the late M. Caillebotte was an Englishman, and that Dr. Legrand's collection is worth £6000. "This very short list ought to convince our readers that they should not blush at their hobby." Our blushes are not for the stamps!

Philatelic Societies' Meetings.

MANCHESTER PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

President.—VERNON ROBERTS. | *Vice President.*—F. BARRATT.
Hon. Sec.—W. DORNING BECKTON. | *Assistant Hon. Sec.*—C. H. COOTE.
Hon. Treasurer.—G. B. DUERST.
Hon. Librarian.—J. H. ABBOTT.
E. P. COLLETT. | W. GRUNEWALD.
G. F. H. GIBSON. | W. W. MUNN.

THE Annual General Meeting was held at the Blackfriars Hotel, on Thursday, May 31st, 1894, the Vice-President in the chair, supported by 19 members.

The Secretary read the notice convening the meeting, and likewise a letter from the President regretting his inability to be present.

The Vice-President then called for the Hon. Secretary's Report, which was in the following terms.

"The meeting to-night brings to a close the third session of the Society. During that session 17 meetings have been held, at which there has been an average attendance of 16 members. In addition to the ordinary meetings there have been 19 lists meetings. The programme foreshadowed in the last Annual Report has been faithfully carried out, and in addition papers of an interesting character have been contributed by six members, who hitherto had not contributed to the work sought to be accomplished by the Society.

"There are, however two events for which the session will be memorable. The first of these is the publication of the first work of the Society, and the second the Limelight Exhibition, given on the opening meeting, whereby the difference between certain rare genuine stamps and well executed forgeries of the same was demonstrated. The latter exhibition is believed to have been the first instituted by an English Society, and proved so great a success that other Societies, which have not already done so, would do well to follow. The Society feel much indebted to Mr. Ridpath, who contributed so much to the success of the Limelight Exhibition.

"The members during the session have had opportunities of an exceptional character of examining rare stamps, an advantage which is not appreciated at its just worth.

"The Committee beg to express their thanks to the editor of the *Manchester City News* for the liberal way in which he has allowed such full reports of the Society's meetings to be inserted in that paper. The thanks of the members are likewise due to Messrs. Stanley Gibbons (Limited), Messrs. Alfred Smith and Co., Mr. Brown, and others for gifts of books to the library, and for other assistance greatly beneficial to the Society.

"During the session Mr. Munn was appointed to write the special reports for the *Manchester City News*, and the meeting to-night will be asked to ratify such appointment—one which has proved of so much value to the Society.

"During the last session the Society held its first dinner, the arrangements for which were delegated to Mr. Gibson; an abler M.C. it would well nigh be impossible to find.

"It is a matter for congratulation that more members have during the last session contributed papers and taken part in the discussions which have followed; and in selecting Central and Southern Europe as the basis of the syllabus for the ensuing session, it is hoped that the wide scope afforded thereby, and the great interest attaching thereto, will have the effect of

inducing those who have not already done so to come forward and signify their willingness of doing that without which the interest in the Society would very soon be on the wane."

Upon the motion of the Vice-President, the above report was adopted and directed to be entered in the minutes.

The Hon. Treasurer then submitted the balance sheet, which had been duly audited, and shewed a satisfactory surplus. It was resolved that the balance sheet be passed.

After a few observations by the Chairman, the election of officers and the Committee for the ensuing session was proceeded with, and resulted as below:

President—VERNON ROBERTS.
Vice-President—F. BARRATT.
Hon. Sec.—W. DORNING BECKTON.
Assistant Hon. Sec.—C. H. COOTE.
Hon. Treasurer—G. B. DUERST.
Hon. Librarian.—J. H. ABBOTT.
E. P. COLLETT. W. GRÜNEWALD.
G. F. H. GIBSON. W. W. MUNN.

In answer to a question, the Secretary informed the members that the rules provided a list of the members should be published once a year, and the Committee had decided this list should appear after the Report of the Annual Meeting.

W. DORNING BECKTON,
Hon. Sec.

DAISY BANK,
SWINTON PARK.

LIST OF MEMBERS.

Abbott, J. H.	Hanmer, W.
Angelo, H. R. St.	Heginbottom, J. E.
Barratt, F.	Hesketh, J. R.
Batty, E. T.	Hughes, T. C.
Beazley, F. J.	Kingston, The Earl of
Beckton, W. D.	Lake, F. W.
Blockey, G.	Litchfield, M.
Bowker, C. C.	Moore, Dr. J.
Castle, M. P.	Munn, W. W.
Collett, E. P.	North, J. C.
Coote, C. H.	Pemberton, P. L.
Duerst, G. B.	Petrie, E.
Edmonson, C. J.	Philbrick, F. A., Q.C.
Ehlinger, E. A.	Ranck, H.
Farrer, E.	Ridpath, T.
Fildes, E.	Roberts, F.
Flohr, J.	Roberts, Vernon.
Gibson, G. F. H.	Simpson, J. W.
Greenhow, H. P.	Wallace, A.
Grünewald, W.	Watson, A.

THE NEW YORK PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

WE have much pleasure in inserting the minutes of this Society, which embraces the cream of the United States collectors, many of whom are also members of the London Philatelic Society, and also subscribers to the *London Philatelist.*—[ED.]

The regular monthly meeting of the Society was held at its rooms, Monday evening, June 18th, 1894. In the absence of the President, Mr. Gregory was called to the chair.

The minutes of the preceding meeting were read and adopted.

Moved by Mr. Scott and seconded by Mr. Hobby, "That the Monday evening social meetings be discontinued, until the regular meeting of the Society in September, but that the Secretary be instructed to call a special meeting in the event of any distinguished Philatelists visiting the city during that period." Adopted unanimously.

The Committee on Confederate Stamps reported progress, and stated that through the kindness of some Southern Philatelists very valuable information had been obtained, in relation to some of the known locals, and also as to the existence of others hitherto unknown.

Mr. Nast read a paper on the commemoration stamps and envelopes, illustrating the same by sets of all issued. On motion, the paper was ordered printed in the *Metropolitan Philatelist.*

The Secretary reported the arrival of fourteen copies each of the *London Philatelist* for the months of January to May inclusive. These were distributed to the first fourteen members who had subscribed.

After a general interchange of views and opinions on current Philatelic subjects the Society adjourned at 10 p.m.

F. A. NAST, *Secretary.*

Correspondence.

COMMUNICATIONS.—*All communications on Philatelic matters or Advertisements should be addressed to the Editor of* THE LONDON PHILATELIST, Kingston Lodge, Richmond Place, Brighton. *No anonymous contributions can be noticed.*

SUBSCRIPTIONS.—THE LONDON PHILATELIST *will be sent, post free in Great Britain or the countries of the Postal Union, to any subscriber, on receipt of* 6s. *Subscribers' remittances should be sent to* The Publishers, EFFINGHAM HOUSE, ARUNDEL STREET, STRAND, LONDON, W.C., *of whom also bound copies of Vol. I. can be procured. Half morocco, gilt edges,* £1 1s., *postage* 9d. *Abroad extra.*

THE OWNERSHIP OF STAMPS ON LETTERS *IN TRANSITU.*

To the Editor of the "London Philatelist."

DEAR SIR,—A friend of mine asks me to enquire if you saw a correspondence in the *Times* (about Easter time) upon the question of who is responsible for the theft of rare stamps off the outside of letters after they have been obliterated, and before the letter is delivered to the addressee. If so, he wants to know (as he has been a victim) whether your society took up the point, or has ever done so, and what the opinion upon it is.

I am not a collector, so perhaps I have not put the point clearly, but it is of interest as a point of law.

The stamp is put on as evidence to the country of orign that the postage is paid. Does that stamp remain the property of,

1. The man who put it on?
2. The Postmaster of the country where it is posted?
3. The Postmaster of any country or of the last country it passes through?
4. The Addressee, and therefore if stolen in transit, who can sue, and who can be sued?

Yours truly,

H. RIACH.

THE CHUNKING STAMPS.

DEAR SIR,—I last wrote you on the 14th instant.

I enclose for your inspection, and for chronicling purposes, a "Chunking" stamp just received. The only information I can get at present is that the issue consisted of 2,000, and is now exhausted. I gather that the stamps are issued by the Chunking Transport Co., Ltd., a public Company, having, I believe, its Head Office in London. I think the stamp should have the same philatelic value as those issued by the British North Borneo Co., and have a place reserved for them in philatelic albums. Chunking is a place in the interior of China, lately opened to foreign trade, and there is no direct communication here with the place. It takes about two months to get a reply to letters sent there.

The first intimation I had of the stamps was by the local Postmaster at Hankow, who wrote me in the middle of February, stating that he had received a cover from Chunking having the stamp affixed for postage, and he sent it to me for my inspection. I applied at once to the agents of the C.T. Co., Ltd., here for information, but they did not know anything of the stamp, and at my request wrote up for a supply and for information. I received 300 through them. They state that Mr. Little, the General Manager of the Company at Chunking, will be here in a week, and he will be able to give me all the information there is about them. I hope to have the pleasure of a call on him when he arrives here, and get all the information I can about the stamp, and advise you of same.

Meantime I shall be glad to know what your idea of the issue is.

I remain, yours truly,

DAVID BENJAMIN.

SHANGHAI, CHINA,
Friday, 20th April, 1894.
(*Per P. & O.* S.S. "THAMES.")

[We prefer not to give our idea of the issue, as it would not be complimentary. They have been duly referred to in our novelty list.—ED.]

THE

London Philatelist:

THE MONTHLY JOURNAL OF

THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY, LONDON.

Vol. III. SEPTEMBER, 1894. No. 33.

Philatelic Literature.

REFERENCE to the current and preceding numbers of this Journal will evidence the great gains that have been made latterly in the sum of Philatelic knowledge. This is a development of our science that must meet with the approval both of devotees and onlookers. The scoffers are fortunately ever diminishing, and can now be safely regarded as a "neglectable quantity." The pursuit of stamp-collecting emerged from its dark days through the earnest and minute studies of a small but devoted band of writers, and those among them who are still spared to us must recognise with gratification that their earlier efforts have been improved upon, and that the literature of Philately is now rapidly assuming a substantial and comprehensive form. It is pleasant to note that one of these pioneers of the pursuit, Dr. Legrand, of Paris, has, during the thirty years of his Philatelic quest, lost none of his devotion to stamps, and that the appearance of his *Manual*, elsewhere described, shews literally that "age cannot wither" the true devotion of a disciple to his craft. We sincerely wish the learned and accomplished author an extended lease of life, that will enable him to see even further development of the pursuit he has so long adorned.

A marked feature of current Philatelic literature has been the awakening of the Teutonic element. Although in earlier years the Germans were somewhat laggards in the field, they now seem making up for lost time, and hardly a month passes by that does not witness the production of some work fully characteristic of the powers of application and reasoning that form so

integral a part of German characteristics. The Italians, *pace* Dr. E. Diena, have worthily inaugurated their campaign, and the Philatelic world will, we trust, speedily welcome an exhaustive history of the stamps of France.

There can be no doubt that the appearance of standard works of reference is of the greatest value in consolidating Philately, and the wider they are spread through the medium of the trade, the surer will be the hold that stamps will maintain on the coming generation. No one has experienced to the full the pleasures that pertain to Philately, who has not arranged the stamps of a country by the aid of an exhaustive treatise thereon, and the greater the labour and thought therein involved, the more will be the collector's satisfaction at having "*something* attempted and something done," that will command respect even from the uninitiated.

The Three Halfpence Die of Great Britain, 1860.

By the EARL OF KINGSTON, President.

A FEW days since a proof of this die, in black, and on India paper, came into my possession. Chancing to examine it with a magnifying glass, I was surprised to find all the distinctive marks which characterise the impressions from the one penny value, Die II. (Humphry's retouch).

The history of the three halfpence stamp, as we read in our standard authority, appears to be as follows:

"This stamp was originally designed, and the die of it engraved by Messrs. Perkins, Bacon & Co., in 1860, in contemplation of an alteration in the postal rates, which failed to secure the assent of Parliament.

"*Design.*—The design consists in a diademed portrait in profile of Queen Victoria to the left, engraved on steel, in the same manner as the die for the one penny, and on a ground mechanically engraved after a similar design, &c."

In the next paragraph we read:

"It may be remarked that the profile, though engraved after the model of the one penny, falls very far short of the original." (See Philbrick and Westoby's *The Postage and Telegraph Stamps of Great Britain*, pp. 87, 88.)

These data will have to be corrected, for my observation above mentioned proves beyond doubt that we have for the matrix of this stamp merely a *replica* of Humphry's retouched die, altered to suit the new value in two respects only.

1st. The addition of a shield-shaped band containing the postage and value legend, which replaces the words "Postage One Penny."

2nd. A rounding off and curtailing of the front point at the base of the throat or neck in order to make it fit within the shield-shaped band.

Thus, with the exception of these two alterations, the original design remains intact.

A clear view is left of all the tests for the one penny Die II., which will

be found tabulated in a paper I have written, entitled "Notes on Humphry's Retouch of the One Penny Die, Great Britain, 1854." Published in the number of the *London Philatelist* for July last.

These tests will, on careful and separate examination, be found on any fair clear copy of the Three Halfpence, whether it be the lilac-rose trial of 1860, or the regular issue of 1870, plates 1 and 3.

The construction of the new matrix was as follows: An impression from Die II. of the 1d. was taken on to a roller. The words "Postage One Penny," and the parts of the design where the shield-shaped band was to be engraved, were removed from the roller impression, which was then transferred to a flat piece of soft steel, on which the required alterations were engraved.

It is impossible for an engraver, however skilful he may be, to reproduce by hand an exact copy of his own or of any other artist's work. Besides, even were it possible to engrave a perfect *fac-simile*, it is hardly credible that the "faulty cuts" which have disfigured Heath's original masterpiece should have been deliberately reproduced on the matrix of the new value.

The Tapling Collection.

By M. P. CASTLE, Vice-President.

THE SYDNEY VIEWS, 1d., PLATE II., UNUSED.*



HE most striking object in this group is the superb block of nine unused stamps in three rows of three, on hard bluish paper, the acquisition of which was at the time greatly and deservedly appreciated by its owner; there are also (all unused) five other specimens, two very fine and three less so, and on white to yellowish paper eight specimens, four of which are magnificent copies. There are thus of the two plates of one penny together no less than *forty-six unused* specimens, truly a grand and almost unique assemblage. Of Plate II., used, there are some forty stamps in various shades, including, among other fine impressions, one in an almost orange-vermilion colour, which came from the Vandyke collection. The plate contains a number of stamps *se tenant*, and is likewise of fine quality.

The 2d., Plate I.

This plate is undoubtedly the handsomest of all the Sydney views when in its pristine state, and only those who have searched for them know how scarce are fine copies that are lightly cancelled; while unused they constitute, in my view, gems of the first water. In this early state, shewing clearly all the clouds and details of the engraving, the Tapling collection has four specimens, and three of the same stamp, less fine, and with the plate shewing more or less wear, all in unused condition—a lot that would be hard to beat.

* The publication of these notes, continued from page 11 in the January number for the current year, has been unavoidably delayed owing to pressure on our space.—Ed.

Among the used copies, which number over twenty, about one-half are of the earliest; but the collection would have been probably strengthened in the respect of fine used copies had its regretted owner been still with us. Among these is a specimen on original envelope, dated January 9th (?), 1850, of the first impression; while another, postmarked January 18th of the same year, is from a much worn impression. This would, as I have before now suggested, be probably accounted for by the quantity printed preliminary to the actual issue, by which doubtless the soft metal block rapidly deteriorated. The plate contains a block of nine stamps, seven on the lower row and two above, the remaining five being cut away.

Plate I. re-touched.

There is a fine unused copy here, almost as rare, if not so handsome, as its immediate predecessor. Nearly twenty used copies are to be seen here, many of them on letters, and doubtless emanating from the large number that the late Vice-President received from his relative in Australia, and by means of which dated specimens, so much was accomplished towards solving the problem of the Sydneys. The plate is noteworthy from the fact of possessing five vertical pairs, *i.e.* Nos. 8, 20; 9, 21; 10, 22; 11, 23; 12, 24. Curiously enough, in my own collection are two other blocks of four each respectively, 1, 2, 13, 14; 6, 7, 18, 19. We thus have, were it to-day needed, undisputable proof as to eighteen of the twenty-four stamps on the sheet, that the bottom row *only* was retouched. These pairs, therefore, have a very decided *raison d'être*, and should be cherished by the Oceanian collector.

2d., Plate II.

This is also a handsome series of stamps, the colour being frequently rich, and varying from an ultramarine to a Prussian-blue. There are two fine early impressions, on soft paper, and four somewhat worn, on hard. In fine used specimens the collection is not so strong as it might be, but still there are nearly forty stamps in various stages of wear. Of the "Retouch," with the line or portion thereof above the value, there are Nos. 15 and 24. The plate is comprised of single specimens, mostly fine.

2d., Plate III.

Unused here, are five on hard paper, three of which are very fine. These are also of great rarity; in fact, with the exception of one or two of the penny values, any Sydney unused is a very scarce stamp. There are about twenty used specimens, some "on original," and the plate, containing several pairs, is good and even.

2d., Plate IV.

In this division the collection is simply magnificent. There are, as is well known, two prominent impressions of this plate, one of a dark full blue on hard paper, and the other a fainter impression on yellowish-white, horizontally ribbed (or so-called laid paper). Of the former handsome stamps there are four specimens, three being brilliant, while of the latter there are no less than eight copies, *i.e.* two pairs and a block of four. The history of this latter and unique block is familiar to the older members of the Society, *quorum pars parva fui*. It came to Mr. Tapling through the collection of the ex-Secretary

(Mr. Maitland Burnett), when his charming collection passed into Mr. A. H. Wilson's hands. I believe the block was sent to Mr. Burnett with the emphatic statement that the vendor must have 30s. for it; and I believe that gentleman excused his precipitate action in parting with so large a sum without demur, by the solemn assertion, "The vendor was so urgent that I felt he wanted it all!" I believe that Mr. Tapling paid, some ten years since, what was then considered by its late owner, myself, and others, a very high price—£20. I wonder, however, what it would fetch at the rostrum now a days! There are about ten used copies further than this, and the plate is especially fine, comprising many dark and lustrous shades.

2d., Plate V.

Unused copies are also extremely well represented here, in the guise of three somewhat worn copies, and a brilliant strip of three on hard paper, in addition to a copy on laid. The strip is one of the gems of the collection. The plate is a strong one, containing one or two pairs, and there are nearly twenty other used specimens.

3d.

On the soft bluish paper there are three immaculate copies, and on the hard six more, three of which are not fine. Six perfect unused threepenny Sydneys, however, is enough to make the ordinary Philatelist's mouth water! There is no specimen of the yellowish laid paper unused, nor have I ever seen a copy, while the blue laid variety is absent in either condition. Among the used, one stamp, on slightly ribbed paper, and a matchless horizontal strip of three of the dark or myrtle-green shade, are especially noteworthy. I have a vivid recollection of the latter, which were shewn and promised to me by their vendor (at a ridiculously inadequate figure) if Mr. Tapling did not keep them! I well remember his kindly jocular expression when I afterwards told him of my distant reversionary expectation, "that he thought it a pity to pass them in case he should not get them again." Which neither of us did! The plate is an exceptionally fine one, many of the copies being clear, and distinct impressions that are nowadays "rare birds."

It may be of interest if I give a short summary of the total number of Sydney views, seeing the important part they have figured in both the life and the collection of the late Vice-President of the London Society. It may not be absolutely, but in any case is substantially accurate.

SUMMARY OF THE SYDNEY VIEWS IN THE TAPLING COLLECTION.

	PLATE.	UNUSED.	INCLUDING	USED.	PLATE.	TOTAL.
1d. ...	I. ...	22,	Block of 4 & 5 poor ...	22 ...	25	
„ ...	I. ...		...	...	25	(Proofs)
„ ...	II. ...	24	„ 9 „ 3 „ ...	40 ...	25	
2d. ...	I. ...	7	2 „ ...	20 ...	24	
„ ...	I. (Ret) ...	2	1 „ ...	18 ...	21	
„ ...	II. ...	6	2 „ ...	39 ...	24	
„ ...	III. ...	5	2 „ ...	21 ...	24	
„ ...	IV. ...	12	„ 4 „ 3 „ ...	9 ...	24	
„ ...	V. ...	7	„ 3 „ ...	17 ...	24	
3d. ...	...	9	3 „ ...	25 ...	25	
		94	(20 21)	211	241	= 546

The specimens I have noted as poor are not, from various causes, absolutely unused, *i.e.* in pristine condition; but even deducting these, and the proof-sheet of 1d., Plate I., there remain 73 glorious copies, the like of which will probably never be got together again, and we are all fortunate in the privilege of their possession by the nation.

THE LAUREATED STAMPS.

Although a less "taking" stamp than their predecessors, this series has always held a deservedly high place in the estimation of Philatelists, not only on account of their bold and effective appearance, but perhaps more through the great difficulty and interest attaching in olden days to the making up of the plates. To find out the correct places in the middle of a plate of say the 8d., yellow, was long held to be like groping in the midst of a desert for an oasis, and was deemed impossible until the celebrated, or shall I say notorious, Reprinted Plates of Jarvis turned up. The collection is also very strong in this issue, many of which are of the greatest rarity unused. As an illustration of this I may say that, as a collector of Australians since 1873, I have only twice seen copies for sale of the 6d., Plate II., unused, with coarse background. In each case my second claim proved to be but a reversionary myth, and I am still seeking a copy. Of the other two stamps of Jarvis' engraving, the 2d. with Star in corners and the 8d., I hold one of each unused. I must apologise for this digression from the subject, but in my initiatory remarks I disclaimed any intention of writing a mere catalogue of our national collection, and I feel I cannot better illustrate and accentuate what the late Mr. Tapling gathered together, than by proclaiming the difficulties that were to be surmounted by us all in obtaining these old stamps in unused state.

2d., Plate I.

Of these in the steel-grey blue colour, the first and clear impression, as well as those on the blue paper with a mottled background, there are a number of unused copies of a high order of excellence.

1d., Plate I.

Twelve or fifteen brilliant unused examples of this stamp form a strong array. In older days this was fairly attainable, but now, alas! seems to be fading rapidly out of sight in this condition. An excessively rare stamp is the variety on laid paper, also present.

6d., Plate I.

Four single copies and a pair, unused, is the quota here, and a good one too! There are some fine specimens of the WALLS error *se tenant*, and the plate is remarkable as being composed almost entirely of fine horizontal strips in a dark colour, that the late owner secured from a well-known London dealer before they had quite succumbed to the fatal scissors!

3d., on blue paper.

This is one of the *points d'appui* of the collection. One of the many valuable additions Mr. Tapling acquired through the amalgamation of his

own collection with that of MM. Caillebotte was the plate of this stamp, unused, with three or four exceptions, and, being an original sheet to a certain extent, cut up and reconstructed. It is a superb plate, and is absolutely unique.

The 8d.

In addition to a very fine unused copy loose, there are one or two on the plate, which is made up otherwise of used copies, and embraces many choice stamps, inclusive of two specimens on the so-called ribbed paper.

The 2d. Star in corners.

The late Vice-President was very fortunate here in securing no less than six copies of this rare stamp unused, some of them being brilliant. The plate (used) is also a very fine one, inclusive of many stamps in strips.

The 6d., Plate II.

The foregoing remark applies to these stamps, of which there are four fine and two medium copies unused, in addition to one on white paper, and a very fine plate of used.

The remaining stamps of this issue are well represented, those with the watermarks having all a number of unused specimens, and the 2d., Plate III., without watermark, no less than nine thus, a stamp that is much scarcer than generally imagined. The 3d., watermark 2, is missing from the collection. The plates are in every instance complete.

Issue of 1854.

This issue of the large square imperforate stamps is a worthy follower of those preceding. Among the gems I may cite:

5d., shades, unused.
6d., many shades, unused.
8d., unused, and horizontal strip of 4, yellow, used.
1s., full red, block of 10, unused.
1s., wmk. 8, pair „

Both the last-named are very rare things, and are only matched in one or two collections. This exhibit constitutes, according to Mr. Bacon, about 68 pages out of 112 forming the New South Wales collection, and I need hardly say has been a great attraction while on view.

The Sixth German Philatelic Congress at Kiel.

JULY 14TH TO 17TH, 1894.

By HARRY HILCKES.

IT has often been stated that these Congresses are of little practical value, but no one who was present at the sixth "day" will still maintain this idea. The first paper read was by Dr. Brendicke on the future of Philately, and naturally he came to the conclusion that in the future advanced Philatelists will be obliged to confine their energies to one special field, and strive to attain completeness in their speciality. Then followed the report of the International Dealers' Union of Berlin on the reprint question, which culminated in the fact that really nothing was done or could be done, as on the one hand the interest of the private owners of plates was such as to refuse any outside interference with their business, and on the other, governments interested in the production of reprints refused to listen to any advice or proposals emanating from dealers or collectors.

A circular had been addressed to every government concerned, and only one reply was received, coldly stating that they forbade any interference. A most lively discussion ensued, which lasted for over an hour, and it became quite clear that the Dealers' Union had put no heart into the question; as they evidently did not like to have the present state of affairs altered, by which reprints can be sold in first hand *as* reprints, and they were indifferent as to what the purchasers did with them. It was finally agreed, by nearly all present, to bring pressure to bear on every dealer not to sell any reprints unless plainly marked as such on the back. This resolution of course will have practical value only if every collector helps in his own way thereto. It seems to be a very good sign of the times that earnest Philatelists refuse to consider reprints anything more than a poor makeshift of the real thing, and the more these lines are followed up the sooner shall we get rid of such vile things as Heligoland reprints, etc.

A very interesting paper of Dr. Kalckhof followed on the question of preserving stamps for the future. He pointed out the great danger in bringing stamps in contact with hot water, not because some of the colours may run or change in tint, but because the hot water is liable to dissolve the sizing contained in the paper. His idea of preservation of rare stamps was to put them between very thin pieces of glass, similar to those used for microscopic purposes, the glass to be hermetically closed with thin strips of gum paper, thus rendering the stamps impervious to atmospheric influences.

Of course this is very elaborate, but it should pay for the rarer class of stamps; anyhow, his idea seems to deserve a trial.

Judge C. Lindenberg then delivered a most interesting and complete paper on the stamps of Heligoland. Some of the points which he touched for the first time astonished those present, *i.e.*, it was unknown hitherto that the first ½ sch. roul. was only issued in 30,000 specimens; it was equally unknown that only a very small quantity of the reply post cards was printed. As every figure given was based on official records, it may be relied upon.

A short paper on "Bavarian Reprints" was then presented by Mr. Leon Brummer, in which he conclusively proved that all Bavarian stamps which do not quite agree with the regular issue, and which are printed in a greatly superior manner, emanated from the first sheets (which would be equal to the English imprimatur sheets) which were put before the government commission for acceptance.

This finished the first day's work; dinner followed with a walk through the woods to the landing stage, where the steamer *Stephan* was in readiness to take "everyone and his wife" through the Kiel harbour. As it happened twelve German men-of-war had just come in, which made the trip all the more interesting. It should not be forgotten that the inevitable postcard in commemoration of the event was issued on board ship, and duly delivered by a very-much-alive postboy, specially told off for the occasion.

On the second day the chief point of interest was a report on the "Confidential paper" which circulates among the German Clubs. Here again a most lively discussion ensued, and the language used was not always of a parliamentary character; still the lines on which the paper has to be conducted in future were settled, and improvements initiated. I may here remark in parenthesis that this paper was started some years ago as a means of communication between the large number of German clubs, to caution each other against swindlers and new-discovered forgeries. It also contains all particulars about these clubs, as regards place and date of meetings, addition of membership, etc. Such a paper would of course be impossible in this country, owing to the libel law, otherwise it would be of immense value to every subscriber, as owing to its very large circulation it is fairly quick in the announcement of new forgeries. It was also decided that the next Congress will be held in Mannheim. The total number of Philatelists present was 149, representing 5,912 German collectors, members of fifty-four different clubs.

[We cannot help thinking that a more practical result of these interesting discussions would ensue if the subject-matter thereof was decided a few months before, and delegates sent to represent the final views of their respective Societies.—ED.]

Philatelic Notes.

NOTE.—*Under this title will be found all notes relating to postal issues other than those that are chronicled as current novelties, or which form the subject of special articles. The co-operation of Philatelists is invited in order to make this column of a varied and interesting nature.*

DISCOVERIES.

MR. H. L'ESTRANGE EWEN writes us—(Still they come!) "I have just seen a copy of Great Britain 4d., plate 16, *vermilion*. This is a hitherto unchronicled variety."

PORTUGUESE INDIA.—Mr. A. C. Emerson has sent us another new find among the interesting if complicated issues of this colony. It is the 20 reis, vermilion, of the 1876 issue, with "V" barred (No. 39 in *Portuguese India*, Harrison and Napier), surcharged with black upright numeral "6." The specimen in question, which is postmarked "Bombay," and a date not clearly decipherable, has been submitted to some of the *cognoscenti*, and its authenticity duly acknowledged.

VICTORIA.—Yet another *excavated* variety of watermark, Mr. C. B. Donne having discovered "a specimen of the Victorian 4d. stamp of the Laureated Head, issue of 1863–1864, on paper watermarked single line figure 8, which is a hitherto unknown and unchronicled variety. The stamp is in the collection of Mr. Innes of the E. S. and A. Bank, Melbourne, and was found by him amongst a number of other early Victorian stamps. It appears difficult to account for the appearance of the 4d. value on this paper, as, judging from the fact that both the single line and double line 4 paper was largely resorted to for both the 1d. and 2d. value of this issue, especially for the latter value, it would appear that there was a superfluity of the paper of the 4d. value in stock." This information was conveyed to our contemporary, *Vindin's Philatelic Monthly*, which journal, we understand, proposes now to change its title to that of *The Australian Philatelist*.

QUEENSLAND ISSUE OF 1882-6.

IN the continuation of the article on the stamps of this country, by Mr. A. F. Basset-Hull, in *Vindin's Philatelic Monthly* for April, we note the following interesting information relative to the large size steel engraved stamps for the higher values (2s, 2/6, 5s., 10s., and £1) issued 1882 to 1886. In common with other collectors we had striven to make up three sets of these stamps.

a. On thin paper with small Crown, &c.
b. „ thick „ „ large „
c. „ „ „ „ no watermark.

It seems more than probable that Mr. Hull's deductions are correct, and that the absence of watermark is only apparent in some specimens, owing to the thick quality of the paper employed.

"On the 26th of October, 1886, a quantity (500 sheets) of the paper then used for the small series of beer (bottled) duty stamps, was transferred to the postage stamp paper account, and used for the stamps now being described. The watermark is of a similar design to that in the postage paper, but of a larger size, and the letter 'Q' is nearly circular in shape. The texture of the paper is much coarser and thicker, and it is very white in colour. The postage stamps being somewhat larger than the beer duty labels, the watermark does not always fall evenly in the centre, and also, owing to the thickness of the paper, it is not always easy of detection. It is best seen by placing the stamp face downwards on a dark surface, and viewing it from a little distance, allowing the light to fall on the paper. Its position is normal.

"The series described in this chapter have been catalogued as found on unwatermarked paper. I have no doubt however that a careful examination of specimens supposed to be unwatermarked will reveal traces of the large crown and 'Q.'

"All values of the series were printed on this paper, and issued on the 10th of November, 1886, and no other paper has since been used. The beer duty was abolished in 1888, and it is probable that all future printings will be on this paper. Supplies were transferred to the postage stamp paper account on 22nd Feb., 1887; 2nd Feb., 1888; 27th March, 1888; 6th Aug., 1891; and 1st April, 1892. This formal 'transference' is still kept up in the account books, notwithstanding the long past decease of the beer duty stamps themselves.

"The printings on this paper appear generally in brighter colours, but the execution is not so clear. This however may be due to the wearing of the plates, which the printer states is very marked. The same perforation (12) and gum belong to this paper.

"Although these stamps were avowedly intended for both postal and fiscal purposes, the five shillings was the only value entered in the stamp sale book of the Post-office until quite recently. Under date 13th April, 1882, an entry of 6000 5s. stamps, in 'approve colour,' appears in the Accountant's record of stamps received and issued. It was not until the 5th of January, 1892, that the four other values found a place in this book, and, of course, the two shilling value there referred to was of a later type (1889; colour brown).

"Notwithstanding their absence from the stamp issue book, the other four values were fully recognised as postage stamps. They were obtainable from the Treasury, and also from all licensed vendors, but of course by far the greater proportion of those issued was for fiscal use. The two shillings became obsolete in June, 1889, on the issue of the new type of that value hereinafter described."

QUEENSLAND WATERMARKS OF 1868.

ON page 95 of the April issue of the *London Philatelist* we called attention to the watermarks of the 1868 issue, with truncated star and Queensland in Roman capitals, and stated that the 3 left-hand stamps on each horizontal row of 12 were innocent of any portion of the inscription. Mr. A. F. Basset Hull is apparently somewhat unhappy about our then expressed view that these constituted two varieties. The watermark—the whole watermark and nothing but the watermark—is our esteemed correspondent's formula. We do not see that any false position herein has been taken up. *Imprimis* the constitution of a "variety" is one that will in specialising be generally defined by the collector according to his own sweet will. One man will see six shades where another will see none; the former often perhaps unnecessarily loads his collection, but when the history of a country's stamps comes to be written, it is from the "accumulator" that the information is gathered. Philatelic *perfection* is beyond the reach of all; it would entail the possession of a complete sheet of every different printing of every issue, and this would obviously embrace those cases where the watermark is of a composite character, *i.e.*, varying for each stamp in the sheet. In cases such as the first issues of India, Tuscany, etc., the interest and value hereof could not be gainsaid, but the ordinary collector would never attempt to build up a sheet of the various component parts of the said watermark, which is common to all the stamps in the sheet, and necessarily varies in each stamp. The example before us however is not on all fours with these. The watermark has always been designated as Truncated Star and Queensland, and we fail to see why if one-fourth of the stamps on the sheet are watermarked with star only, they should not be deemed varieties of an eminently collectable nature.

Anyone specialising in Queensland stamps would hardly divide a pair, one shewing a portion of the inscription, and the other the star only; and failing the possession of such, or a complete strip (as in Mr. Castle's case), we think that a specimen of each value, proving the partial occupancy of the inscription, not only interesting but essential from a specialiser's point of view. The instance quoted by Mr. Hull, of the maker's name on the sheets, does not bear upon the question, which is the inclusion of matter of *Philatelic* import, but in the case cited of the Fiji C.R. stamps with "Fiji Postage," we can only say we should certainly class a pair or strip of these stamps shewing the watermark as a variety. As we have lately mentioned, there are numerous variations of the stamps of Oceania caused by the absence of watermark, and in the case of these stamps we certainly hold that there *are* two varieties:

a. 9 stamps of each row, watermark portion of word "Queensland" and truncated star.

b. 3 stamps of each row, watermark truncated star only.

There are more things "rotten" in the state of Philately than even this!

NEW FORGERIES OF JAPAN.

WE are indebted to Messrs. Whitfield King and Co. for early news of a very dangerous set of the forgeries of the obsolete Japanese stamps. Below we give *in extenso* the letter accompanying specimens of these sent to the above firm. The set is extremely well done, both as to printing and varieties of paper, but there is a noticeable difference in the shade of some values. Collectors will do well, before purchasing either unused or used copies of these stamps, to seek the advice of an expert.

"Sir:

"I wish to suggest you that I have printed the set of the imitation of the obsolete Japanese postage stamps, 1871–1875, ready for exportation. Our genuine old stamps are now very expensive, so that most of collectors are compelled to be content with the imitations. They are well done, and I will sell the set in such low price:

1 set (30 pces.),	$0.35 = fr. 1.75 = mk. 1.50.	
10 sets,	$3.00	postage free.
100 sets,	$25.00	
1,000 sets,	$200.00	

"I will execute quickly your orders. I will request to new customers who are unknown before to me that money of half the amount of the order, which I will promptly remit, should be sent in advance. I will send up them in a packet, fixed 1894 Silver Wedding stamps, which cost here 5 times of their face value, now being sold up at the P.O. here. But I believe I can use them on my packets still a long time, as I have a large stock of them.

"I wish to have sample copy of Philatelic papers for advertising. For enquiries please enclose return postage. Hoping to receive your order, I am,

"Yours, very truly. —— ——"

On closer examination we find that there are noticeable differences in type, which should, with due care, lead to a detection of the real from the forged.

Occasional Notes.

H.R.H. THE DUKE OF YORK.

ONE of the penalties of eminence is the prevalence of *canards* and rumours of various kinds, which, however baseless, remain necessarily unanswered by the august personage so assailed. His Royal Highness has been no exception to this rule, and it is to be regretted that his indulgence in even so quiet and unobtrusive a pursuit as Philately has not escaped immunity from groundless rumour. Certain paragraphs have gone the round of the Press of a highly imaginary nature, as to the manner in which H.R.H. forms his collection, and their appearance must be calculated to be unsatisfactory to the Duke, who should be allowed the same privilege as is accorded to any other gentleman—of following his inclination without any prying interference.

THE TAPLING COLLECTION.

WE are informed by Mr. E. D. Bacon that the stamps exhibited at the British Museum have again been changed, and that the collection of imperforate specimens of the English stamps from the Registration sheets at Somerset House, as also the stamps of Cyprus, are now on view.

PHILATELY FOR THE MILLION.

IN addition to the inclusion of a weekly article in the *Million*, elsewhere alluded to, it is a sufficiently significant sign of the times that packets of stamps are now placed on sale at Messrs. Willing's bookstalls, on the Metropolitan Railway Stations. They may yet aspire to be "given away with a pound of tea!"

PHILATELIC PORTRAITURE OF THE QUEEN.

WITH reference to the paragraph hereon in our last issue Mr. Philbrick writes: "A full-length portrait of the Queen, taken from the picture painted by express command by Professor Von Angeli of Vienna, appeared on the 'Empire' card of 3d., carmine on buff, registered 1st August, 1889 This card was issued for postage to the Australian Colonies. On 1st April, 1892, a similar card, the value altered to 1d., size 130×82 mm., somewhat thinner and more highly glazed, was issued, both as a single and as a return card, for international use under the International Postal Convention. It was approved 4th February, 1892, and called forth from one of the omniscient newspaper critics of the day strong expressions of condemnation. The Postmaster-General (who by the way has nothing to do with the matter, which rests with the Commissioners of Inland Revenue) was seriously taken to task for employing a 'gutter' artist for the design. The anonymous writer was evidently ignorant it had been in issue for over two years, and was taken from the likeness of the Queen by an artist whose reputation is European (we do not speak of the critic, who probably never heard of it), and who on this occasion produced a likeness which all who know Her Majesty personally, including the Royal Family, justly hold to be the best likeness ever produced of the august original. We do not speak without authority when we state that the proof of the card was submitted to the Queen herself, and highly approved.

"The only fault to be found is, that the limits imposed by the size of the card prevent full justice being done to the picture in its miniature reproduction.

"But this instance is a striking one of the criticism applied by these universal sciolists of the press, and gives a true clue to the canons of art (?) which regulate their crude and inaccurate remarks, and it is unfortunate such paragraphs should pass without the ignorance and presumption of the writer being exposed at the time.

"There can be little question that this reproduction of Von Angeli's picture is the best and most dignified likeness of the Queen-Empress that has ever appeared on any British stamp, and the only thing to be regretted is that the size is so little calculated to render its artistic merits more evident."

THE PARLIAMENTARY ENVELOPES OF 1840.

As an addendum to Mr. Philbrick's paper on the Envelopes used for the Houses of Parliament in our last issue, we quote the following extract from Rowland Hill's Diary, 1839-40:

"January 13th, 1840.—Called on the Speaker of the House of Commons in consequence of a note which he addressed to Mr. Baring on Saturday; arranged with him, and afterwards with the officers of the Houses of Parliament, for a sort of stamped cover for the use of the members, and had specimens prepared at the Stationery Office."

THE POSTAGE STAMP CONTRACT.

The Treasury minute relating to the contract of Messrs. De la Rue for the supply of stamps for the use of the Inland Revenue and Post-office departments, including those on post cards and wrappers, was issued as a Parliamentary paper. The contract terminates on December 31, 1898, and Messrs. De la Rue offer, on condition that it is extended for a further period of three years, to December 31, 1901, to make certain modifications. It is agreed between the Post-office and the firm, among other things, that the Commissioners of Inland Revenue are to be at liberty to order adhesive stamps from time to time in such quantities as may be required; and that if required so to do by written notice from the Commissioners at any time during the term of the contract as extended, the firm will, within three months from the date of such notice, transmit post cards, envelopes, and newspaper wrappers direct to post-offices at such places, not exceeding ten in number at any time, as the Commissioners may fix upon; provided that the firm shall not be put to any expense connected with the transmission, save the expense of the labour of packing. The firm agree to provide reserve machinery for the production of adhesive stamps, such as would be necessary by the increased use of private cards with adhesive stamps, attached in the place of the postal card. The minute proceeds: "The Post-office, which has long been in favour of the change, gains from an economical point of view. Under the present system the small margin of profit (about £22,000) on the material is insufficient to cover the loss entailed by selling the cards, and any diminution in the supply of official cards will diminish the cost of handling, registering, storing, conveying, and checking stocks. The Board of Inland Revenue report that the modifications of the contract which affect their department will be of great importance."

HANDY POCKET ALBUM.

Mr. W. Morley has submitted us a small album designed to aid those enterprising collectors who make up sheets of the Great Britain stamps showing the different letters in the angles. Each leaf contains twelve ruled spaces, with the letters printed thereon; *i.e.*, AA to AL, BA to BL, and so forth. The filling up the squares certainly presents a more inviting aspect than the composition of huge and cumbersome sheets. The price is nominal and the idea ingenious.

REPORTED SUPERSESSION OF THE ST. HELENA STAMPS.

WE have much pleasure in calling attention to the announcement elsewhere made (p. vi) by authority, and in congratulating the Colonial Office on its wise and wholesome attempt to beat down speculation in our Colonial issues. That this has been carried to an alarming and disgraceful extent, with the connivance and profit of many local officials, there can be no manner of doubt, and the intention of the Government to put a stop to these illegitimate proceedings will evoke the warm thanks of all genuine Philatelists.

THE LATE DR. J. C. ELLISON.

IT is with much regret that we read of the death of this gentleman, which took place on July 10th last, at Brisbane, Queensland, where he had been in practice for the last ten years. Dr. Ellison was an old member of the London Philatelic Society, and was personally well known to many of the older members. His knowledge of stamps was always a wide one, and we believe that until his last he was as keenly devoted as ever to Philately. Rumour attributed to him the possession of a very fine collection of Australian stamps, and we can but tender to his friends and relatives our sincere regret that he has been thus prematurely cut off from the enjoyment of them.

JUBILEE ISSUES.

THE hostility of our attitude as regarding these ephemeral and needless "issues" (?) requires no further confirmation than the accompanying circular, and, despite the fact of this being a gratuitous advertisement, we can only say that anyone who "parts with his money" will vindicate his title to the other half of the old adage.

"REPUBLIC OF SAN MARINO.—The Commission of the 'Palazzo Principe and Sovrano' gives note that, on the occasion of the inauguration of the new Palace, and the installation of the new Regents, there will be issued the following Commemorative Postage Stamps; viz., of One Lira, of Fifty Centimes, of Twenty-five Centimes, and a Post Card of *Ten Centimes*, with a stamped progressive number. This issue will take place on the 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30 of September, and 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9 of October, 1894. However, in order that collectors, speculators, and merchants cannot make this issue rare and scarce, the Commission, specially authorised, gives notice: 1. That they themselves undertake to send to any address and destination whatever, in *registered packet*, any Order for Postage Stamps that may be sent to them direct, exceeding, however, the amount of Ls. 2 sterling, or Doll. 10 (equal to 50 Lire or Francs), payable in Italian Paper or *Bank of France* notes by registered letter. 2. That, for any Order exceeding Ls. 20 sterling, or Doll. 100 (equal to 500 Lire or Francs), to be made in Bank notes of Ls. 5 sterling, or Italian Paper or *Bank of France* notes, in registered letter, the amount will be forwarded to destination, in a *special Envelope of Five Lire*, bearing the above-mentioned stamp impressed on the envelope, and of which a limited issue of *two thousand copies* will be made; and in order to be valid this special stamp must bear the *Postmark of San Marino.*

"*THE MILLION.*"

A GRATIFYING evidence of our increasing number of votaries is afforded in the appearance each week of a page devoted to Philately in the columns of our enterprising and interesting contemporary, *The Million*. The subject-matter is evidently the work of "one who knows," and the perusal of the articles will repay the advanced collector as well as the tyro. The articles are illustrated with types of the stamps descanted on, and we regret to learn that "a raid has just been made by the Inland Revenue authorities on their office, the last article containing an engraved reproduction of the old English penny stamp—the red variety—with an enlarged side scroll, in order to show collectors where to find the plate-number. The law makes it a punishable offence to reproduce a postage stamp, as it does to engrave a Bank of England note, even for no more criminal purpose than newspaper illustration. The matter having come to the knowledge of the authorities the premises of *The Million* were promptly visited by officials, and the copies of the paper containing the block, as well as the block itself, were seized, and conveyed to Somerset House."

LETTER CARDS.

MR. C. J. S. Johnstone, of Edinburgh, kindly sends us a suggestion that avoids the destruction of these after their opening as follows:

"To open Letter Cards without tearing off the perforated margins, and spoiling them for collecting purposes, draw the edge of a sharp penknife along the perforations on the *back*, with just sufficient force to cut *half-way through*, which allows the back to be opened, and leaves the front with its margins intact."

It seems also decided that Reply Letter Cards will be adopted in France (the Argentine Republic being the only country that has hitherto issued them, in May, 1888), for we hear that last year Mr. F. M. Merridew, English bookseller at Boulogne, submitted the design of a reply letter card to several Postal Ministers, for enabling correspondents to prepay the postage of a closed reply. The scheme, which proposed the issue of reply letter cards as an extension of the reply post card system, received the influential support of French Chambers of Commerce at home, abroad, and in the French Colonies. The utility of Mr. Merridew's proposals having been recognised, the French Postal authorities have now adopted the reply letter card, and it is about to be introduced for the French Postal Service. The project in question has also received the approval of other Postal Ministers, and its adoption has been recommended by a number of English as well as foreign Chambers of Commerce. When the introduction of International reply letter cards comes to be authorised by the Postal Union, Mr. Merridew claims that the system will solve the hitherto insuperable financial difficulties attending the issue of a universal postage stamp for prepaying the reply to a closed form of communication from any part of the world.

Reviews.

THE STAMPS OF SPAIN.*



THIS important work is the production of a member of the Berlin Philatelic Club—Captain Rudolf Friederich—which body has, following the example of the London Philatelic Society, supplied a copy gratis to every member. This constitutes an innovation on the Continent, and is one that will assuredly redound to the credit of that accomplished and scientific Society—the Berlin Philatelic Club. The work itself is well worthy of the honour conferred on it. Captain Friederich has had exceptional opportunities, by long residence in Spain, to handle large numbers of the Spanish stamps; and the most cursory glance at the work will suffice to shew that he has turned his opportunities to good account, and has produced a work of such high Philatelic merit that it at once takes a leading position among other cognate productions.

After treating of the geographical, historical, heraldic, and monetary aspects, the portion devoted to Spain is divided as follows:

I. Postage Stamps (*a*) 1850–69.
„ „ Provisionals (*b*) 1868–72.
„ „ Amadeus (*c*) 1872–73.
„ „ Republic (*d*) 1873–74.
„ „ Alphonso XII. (*e*) 1875–89.
„ „ Alphonso XIII. (*f*) 1889–94.
II. Service, War Tax, and Private Stamps.
III. Carlist Issues.
IV. Envelopes, Wrappers, and Cards.

We do not quite approve of the system of classification in the earlier issues, which under each separate value gives the several varieties of paper employed, as we prefer them grouped together under the different heads of thick, thin, &c. The 2 reales, blue, of 1851, meets but with scant notice; and although we are personally not inclined to believe it ever existed as a postage stamp, it has been for so many years a debated question that a *resumé* of the various arguments would have been appropriately included. Captain Friederich gives the quantities sold of the issues of 1850 to 1853, but the figures hardly impress one as to their absolute fidelity. The 2 reales, 1851, is stated to have been issued only to the extent of 1432 copies; *i.e.* half as much again as the Post-office, and only a year or two later. It seems incredible, although the stamp is undoubtedly rare, that so many copies as can be found spread over the world could have escaped destruction had the issue been as limited as stated. The same remark applies to the 2 reales of 1852 and 1853, of which the numbers issued are given as 3394 and 3875 respectively. These

* *The Stamps of Spain and its Colonies.* By R. FRIEDERICH. Dr. H. Brendicke, 61, Potsdamer Strasse, Berlin.

figures, however, apparently are exclusive of any unused stamps unsold on their supersession, of which, in some instances, there must have been a considerable number. The 3 cuartos, bronze, was in issue during six months, and the 1 cuartos one year. The issues of "1855," with watermark of loops, "1856" with crossed lines, and 1857 on wove paper, are grouped as one issue, as the author considers that the change of paper was intermittent, although the use of the two former was comparatively limited, while that of the latter continued until January 31st, 1860. A word of warning is given as to chemically changed errors of the 1 real, blue. The fact that so many of the old Spanish stamps are found in blocks is attributed to the fact of the heavy official letters and packages requiring to be franked by adhesive stamps as in the ordinary way.

The chapter devoted to the "Habilitado" stamps betokens great study, and will repay the closest attention on the part of the reader. The author only admits as officially-issued the Types of Biscay and Cadiz, and, classing all others as either "Private" or "False," recommends the greatest caution in their acceptance. The several essays are all reproduced by cuts accompanying the text; the War Tax Stamps are descanted upon, and considered as (additional) postage stamps, and those of the Carlist issues are exhaustively treated. A feature in the work is the high character of the illustrations, which are executed by Photo-lithography, and so excellently that both stamps or postmarks can serve as tests for comparison. There are in all twenty pages of these *fac-simile* representations, and they add very much both to the value and utility of the work.

The second portion, treating of the stamps, cards, etc. of Philippines, Cuba, Porto Rico, and Fernando Po goes over new ground, to a large extent, and will therefore be doubly acceptable to the general body of Philatelists. The issues of Luzon are of a high order of interest, and it is to be regretted that Mr. Friederich was unable to obtain photographs of the plates of the first issue, which exist complete in more than one collection (as they did in the writer's possession). No mention is made of the two plates of the 1854–55 issue, with the coarse lines and the fine lines respectively, or any attempt to divide the issues according to the very varying colours; nor is any information thrown upon the fifth type of the 5 cuartos, lithographed of the succeeding issue, of which also the four types are not illustrated. These very important issues are, in fact, but very lightly treated, and in a work of this magnitude it must be held as a serious omission that the real *point d'appui* of "Spain and Colonies" has not met with greater consideration. The book, which is well printed and bound, however undoubtedly reflects as a whole very great credit upon Capt. Friederich, and we have much pleasure in congratulating him and the Berlin Philatelic Club upon the issue of a work that is destined to play an important *rôle* in the Philatelic world.

THE STAMP COLLECTOR'S MANUAL.*

The appearance of the name of Dr. A. Legrand, the *doyen* of Philatelists, on the title-page of this work will alone suffice to recommend it to a wide

* *Manuel de l'Amateur de Timbres.* By Dr. A. LEGRAND. E. Bernard & Co., Paris.

and sympathetic circle of readers, and we have great pleasure in recognising that in the production of a work entailing very considerable labour and research, the Doctor has shown that his thirty years' interest in Philately has in no way diminished. With all deference to the learned author, we are quite unable to accept his laboured views as to the acceptation of the term "Timbrophiles," "Timbrologie," &c. Outside France these words are as dead as Queen Anne, and, whether immaculate in its conception or not, Philately (or Philatelie *à la* Gallic) is the accepted designation of stamp collecting all the world over. We must also dissent from the author's dissertation on the component parts of Philatelic Societies, which, in view of recent events across the Channel, could have been well omitted.

The volume, which embraces some 400 pages, is clearly and legibly imprinted (though there are a number of printers' errors, &c.), and is adorned on the cover with *fac-simile* illustrations of stamps from Dr. Legrand's collection, including the 2 Post-office Mauritius, and indeed from cover to finish is impressed strongly with the individuality of the learned author. The most useful portions of the book to a collector are the chapters devoted to the following heads:

"The monetary values of the various countries."

"The varieties of engraving and production of stamps," and

"The chronological lists of the first issues of adhesives, envelopes, cards, letter cards, telegraph stamps," &c.

Other chapters are devoted to Fiscal and Municipal stamps, Reprints, Forgeries, the Postal Union, &c., and the concluding portion embodies Dr. Legrand's ideas as to the system of arrangement and selection of albums. The volume, in fact, is a chatty and quasi-scientific sermon on stamps, divided into different heads, and, as usual with deliveries of this kind, is strongly impregnated with the personal views of the preacher. As often occurs with pulpit utterances, there is perhaps a tendency to be prolix, the amount of new light shed not being commensurate with the length of the discourse. Despite this tendency, there is, however, much that, without being novel, forms interesting reading, and we have much pleasure in recommending the Manual as a pleasing adjunct to every collector's Philatelic library.

GREAT BRITAIN REVENUE STAMPS.*

We are indebted to Mr. Morley for a copy of this work, issued in commemoration of the Bi-centenary of the First Stamp Duty Act, 29th June, 1694. The contents embrace no less than forty-six pages of double column, arranged alphabetically from Admiralty Court to (appropriately) Winding-up Companies, with additional chapters devoted to Municipal Stamps, and those for the Isle of Man, Ireland, and Scotland. The Telegraph Stamps are also included, although somewhat beyond the scope of the work, which, however, has every appearance of conscientious labour, and will doubtless appeal to the sympathies of many of our readers.

* *Handbook of the Revenue Stamps of Great Britain and Ireland.* By F. G. C. Lundy. W. Morley, 186, West Green Road, Tottenham. N.

New Issues.

Under this head will be found notes of the new, and variations of the current issues. We do not profess to chronicle everything, but with the kind help of correspondents, are desirous that all the important novelties may be included. Speculative stamps—i.e. those not really required for postal purposes—will be considered on their merits, and Jubilee issues will not be chronicled.

GREAT BRITAIN AND COLONIES.

BRITISH BECHUANALAND.—The current 1s. of Great Britain has been surcharged with the name of this colony in two lines of black *sans-serif* capitals.

Adhesive. 1s., black on green.

CYPRUS.—From *Le C. de T.-P.* we learn that there has been an issue of three high values of the current type, printed in two colours.

Adhesives. 9 piastres, brown and carmine.
18 ,, grey, black and brown.
45 ,, violet, black and blue.

CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.—Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. send us two ½d. envelopes for printed matter, corresponding in size to the current Great Britain envelopes N and O; the stamp, however, presents a much neater appearance, and is a pattern which our Post-office officials might do well to copy.

Envelope. Halfpenny, slate on white (2 sizes).

NEW ZEALAND.—We are glad to learn from the *Monthly Journal* that the officials in New Zealand have thought better of the advertising on the back of stamps, and put a stop to it.

ST. HELENA.—From a notice in our advertisement pages, it will be seen that the Colonial-office have stepped in and quashed the speculative ideas of the local authorities by forbidding a new issue at present, and ordering a large supply of all current values to be sent to the Post-office. This is as it ought to be, and officials who allow speculators to buy up the entire stock, to be re-sold at double and treble face value should be severely censured. From the *Monthly Journal* we learn that one speculator holds as many as 12,000 of the 1s. value alone!

STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.—The five and eight cents current adhesives have undergone a change in colour as follows:

Adhesives. 5 c., deep brown.
8 c., blue.

Johore.—The *Monthly Journal* has received specimens of two new values of the current type.

Adhesives. 1 c., mauve and lilac.
3 c., carmine and lilac.

TURKS ISLAND.—A new value is announced for this colony, of the same type as the current Seychelles, printed in two colours, the name and value differing from the colour of the remainder of the design.

Adhesive. 5d., green and rose (name and value in rose).

ZULULAND. — We have received from Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. the current 6d. Natal, overprinted "ZULULAND," for use in this Colony. *Adhesive.* 6d., violet.

EUROPE.

AUSTRIA.—The two high values have been seen printed in an exchange of colours. The *Ph. Borsen Courier* is responsible for the statement.

Adhesives. 1 gulden, deep red.
2 ,, deep blue.

GREECE.—Two emissions in the shape of an envelope and a letter card have appeared. The stamp on the envelope is oval in shape, enclosing an inner oval, bearing the usual head of Mercury; the outer oval bears the words, "ΕΛΛΑΣ" at top, "ΛΕΠΤΑ" at base, with numerals 20 in ovals at side. The stamp on the letter card is similar to the adhesives. The card bears the inscription, "ΒΡΑΧΕΙΑ ΕΠΙΣΤΟΑΗ," and the directions for opening in Greek, outside the perforations at base of card.

Envelope. 20 lepta, carmine.
Letter Card. 20 ,, ,, on azure.

HOLLAND.—The *Monthly Journal* chronicles the 10 c. in a new shade—*red* in place of *rose*. *Adhesives.* 10 c., red; perf. 12½.

NORWAY.—As far back as March we find we made an error in the chronicle of the re-drawn type; the new type reads NORGE *not* NORGE. The 50 öre has been issued in the new type. Mr. Gooch informs us that the 12 öre has been retired from circulation.

Adhesive. 50 öre; re-drawn type.

AMERICA.

BRAZIL.—The *Philatelic Record* states that wrappers bearing the same stamp as upon the 20 reis, but of higher values, are said to have been issued.

Wrappers. 40 reis, blue on buff.
60 ,, brown on buff.

UNITED STATES.—We copy the following from the *Monthly Journal:*

"Mr. G. B. Calman kindly sends us a cutting, from a paper of July 7th, in reference to the new issue that may be expected shortly. We extract the following:

"The Post-office Department has decided that the designs of the ordinary postage stamps shall remain practically unchanged in the present fiscal year. The Columbian stamp has had its day, and as soon as the present supply is exhausted, the familiar 2 cent stamp of carmine hue and the George Washington head will take its place.

"Some time ago the Department gave the contract for furnishing postage stamps to the Bureau of Engraving and Printing, which offered to perform the service at a lower rate than that of the American Bank Note Company of New York, which held the contract last year.

"The present stock will last at least seventy-five days, at the end of which time the new supply which the Bureau is engaged in providing will be drawn upon. Some idea of the output required of the Bureau may be gained from the fact that last year over 9,000,000 postage stamps were used daily.

"In order to distinguish its work from that of the American Bank Note Company, the Bureau of Engraving and Printing has caused to be printed in the upper corners of the ordinary stamps a figure which resembles a clover leaf. Changes will be made in the series by the omission of the 30 and 90 cents, and the addition of stamps of the denominations of 50 cents, $1, $2, and $5. The designs of these stamps, it was said at the Post-office Department to-day, would probably not differ from those already familiar to the public.

"A radical change has been decided upon in the newspaper and periodical series of stamps. There will be omitted the following: 4, 6, 8, 24, 48, 60, 72, 84 and 96 cents, $1.92, 3, 6, 9, 12, 24, 36, 48 and 60 dollars. There will be added to this series stamps of the denominations of 5, 10, 25 and 50 cents, 2, 5, 10, 20, 50 and 100 dollars. The newspaper and periodical stamps will be made somewhat smaller than those now in use, and the designs may be eventually changed, although no order to that effect has yet been issued.

"The colours have not yet been decided upon. A stamp which will look well in red may prove very unsatisfactory in blue. The lines of the engraving have much to do with the general effect."

Mr. John Ruthen has sent us a copy of the 2 c. postage due in the new type. The design consists of "Postage Due" in a semi-circle at top, "Two Cents" in a scroll at base, U.S. in the extreme upper corners, in the centre a diamond-shaped frame of engine-turned network, bearing the figure 2.

Postage Due. 2 cents, claret.

URUGUAY.—The designs of the new 2 and 3 pesos stamps consist respectively of a head symbolical of Liberty, and the Arms on a shield. These we were unable to give in our July issue.

OTHER COUNTRIES.

CHINA.—*Chinkiang.*—Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. have sent us specimens of the issue for this port; they were put into circulation on August 6th last. We gave a list of the values and colour on page 178, but as we find these are not quite correct, repeat.

Adhesives. ½ c., pink.
1 c., pale blue.
2 c. ,, brown.
4 c. ,, yellow.
5 c. ,, green.
6 c., violet.
10 c., orange.

NATIVE INDIAN STATES.—*Nabha.*—The current Indian 1 rupee value has been surcharged *Nabha State* in black.

Adhesive. 1 rupee, black on carmine and green.

PHILIPPINES.—Two new cards have, according to the *Deutscher Briefmarken Zeitung*, been issued of the current type, with frame in new colours.

Post Cards. 2 c., reddish violet on buff.
3 c., deep blue on buff.

PORTO RICO.—The same Journal states that a new card of current type, without frame, has been issued.

Post Card. 2 c., deep blue on yellow-buff.

PORTUGUESE COLONIES.—*Angola.*—The following values have now appeared in the new type (page 148), perf. 12.

Adhesives. 5 reis, yellow.
20 ,, violet.
25 ,, green.

SIAM.—We have received from Messrs. Whitfield King and Co. two entire sheets of recently-issued provisionals, 1 att on 64 atts, and 2 atts on 64 atts. The 1 att reads *atts* in every case, while in the 2 atts the printer seems to have run short of figures, as there are *seven* distinct types of 2!

Adhesives. 1 att on 64 atts, black on brown and purple.
2 atts on 64 atts ,, ,,

TRANSVAAL.—We have received from Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. the 1d. card with stamp of the new type. On this, as well as on the 6d. adhesive chronicled las month, there is an error in the coat-of-arms, the wagon should have a pole, instead of which there are two shafts. The dies are shortly to be altered to correct the mistake.

Post Card. 1d., red, *new type.*

Philatelic Societies' Meetings.

THE PLYMOUTH PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

THE Hon. Sec. desires to call attention to the extension of the rules of the Exchange Branch as follows :

"The election of Corresponding Members, who shall be entitled to the privileges of the Exchange Branch, shall take place at General Meetings of the Society during the session, and at Committee Meetings during the recess, members paying an annual subscription of 2s. 6d. each, the year to commence on October 1st. Corresponding Members joining the Society after April 1st shall pay one-half the annual subscription (*i.e.* 1s. 3d.).

"Each member shall forward to the Exchange Secretary, on or before the 26th of every month, one or more sheets of duplicates for inclusion in the packet of the ensuing month. The total value of each sheet must be marked upon its first page. Stamps must be mounted on the Society's duplicate sheets, which may be obtained from the Exchange Secretary (2s. per 100). The NETT price of each stamp must be marked above it in black ink. *Note.*—It is suggested that STANLEY GIBBONS' Catalogue price should also be marked above each stamp in red ink."

The season begins in October, and it is stated that several well-known Philatelists have expressed their approval of the new rules, and have promised their co-operation.

THE JOHANNESBURG PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

THE ordinary fortnightly meeting of the above Society was held last* evening in the Board-room, Bettelheim Buildings. There was a good attendance of members. The President, Mr. A. A. Osborn, was in the chair. Two corresponding and two active members were elected. The Superintendent of Exchange reported that a further selection of stamps had been put in circulation among the members. On the motion of Mr. M. Z. Booleman, Mr. Carle Jeppe was elected Hon. Vice-President of the Society. The meeting then terminated with a vote of thanks to the Chairman. The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, the 22nd inst., when the advisability of holding an International Philatelic Exhibition on the anniversary of the formation of the Society will be discussed.

THE fortnightly general meeting of members was held at the Y.M.C.A.'s Buildings on Wednesday, August 21st. Mr. Leon Schuler occupied the chair; there were fourteen members present. The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. The Secretary then read the correspondence, embracing communications from Russia and India. Mr. Kossuth was elected an ordinary member, and Mr. Reichel, of Reval, Russia, a corresponding member.

A paper written by Mr. M. Z. Booleman, and translated into English by Mr. Samuel Epstein, was then read by the latter, dealing *in extenso* with the proposed International Philatelic Exhibition to be held under the auspices of the Johannesburg Philatelic Society in May, 1895. On the motion of Mr. Neuburger, it was resolved that the paper be discussed at the next general meeting, and that notice to that effect be sent to all the members. An exhibition of stamps then followed. Mr. Kannemeyer showed the new 2½d. official envelope of the Cape of Good Hope, greenish brown, embossed on greyish blue paper. A vote of thanks to the Chairman terminated the meeting.

* July probably. We are very glad to note the continued progress of the Johannesburg Philatelic Society, and shall be glad to hear that the International Philatelic Exhibition was duly and successfully held.—[ED.]

Correspondence.

COMMUNICATIONS.—*All communications on Philatelic matters or Advertisements should be addressed to the Editor of* THE LONDON PHILATELIST, Kingston Lodge, Richmond Place, Brighton. *No anonymous contributions can be noticed.*

SUBSCRIPTIONS.—THE LONDON PHILATELIST *will be sent, post free in Great Britain or the countries of the Postal Union, to any subscriber, on receipt of* 6s. *Subscribers' remittances should be sent to* The Publishers, EFFINGHAM HOUSE, ARUNDEL STREET, STRAND, LONDON, W.C., *of whom also bound copies of Vol. I. can be procured. Half morocco, gilt edges,* £1 1s., *postage* 9d. *Abroad extra.*

NIGER COAST PROTECTORATE.

H.B.M. VICE-CONSULATE,
OLD CALABAR,
14th August, 1894.

DEAR SIR,—It may interest you and the members of your Society to know that, to meet the demand for ½d. stamps (pending arrival of a new lot from England) 960 of the 2½d., blue, stamps of the third issue of this Protectorate were surcharged "one half-penny," and were issued to the public on the 10th inst.—the not very large stock (only 8000 for the whole of the districts of the Protectorate) of the ½d., green, stamps of the third issue being entirely sold out by the end of last month.

The Postmaster-General not being a Philatelic enthusiast, put off surcharging as long as possible, in hopes that the new lot of ½d. stamps would arrive so as not to necessitate provisionals.

The stamps of this Protectorate however, which ought to become *very* rare, are the 1d., blue, stamps of the second issue cut vertically in *half*, each half being surcharged "½" (not ½d.), in red, in May last at Opobo, one of our districts (they being short supplied them with ½d. stamps), pending arrival of others from head-office, and communication between there and here not being frequent. Only 120 of these provisionals were surcharged, *i.e.*, *one* sheet of 60 penny stamps, the district being small and not many being required.

Of the first issue—"Oil Rivers" surcharged on English stamps—the 1s. and the ½d. have been quite unobtainable for a long time.

Of the second issue the 2d., green, is also quite unobtainable, and in a lesser degree the ½d., red.

Of the third issue very few of the ½d., green, were sent, and they are all sold out, hence the surcharging of these blue ones now.

No stamps of this Protectorate have been genuinely used through the post unless obliterated with the square outgoing post-mark. You will probably find many with a little *circular* postmark put neatly in the middle of the stamp, whole uncut sheets being so obliterated to oblige dealers! Of course these stamps are postmarked, but, in my opinion, cannot properly be called used—a distinction with a difference.

Having been a collector for 20 years, I take note of these little matters.

Yours faithfully,

ARTHUR J. GRIFFITH,
Acting Vice-Consul.

THE SECRETARY PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF LONDON.

[There are several points of interest to collectors in the foregoing letter, which has been sent on to us for publication, but we confess to a want of appreciation of the "natural causes" as to the creation of these surcharges.—ED.]

THE

London Philatelist:

THE MONTHLY JOURNAL OF

THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY, LONDON.

VOL. III. OCTOBER, 1894. No. 34.

An Official Contrast.



OUR last issue contained a most welcome announcement from the Colonial-office of this country, nipping in the bud an attempt to "corner" the stamps of St. Helena, and further—in direct contrast—an extract from an advertising circular, issued by the San Marino Postal Authorities, extolling the value of a recent issue in jubilee of the erection of a "Palace" in this tiny republic. Both of these announcements have been much commented upon in Philatelic circles, great disgust having been expressed that any postal authority in a civilised country, however insignificant, should demean itself to the issue of a touting circular sent broadcast to almost every dealer on the face of the globe. The illustrious San Marino Postal Authorities may probably, in their next downward step, announce a special surcharged issue if any dealer will purchase a couple of hundred pounds' worth of their trash, and from this, *facilis descensus*, ultimately arrive at a circular headed "Stamps surcharged while you wait," "Special dies of selected patterns furnished for collectors," &c. There is a lingering barbaric tendency still in South-east Europe, and the rocky principality of Montenegro has also shewn a disposition to coy with needless and ephemeral issues. The conduct of these paltry states only serves, however, sharply to accentuate the unexceptional nature of the postal issues of the remaining European countries. In the great centres of European Powers the requirements of the public alone, are considered, with the result that no alteration ever takes place in the postal issues unless necessitated by such events as dynastic changes, reductions of the tariff, or modifications of the currency. A glance at our New Issues

columns for the past year affords indisputable evidence as to how really few are the fresh stamps annually chronicled *for the whole of Europe.*

There can be no doubt that this element has materially affected their appreciation, and that the collectors' confident feeling that future European issues will be free from any taint of speculation, has given an enormous impetus to the value set upon the obsolete stamps of Europe. The rise in values of old "Europeans" has been phenomenal during the past three years, and there is every reason to anticipate its continued progress, for confidence is of the very essence in Philatelic appraisement of value.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON

New Zealand Unwatermarked Imperforate Stamps.

PRESENTED TO THE LONDON PHILATELIC SOCIETY, DECEMBER 29TH, 1893.

THE delay which has taken place in bringing this report before the Society has arisen from the fact that the materials in this country found to be at the disposal of your Committee were apparently comparatively but meagre, and hopes were entertained that the notice in the *London Philatelist*, inviting information in the matter, would lead to some reliable data being obtained, especially from subscribers in New Zealand and the other Australian colonies.

This anticipation however was not realized, the only result being the receipt of one specimen from a gentleman in her Majesty's navy.

In the meantime your Committee had had placed at its disposal the stock of New Zealand stamps belonging to Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Theodor Buhl & Co., Calff & Co., Hadlow, Ginn, and Peckitt, and had inspected personally the specimens of many of the members of the Society, who were known to possess large collections of these stamps. The result was still too poor to induce your Committee to report, and communication was then had with a prominent philatelist in New Zealand, who willingly, and at the cost of some considerable time and trouble, compiled a list of dates of the varieties in his own collection, and in those of other important collectors in the colony.

The scarceness of dated postmarked specimens may be gathered from the fact that although over 5000 copies of the imperforate varieties have been examined, the appended list embraces all those which were found with dates, or on original envelopes, and includes but

15 on blue unwatermarked paper
74 on white unwatermarked paper, and
76 other imperforate varieties.

165

The queries raised in our Vice-President's paper on the unwatermarked stamps of New Zealand (which appeared in the *London Philatelist* for July,

1893), and in further elucidation of which your Committee was appointed, were :

(i.) As to whether the stamps on blue and white unwatermarked paper were issued simultaneously, as stated by the late Mr. John Davies and endorsed by other philatelists in New Zealand.

(ii.) As to whether the blue and white paper used bore the name watermarked of T. H. Saunders in double-lined capitals, with the date of manufacture.

As far as your Committee have been able to examine into the matter both these queries appear to be sustained.

The dated postmarked copies of the 1d. on blue range from 26th Aug., 1856, to 22nd Nov., 1858, whilst the earliest 1d. on white seen with a date is postmarked 27th Dec., 1859, and others range up to March, 1863.

Of the 2d. value on blue paper, the dates range from April, 1856, to October, 1857 (with one copy bearing date 18th Aug., 1859), and those on white paper, from February, 1858, to May, 1863.

Of the 1s. value of these issues, no copies have been seen with dated postmark ; and of the 6d. on white paper, the dates range from 20th Sept., 1859, to June, 1862.

Regarding the watermarked name of the maker of the papers, no trace has been seen of this on any of the stamps printed on *white* paper.

Our Vice-President referred to specimens on *blue* bearing the letters

K (? H), N, O and (?) V,

and a correspondent in New Zealand sends a rough sketch (apparently S.I.N.D., the S in double-lined capitals, the remaining letters only showing single lines decipherable) of what he has seen, explaining that the marks are not sufficiently clear "to make a drawing of even," but the inference the sketch gives of the letters being in large and small capitals is at variance with the watermark seen in other specimens.

The clearest trace found was in a strip of three of the 2d. value, belonging to a member of the Society, on which the letters (commencement of a word) were shown in double-lined capitals apparently, implying either "Bou" or "Rou," and above these were the footmarks of another word or of a date.

In conclusion, your Committee think it not probable that the stamps on blue and white paper were issued simultaneously, and cannot arrive at a definite result as to the watermarked name in the blue paper.

WM. HARRISON.
ALFRED A. DAVIS.
T. MAYCOCK.

7th November, 1893.

LIST OF IMPERFORATE NEW ZEALAND POSTAGE STAMPS WITH DATE OF OBLITERATION.

1st Issue, Star Watermark.

1d.

2d.

National Collection . . . 1.8.55 | H. J. Knowles . . 25.10.55
Stanley Gibbons & Co. 23.5.57

1s.

Blue Paper.

1d.

Stanley Gibbons & Co. (Wellington)	26.8.56	M. P. Castle	11.1.58
H. J. Knowles	11.7.57	Stanley Gibbons & Co. (Nelson)	11.1.58
H. J. Knowles (strip of five)	22.11.58		

2d.

W. T. Wilson	30.4.56	H. J. Knowles	11.7.57
M. P. Castle	26.5.56	Do.	2.8.57
W. T. Wilson	3.6.56	M. P. Castle	22.10.57
Stanley Gibbons and Co.	8.10.56	Stanley Gibbons and Co. (Nelson)	23.10.57
W. T. Wilson	22.12.56	H. J. Knowles	18.8.59

1s.

White Paper.

1d.

D. Garth	27.12.59	D. Garth	6.11.61
T. Maycock	20.5.60	T. Maycock	8.2.62
Do.	3.9.60	M. P. Castle	22.2.62
Calff & Co.	10.11.60	T. Maycock	9.5.62
T. Maycock	3.1.61	M. P. Castle	9.62
Do.	4.2.61	Stanley Gibbons & Co.	5.9.62
D. Garth	6.6.61	M. P. Castle	11.62
Mrs. Tebay	8.61	Do.	63
		Stanley Gibbons & Co.	10.3.63

2d.

T. Maycock	27.2.58	T. Maycock	4.2.61
H. J. Knowles	2.7.58	H. J. Knowles	9.4.61
Stanley Gibbons & Co.	12.7.58	T. Maycock	6.4.61
M. P. Castle	12.7.58	D. Garth	6.6.61
T. Maycock	24.8.58	H. J. Knowles	6.7.61
Do.	4.12.58	Mrs. Tebay	8.61
D. Garth	28.12.58	D. Garth	6.11.61
T. Maycock	24.1.59	T. Maycock	3.2.62
Do.	29.1.59	Do.	8.2.62
Do.	25.2.59	H. J. Knowles	4.2.62
Do.	30.3.59	T. Maycock	22.2.62
D. Garth	4.59	Do.	8.3.62
T. Maycock	4.59	Do.	15.3.62
Do.	25.8.59	Do.	22.3.62
D. Garth	27.12.59	Do.	5.4.62
T. Maycock	20.5.60	Do.	19.4.62
Do.	3.9.60	Do.	21.4.62
H. J. Knowles	21.11.60	W. Harrison	12.12.62
T. Maycock	3.1.61	W. T. Wilson	13.5.63

6d.

T. Maycock	20.9.59	D. Garth	6.7.61
D. Garth	27.12.59	Mrs. Tebay	8.61
T. Maycock	20.5.60	D. Garth	6.11.61
Do.	3.9.60	T. Maycock	8.2.62
Do.	3.1.61	W. T. Wilson	23.3.62
H. J. Knowles	4.1.61	T. Maycock	9.5.62
T. Maycock	4.2.61	H. J. Knowles	3.62
Do.	6.4.61	Do.	7.6.62
D. Garth	6.6.61	Do.	9.6.62
		Stanley Gibbons & Co.	13.6.62

Star Watermark.

1d.

M. P. Castle	26.8.62	H. J. Knowles	24.2.64
Mrs. Tebay	30.9.62	Stanley Gibbons & Co.	4.5.64
J. D. Henderson	63	H. J. Knowles	22.8.64
Calff & Co.	29.8.63	Calff & Co.	7.1.65

2d.

T. Maycock	9.5.62	Stanley Gibbons & Co.	2.10.63
H. J. Knowles	9.5.62	H. J. Knowles	4.11.63
Do.	29.7.62	Do.	4.1.64
T. Maycock	29.9.62	Do.	29.2.64
H. J. Knowles	10.12.62	Stanley Gibbons & Co.	18.5.64
Do.	26.1.63	Do.	10.6.64
E. T. Fyffe	3.63	T. Maycock	11.10.64
T. Maycock	6.4.63	Do.	3.1.65

Stanley Gibbons & Co . 3.6.65

3d.

M. P. Castle	8.1.64	Stanley Gibbons & Co.	3.5.67

6d.

H. J. Knowles	1.7.62 to 12.4.64	M. P. Castle	13.7.63
		T. Maycock (red-brown)	8.1.64
		Stanley Gibbons & Co.	8.4.64
J. D. Henderson (black-brown)	2.9.62	Calff & Co. (red-brown)	16.4.64
M. P. Castle	10.62	W. T. Wilson (black-brown)	6.8.64
Calff & Co. (red-brown)	2.63	T. Maycock (red-brown)	11.10.64
T. Buhl & Co. (black-brown)	4.3.63	Cheveley & Co. (red-brown)	29.10.64
T. Maycock (do.)	1.6.63	W. Harrison (black-brown)	1.12.66

1s.

T. Maycock	6.6.63	Calff & Co.	2.4.64

Vernon Roberts . . . 1.66

PELURE.

1d.

2d.

Ransome (? perf.) . . . 13.1.65

6d.

M. P. Castle	4.6.6/2 (?)	H. J. Knowles	13.8.63
H. J. Knowles	7.3.63	T. Maycock (Auckland)	5.10.63
Do.	21.5.63	Do. (do.)	11.11.63

T. Maycock (Auckland) . . 30.4.64

1s.

M. P. Castle 13.12.62

N.Z. Watermark.

1d.

H. J. Knowles	3.11.64	H. J. Knowles	1.4.65

H. J. Knowles . . . 13.6.65

2d.

H. J. Knowles	13.10.64	Stanley Gibbons & Co.	26.10.64

H. J. Knowles . . . 11.64

6d.

1s.

H. J. Knowles	7.3.66	H. J. Knowles	11.5.67

Perforated Varieties.

H. J. Knowles, 6d., Star, serrated perf., on original cover . . 11.8.1862
W. T. Wilson, 6d. „ black-brown 18.4.1863
National Collection, 1s., pelure, perf. 13.6.1863
H. J. Knowles, 2d., N.Z. 2.9.1864
Do. 2d. „ 15.11.1864
Stanley Gibbons & Co., 1s., N.Z. 17.9.1864
H. J. Knowles, 1s., N.Z. 15.3.1865
Do. 1s. „ 18.7.1865
T. Maycock, 3d., Star, rouletted, on original envelope (Auckland) . 5.10.1863
Do. 2d. „ „ „ (Wellington) 11.11.1863

The Advantages of Collecting Stamps in Pairs, Strips, and Blocks.

A Paper read before the London Philatelic Society, March 9th, 1894.

By ROBERT EHRENBACH.



TEN or twenty years ago, when stamp collecting was in its infancy, hardly anybody attached much importance to picked copies with fine margins all round, much less did anyone trouble to get this or that stamp, in a pair or in a block. A collector in those days was well satisfied if he possessed the label to fill the blank space in his album, and if this album happened to be a Lallier he usually even went so far as to cut his stamps to shape, so as to fit in the spaces given.

I quite remember that when I started collecting I cut imperforate Ceylon —the octagonal ones—to shape, and in the case of the Thurn and Taxis envelope stamps I did exactly the same, thus robbing them of the lilac inscription that makes them scarce to-day.

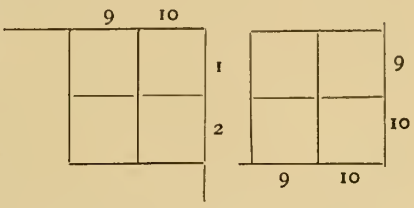
Happily these times have gone by, and now there is a very strong tendency to get every stamp in the finest of condition, with as big margins as possible, or if it be attainable to take a pair, a strip, or a block as the opportunity may offer. A conclusive proof that it is so may be found at every dealer's nowadays; for if you ask the price of a very good copy you will always hear that fine copies are very rare, and that he must put an extra high price on the article in question; should it, however, be a pair he will add that such a thing is practically unobtainable, and so on, and the price gets by degrees prohibitive.

Much as this mode of collecting causes sad havoc with the purse of the buyer, there is no gainsaying that it is the right way to collect, and I trust confidently that the following remarks will convince everybody that a vast amount of our knowledge has been gained by collecting pairs, strips, and blocks.

Although it had been noted, even in former days, that the spaces between the stamps of various countries varied a great deal, not much heed was taken of it. Nobody ever troubled to measure the spaces between stamps. This state of things has now quite altered, and it is with the greatest care that we scrutinise these spaces. Since we collect pairs we find that some stamps are printed with hardly any margin between them; viz., the first issue of Victoria, the stamps of Buenos Ayres, 2nd issue Wurtemberg, &c. Others have margins of inches between them; viz., the old Moldavian stamps and the big Levant stamp of Russia. Between these extremes these distances vary a great deal, and form a very interesting study, especially if these space differences are studied in the case of one issue of a special country. As an example let us take the 1st issue of Victoria, and here we have only recently, in a very interesting paper by our Vice-President, been told that apart from

minor differences in the die the marginal spaces between the stamps are also different, and show that several stones were made for the so-called 1st issue of Victoria. Another case may be mentioned in the bi coloured 4 anna stamp of India, where the collecting of strips has taught us the existence of three distinct stones of this interesting stamp: The closely-together printed plate, the wider printed ones, and the one with the blue dividing lines between the stamps. Other cases might be mentioned.

Very frequently we have been taught by collecting corner stamps, blocks, &c., how many stamps were in the sheet, especially where the rows of stamps are numbered horizontally and vertically, as is the case in several issues of Prussia, Schleswig-Holstein, Lubeck, and others too numerous to mention. A block of 4 of the right upper corner would show the same as the lower right corner would show, thus proving that there must be ten rows of ten in the sheet.



On the head issues of Prussia we should learn, by a big margin in the middle of the right side, that the plate number is given on the sheet. On some of the issues of Hanover stamps we should find a neatly designed border, in the same colour as the stamp, running right round, &c.; and in later issues of the same country we should notice that the year in which the sheets were printed is given under the bottom row; and in the case of the first issue of Tasmania, the laureated heads of New South Wales, and the first issue of Lubeck, we get to know the name of the designer of the plates. The stamps show coloured lines between each stamp; take for instance the first issue of Bavaria, the 3 pfennig Saxony, &c.

All these little things go far to show what an immense lot of information is to be obtained from stamps with big margins, pairs, and blocks, the information being all the more interesting in cases where no official documents are to be had.

To collectors who are fond of errors or varieties, blocks and pairs are of great value. To begin with, I will take such stamps where the error consists of a stamp being printed in the colour of another value. In this case, by the aid of blocks and pairs, we can decide whether whole sheets were printed in the wrong colour—the 5 bani Roumania, blue and rose—or whether the error is due to a mistake in the die, and that it therefore only occurs once or twice in a sheet, together with the stamps usually printed in that colour. Such errors are the $2\frac{1}{2}$ sch. Lübeck on the 2 sch. sheet; the Cape woodblocks; the blue, 2 reales, Spain of 1855–6; the 15 c., buff on rose, French Republic, and others. In cases where no pairs are known we are quite in the dark; as to this point, and as an example of this, I may mention the 5 p. Finland in the colour of the 10 p., and the 10 p. in the colour of the 5 p. Much is yet to be learned with respect to such errors, and it is only through pairs that this information can be gathered.

With regard to surcharges much the same is to be said—whether, in the cases of reversed surcharges, the whole were surcharged in the wrong way or only single stamps. The French Colonies and Ceylon furnish enough material for this chapter!

Then we come to the *tête-bêche* stamps, and here we have to find out whether the *tête-bêche* printing is due to an error, as in the case of various French stamps, old Guatemala, &c., or whether the whole sheets were printed in *tête-bêche* rows; viz., the De La Rue type of Grenada.

I now come to stamps where the possession of pairs and blocks is of the greatest importance; viz., when it is necessary to decide whether stamps are imperforate or not.

How often are we not told that such and such a stamp exists imperforate, or that it is imperforate horizontally and vertically, and a single copy is offered for sale with the remark that the margins are satisfactory, and so on.

To be sure that this is so, I take it that every collector would prefer a pair to anything else—more sceptical collectors like myself only believe in them when such stamps are in pairs.

I believe every Philatelist who has for instance studied the stamps of the Australian Colonies will be of my opinion, that there are a number of Victorian stamps—especially the issues of 1862 to 1868—which show, although they are perforate, such tremendous margins all round that a pair of scissors can easily produce an imperforate variety, and as these sell at good prices the temptation to make them is very great. Only lately have I been offered some values of Hamburg stamps, imperforate vertically, which do not exist, and which to anybody who had not been specializing that country would have seemed satisfactory, especially as it is well known that some values do exist in that state. I go so far as to say that it is safest not to give much for such imperforate varieties, except if one can get a pair or a block, for usually they are not what they are represented to be. For instance, I may safely say that hardly any good Philatelist will believe in the imperforate 1s. Queensland and the 5s. New South Wales, till he has been shown a pair.

Of most value of course are unsevered pairs and blocks, &c., of such stamps, in such cases where they are needed for the purpose of plating. How can the plating of types be done without them? or the photos of the reconstructed sheets, which of course are reproductions of whole sheets—which are big blocks—or of what has been done by others by aid of pairs and blocks? What would platers of Switzerland, Mauritius, Tasmania, Philippines, and last, not least, New South Wales, do if no one had ever collected blocks, or if no entire sheets had been discovered, either in originals or in reproductions, like the laureated issues of New South Wales?

How extremely difficult has it not been to plate the 3 p. Sydney View, where, when it was done, so few strips and blocks existed. In fact after sufficient had been found it became evident, that while all types were in the reconstructed sheet given in "Oceania" the position of several stamps in the sheet was wrong.

What a severe task it would have been to plate the New South Wales Registered stamps—had not these few reprinted sheets turned up—every specialist of Australians knows.

To plate stamps without pairs and blocks is well-nigh impossible. Those who believe it is less difficult than I describe should start and try to plate

the Naples Cross or the Russian Levants—stamps about which up to date we do not know much, and much less possess blocks of.

Pairs and blocks can be of great aid to construct a sheet, even where there are no types, but where the watermark covers the whole sheet, as is the case with the first issues of India and Tuscany, the Queensland 1 penny and 2 pence with Script watermark. In other cases single rows of stamps can be made by this means; viz., the penny Fiji, having the watermark extending over the whole row of ten stamps.

Cases where pairs are more or less needed to decide whether a stamp is an original or a reprint are of course few and far between; the only instances I can just now call to memory are the second and third issues of Wurtemberg. The 6 kr., green, with silk thread, can practically by no other means be classified, as to original or reprint, than by the fact that the space between the originals is ¾ mm., whilst 2 mm. separate them in the reprints. In the third issue the space between the stamps also forms the easiest test.

I might go on for some time yet, pointing out the advantages of taking pairs, strips, and blocks, by referring to the letters in the angles of English stamps, and the various surcharges of Turks Islands, by mentioning stamps that were only printed in alternate rows, between which perforated blank spaces are to be found, viz., several Heligoland stamps, but it would always be more or less a repetition of the above. So I will only add that the studying of perforations and roulettes as to the way they are done, &c., would be greatly facilitated by the help of unsevered pairs and blocks.

I have only expressed some of my views on the above subject, and sincerely hope that not all are of my opinion, for it would be too hard on our friends the dealers if they could not get rid of any more of their medium and poor single copies.

The Magnified Reproduction of Stamps by Dissolving Lantern.

THE Manchester Philatelic Society inaugurated their Winter Session on the 28th of last month by a *réunion*, the main object of which was to witness the enlarged reproduction of postage stamps projected on to a white screen through the medium of a bi-unial dissolving limelight lantern. The operator was Mr. Thos. Ridpath, of Liverpool, to whose skill in the management and preparation of the several representations the greatest praise is due. The special feature in this method of reproducing stamps is that not only are they enormously enlarged—about 1200 times—but this enlargement is thrown on to the screen *in colour*. The stamps are photographed on to the slides, but how the colour is maintained is a secret in the hands of the operators. The result, however, is as delightful as it is novel, the most minute differences being plainly discernible to every spectator.

A numerous company assembled at the Mitre Hotel, at 7.30 p.m., in response to the invitations of the Manchester Philatelic Society, about 40 gentlemen being present, inclusive of Mr. T. Lees Holden (President) and Mr. J. J. Darlow (Hon. Sec.), Oldham Philatelic Society; Mr. T. K. Skipwith (President), Leeds Philatelic Society; Mr. M. P. Castle (Vice-President) and Mr. J. A. Tilleard (Hon. Sec.), London Philatelic Society; Mr. Vernon Roberts (President) and Mr. W. D. Beckton (Hon. Sec.), Manchester Philatelic Society; Mr. G. B. Duerst, Mr. E. Pemberton, and others. The President of the welcoming body initiated the proceedings by a neat little speech, and after the close of the entertainment tendered a vote of thanks—which found unanimous and cordial acceptance by those present—to those gentlemen who had acted as exponents of the objects depicted; and Mr. Castle testified, on behalf of the visitors, to the excellence and utility of the work of the evening.

Ample refreshments were provided by the kindness of the Manchester Society, and the verdict of all who were privileged to attend was that the exhibition was one of high Philatelic interest, redounding greatly to the credit of Mr. Ridpath and the Manchester Philatelic Society.

The following is the programme of the subjects exhibited:

	Described by
Zurich, 1843, 6 rappen, black; the five types	J. H. ABBOTT.
„ „ genuine and forgery	G. B. DUERST.
English, 1854, 1d.; Dies I. and II.	W. D. BECKTON.
Roumania, 1865; 20 red, two types	G. B. DUERST.
„ 1874; 10 blue, two types	
Baton Rouge	T. RIDPATH.
U.S. America, 1869, 15 cents, blue and brown; with and without frame and the Government reprint	W. W. MUNN.
Oldenburg; two types of 1/30 silbergroschen, blue	J. H. ABBOTT.
Baden, 18 kreuzer, green; genuine and forgery	G. B. DUERST.
Sydney Views, 1d.; Plates I. and II. (pair of each), the latter showing variety, no clouds	W. D. BECKTON.
Sydney Views, 2d.; Plates I., Retouch, II., III., IV., and V.	
India, ½ anna, red (pair), and ½ anna, proof, in red	J. H. ABBOTT.
Roumania, 1870, 3 bani, violet; two types	G. B. DUERST.
„ 1879, 15 bani, flesh-coloured; two types	
France, 1870, Bordeaux issue, 20 centimes; Types I., II., III., and IV.	W. W. MUNN.
Cape of Good Hope, 1s., green, in blocks (106)	
South Australia, 1884, ½d., lilac; perforated	T. RIDPATH.
Victoria, 1850, 2d.; the three varieties	W. D. BECKTON.
„ 1s.; genuine and forgery	
Naples, ½, 1, 2, 5, 10, and 20 grani, lake	J. H. ABBOTT.
Lubeck, 1859, 4 schilling, green; block of six	G. B. DUERST.
Holland, unpaid; the four types	W. W. MUNN.
Ceylon, 1s. 9d., green; genuine and forgery	J. H. ABBOTT.
Switzerland, Neufchatel, 5 c.; genuine and forgery	
Chili; watermark of the 5 centavos	J. H. ABBOTT.
Greece, 20 lepta, blue, Paris; early and late Athens	W. W. MUNN.
Switzerland, Federal issue; genuine and forgery	W. D. BECKTON.
Saxony, 3 pfennige, red; genuine and forgery	
Great Britain, 5s., I.R.; genuine and forgery	G. B. DUERST.
Bavaria, 6 kreuzer; Dies I. and II.	W. D. BECKTON.

The stamps for the slides were kindly lent by the President, Messrs. Abbott, Beckton, Duerst, Fildes, Munn, and Ridpath.

It will be seen from the foregoing list that a wise selection had been made on the score of interesting varieties and useful comparisons, while the concise and pithy explanations of Messrs. Abbott, Beckton, Duerst, and Munn made each salient detail clear. These several little lectures were, for the greater part, delivered with admirable effect, and evinced conscientious study of all the stamps exhibited; Mr. Beckton's classical history of the Sydney views, being especially noticeable by the amount of knowledge displayed, "brought down the house." We congratulate the Manchester Philatelic Society, and hope that the sincerest form of flattery will induce the repetition of such lectures in other societies. Their educational influence and interest to the average collector should go far to induce a wider study of the *minutiæ* that form the greatest attraction of Philately.

Philatelic Notes.

NOTE.—*Under this title will be found all notes relating to postal issues other than those that are chronicled as current novelties, or which form the subject of special articles. The co-operation of Philatelists is invited in order to make this column of a varied and interesting nature.*

BATON ROUGE.

HITHERTO unknown variety of this Confederate Local has been shewn to us by Messrs. Ridpath and Co., viz., a 10 c., blue, on white paper, resembling the usual type. The specimen in question is postmarked with a date cancellation "Dec. 18?" and is upon an entire envelope sent from the "General Land Office, Bâton Rouge La" to "George O Elms, Esq., Lake Charles, Parish of Calcasne La." A newcomer of such importance as this is of course required to produce good credentials as to its birth and parentage. We have compared it, or rather the photograph, with the 5 c., but the comparison does not avail much, and we note that the New York Philatelic Society, in their minutes elsewhere reported, states "That a 10 c. Bâton Rouge had been brought to the attention of some members, and a photograph of this and the 2 c. Bâton Rouge was exhibited. The general opinion was that neither of these stamps had been sufficiently authenticated to the satisfaction of collectors of Confederate Stamps." From a cursory inspection of the stamp itself we were favourably impressed, but the mere presence of "local colour" will not alone suffice to secure the acceptance of the new aspirant to posthumous Philatelic honour.

LITHOGRAPHED IMITATION OF SYDNEY VIEW ESSAYS.

IN the London Society's work on *Oceania* Mr. Philbrick gives (p. 49) an interesting account of a 1d. essay first described by Mr. E. Buckley in the *New South Wales Stamp Collectors' Magazine* of April, 1880. The specimen in question was an engraved essay resembling the adopted type in red

on toned paper, and having the label at base cut out and the space filled in with a value taken from another 1d. essay. The essay is the Eve of its companion, the 3d., from which it has been made, and specimens of both essays are in the Tapling collection. The 3d. is a bi-colored impression, centre red and frame blue, and both are of great rarity, if not absolutely unique. Mr. Castle was lately the recipient of a pair of these stamps, with the official endorsement, as on the originals at the Museum, but *lithographed*, both *stamps and 'writing.'* These lithographic forgeries were sent by a most respectable Continental dealer at a high price, who had doubtless been imposed upon in their purchase, as he volunteered the information that "These essays had been given by Lord B——, who presented them to an ambassador at Brussels, now deceased, from whose family I have purchased them." A very interesting pedigree, marred however by the fact that these "stamps" were never lithographed but engraved, and that no reproduction of them has ever been made by the New South Wales Government. Is the wicked man going abroad? It savours strongly of "the touch of a Van-(ished) hand." The hero of the Laureated Reprints (which are now met with "postmarked") never stooped to small acts of iniquity; hence there are probably more to follow of these original unique essays in other noblemen's possession, and collectors on both sides of the Channel will do well to hesitate in purchasing a stamp that never existed—even if furnished with a history up to date.

GREAT BRITAIN: DATE OF LARGE CROWN ISSUE.

WE have received a letter from Mr. O. Firth, of Hawthorn House, Baildon, in which he kindly sends the following interesting information, antedating the use of the 1d. by two and a half months:

"In the *Philatelic Record* for this month (p. 218) Mr. Philbrick gives the earliest date for the large crown paper as Oct. 16th, 1855, and it is frequently given as of still later date. I have a copy of the 1d. on slightly blued paper, with postmark 23 in diamond on stamp, and alongside 'Bradford Au 2 (8?), 1855'; on back is 'L S 27 Au 27 1855' in frame of Maltese cross shape. This puts the date still further back."

DISCOVERIES.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA.—The following are, we believe, additions to the Reference Lists in Messrs. Gordon Smith and Napier's recent work on these stamps:

2d. Type II., perf. $11\frac{1}{2} \times 12\frac{1}{2}$, watermark S A wide; do. *perf.* 10 (*above*) $\times 11\frac{1}{2}$ *below* $\times 12\frac{1}{2}$ (*sides*). Mr. A. Levy is the possessor of two copies of the latter, and Lieut. Napier of the former, which thus annuls the two first sentences on page 107 of *South Australia.*

"P."

Mr. W. Thorne has a specimen of the same stamp—the 2d., Type II., wmk. S A and Cr. (wide), with this surcharge, *perf.* $11\frac{1}{2} \times 12\frac{1}{2}$. (p. 53, *S. A.*)

"O. S."

Mr. M. P. Castle has the 2d. Type II., wmk. S A and Cr. (close), *perf.* $11\frac{1}{2} \times 12\frac{1}{2}$. (p. 71, *S. A.*)

IMPERFORATE CEYLON AND HONGKONG STAMPS.

WE have had the pleasure of seeing a fine series of imperforate stamps in immaculate condition, which belong to a well-known member of the London Philatelic Society. It is of course open to question if these varieties can be classed as a regular issue; but in any case they are both of considerable interest and great rarity, and in the case of a specialising collector they cannot possibly be ignored. The following is a list of the varieties we have seen, the colours being of course those of the normal perforated series:

CEYLON.

Wmk. CC & Cr.	½d., 3d.
„	4 c., 36 c., 48 c., 96 c.

HONGKONG.

Wmk. CC & Cr.	2 c., 18 c., 30 c.

JAPANESE FORGERIES.

MESSRS. WHITFIELD KING AND CO. inform us that "the forged Japanese stamps we lately described in this journal are now coming over post-marked, and are being offered as genuine stamps, a set of twenty-four varieties having been sent us from Amoy. The postmarks are of several kinds, and dangerously close to the true ones. Our correspondents think that the Society should make a strong representation to the Japanese Government to stop the sale of these things; but we fear at present that the Japanese Government is otherwise engaged.

Occasional Notes.

PRESENTATIONS TO THE "TAPLING COLLECTION."

COLOMBIA REPUBLIC.—50 centavos, green; 1 peso, red; 5 pesos, yellow; and 10 pesos, black; prepared for issue in 1876, but never brought into use on account of a theft of some of the stamps; also a specimen of a 10 centavos, red, triangular stamp, prepared in 1881, but never issued.—Dr. G. Michelsen.

CONFEDERATE STATES.—Die proofs in black on glazed card of the 1 c. and 5 c., 1862.—Mr. W. W. Blest.

GREAT BRITAIN.—1d., red, without letters in upper corners, watermarked Large Crown; perforated 14, with surcharge "specimen."—The Earl of Kingston.

The current registration envelope, size F, with error "publisbed."—Mr. F. A. Philbrick, Q.C.

Twenty-one varieties of the registration envelopes with "Insurance clauses."—Mr. W. T. Wilson.

Eleven other varieties of the same envelopes.—Major E. B. Evans.

Seven other varieties of the same envelopes.—Mr. E. D. Bacon.

Electric Telegraph Co.'s Form with 3s. stamp, issue 1861; perf. 12 attached.—Mr. F. G. C. Lundy.

NEW BRUNSWICK and NOVA SCOTIA.—A pair of the 3d., 6d., and 1 sh. reprints of 1890, of the first issue of each colony, and also of the 1d. Nova Scotia.—The Post-office Department of Canada, through Mr. Lachlan Gibb.

NEW SOUTH WALES.—Die proof in black on glazed card of the 2d., issue March, 1862.—Mr. W. W. Blest.

THE NEW PLAIN POST CARDS.

THE use of these seems rapidly coming into favour, and we hear of their production at marvellously low rates per 1000. Thirty-eight thousand of these alone passed through the Liverpool Post-office in one week, or about a tenth of the ordinary post cards. The regulations as to size have been followed pretty generally, though several firms have requested their trade mark might supersede the Royal arms, but this request has been refused by the postal authorities.

A LIFETIME IN A POST-OFFICE.

UNDER the above title an interesting interview was recounted lately with Mr. C. J. Stevens in the columns of *Black and White*. In alluding to the various changes that had taken place during his very long connection with the Postal Department in various important capacities, Mr. Stevens mentioned, *inter alia*, a little fact that may not be known to many collectors, *i.e.*, the origin of the blue cross lines on the registration envelopes. It appears that "formerly they were bound round with a piece of blue silk, so that they should be noticed at a glance. As the business in them increased, and the cost of silk became appreciable, worsted was introduced, and after that strong twine. Then came an inspiration, and somebody suggested that a streak of blue pencil on the envelope would answer all purposes. A simple matter, is it not? And yet it took years before anybody thought of it."

THE POWERS OF IMAGINATION.

A WONDERFUL instance of real second sight in the case of a "young man who dreamt dreams" occurs in the pages of an esteemed contemporary. The highly-gifted young person with Philatelic proclivities indulges in a chat with a friendly fellow-passenger, and then "sinks into the arms of '*Morphia*'!" He is frantically urged to buy by his comrade, in his vision, and is then shewn the sheets, and he "recognised whole sheets of the 1d., red, and 2d., blue, Post-office, whole sheets of them, and twelve in a sheet." "It was a feast in Philately," no doubt, "and he had never seen them before"; perhaps he has since! Nor did the baseless fabric of the dream fade away without further wonders, for we read of "sheets of filleted heads used and unused on originals!" His fellow-passengers, in after years, quoth our dreamer, frequently ask him whether he has got those Mauritius stamps yet, but he fears that he neither has nor will. "And so say all of us!"

STAMP-COLLECTORS' PETITION.

OUR contemporary, *The Million*, has with characteristic energy set on foot the following petition, with which most collectors will agree:

"To the Honourable the House of Commons—

"The Petition of the undersigned subjects residing in many different parts of Great Britain and Ireland, and in the various British Colonies,

"Respectfully sheweth,

"1. That the collecting of postage stamps, considered both as a pastime and a science, has become an affair of interest to hundreds of thousands of private persons, while as a business it represents the invested capital and livelihood of several thousand dealers in England alone, with numerous periodical publications, catalogues, and illustrated price-lists, as well as a constantly increasing volume of permanent literature, all devoted entirely to the subject of Philately.

"2. That Section 7 of the Post-office (Protection) Act, 1884 [47 & 48 Vict. Ch. 76] having been passed into law without reference to the judgment of competent and disinterested Philatelists, has since been found inadvertently to work much annoyance and costly confusion to private collectors, and to gravely prejudice British dealers and publishers in the matter of foreign competition.

"3. That the above-named Section is incapable of strict enforcement, since its terms of prohibition include 'any *facsimile* or imitation or representation, whether on paper or otherwise, of any stamp for denoting any rate of postage of Her Majesty's Colonies, or of any foreign country'—the literal observance of which would involve the confiscation of all the editions of every stamp catalogue, magazine, and Philatelic work published in Great Britain, and the prosecution of their publishers, printers, and engravers—a task rivalling in magnitude all the combined present duties of Somerset House.

"4. That the partial enforcement of a single Clause of Section 7 (that covering the reproduction of any British stamp, obsolete or current) to which the legal officials of the Inland Revenue of necessity confine themselves, serves no purpose save to bring the Section itself into contempt, to waste the time and energies of public servants, and to harass and handicap British publishers and dealers.

"5. That even if it were desirable to prevent British collectors from becoming acquainted with the designs, numberings, and artistic variations of their own stamps, that object would be frustrated by the action of publishers in Germany, France, America, Belgium, and other countries, who reproduce British stamps with impunity in their catalogues and price-lists, and circulate the same with entire freedom through the mails of this country.

"6. That by reason of this a considerable portion of the stamp business which would otherwise be done here is sent abroad to foreign dealers, and the inducements to publish serviceable Philatelic works, which might keep Great Britain abreast of other countries in the development of Philatelic science, are greatly lessened.

"7. That this practical injury to British publishers and dealers, and this implied association with felonious practices of an intellectual and highly educational pursuit, dear to great numbers of reputable British subjects, are both needless and offensive.

"May it therefore please your honourable House, in the present Session of Parliament, to place this question on the list of reforms, and to take such steps as in your wisdom may seem fit to redress the grievances complained of—our desire being that, while all penalties attaching to intending forgeries and counterfeits shall remain,

publishers and printers of magazines, newspapers, catalogues, price-lists, and books, may exercise the privilege in good faith and under proper safeguards, of using for purposes of illustration any and all designs of stamps, British, Colonial, and foreign, old and new.

"And your petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray."

Copies may be obtained on application to *The Million* (Petition Dept.), 8, 9, 10, & 11, Southampton Street, Strand, W.C.

WEST AFRICAN "PHILATELY."

A CORRESPONDENT has kindly sent us a copy of the *Sierra Leone Times* of September 15.

"The Postmaster seems to be having a very awkward time, and deserves cordial sympathy. All the *mauvais sujets* appear to fall to his department, and the weeding process goes on continually, to the discredit of the service. But these things must happen, and it is idle to expect that the Postmaster would be in a position to know the *inner* characters of his subordinates, until they develop themselves.

"Those young gentlemen who have decamped when charged with surcharging stamps for their own benefit, may be said to have fallen victims to the terrible mania for stamp collecting, which has taken firm hold of the youths of the city. The European Philatelists who offer such tempting inducements for used-up stamps, scarcely know what temptation they are thereby putting in the way of the underpaid clerks of the Post-office, and much vigilance is required to prevent them from indulging in the traffic."

We fail to see, however, how European Philatelists are responsible, either for underpaying the Post-office clerks, or for the use, or rather misuse, of surcharges. Nothing would please European collectors better than the honest and straightforward issue of stamps as required for public use *only*, and the infliction of penal servitude on any one below the rank of Secretary of State who created a surcharge.

AN INNOVATION IN COMMEMORATIVE FESTIVITIES.

THE Philatelic Societies of Geneva have announced a grand auction of Swiss stamps to precede their Annual Society Banquet on the 11th November. The stamps will be on view at 11 o'clock, and the sale be held at 2, after which buyers and sellers will toast each other at the Philatelic festive board. It appears that any one amateur or dealer may send in stamps, but "it has been decided that every false, doubtful, dirty, damaged, or mended stamp, even if so described, shall be pitilessly refused, in order that nothing but perfect specimens shall be sold." *L'on n'est pas toujours parfait*, and it is often the weakest stamps that go to the sale, as collectors most selfishly keep the best ones back for their own albums. Imagine a 4 c. Vaud, unused, but with "a tiny nick" in the margin, being "*impitoyablement refusé*," while that over-valued stamp, a 6 rappen Zurich, is held up to the admiration of an admiring throng of Helvetian Philatelists. Seriously, however, the sale will be a highly interesting one, and will doubtless attract a large attendance, all applications thereon requiring to be addressed to Md' Estienne, Grande Rue 9, Geneva.

New Issues.

Under this head will be found notes of the new, and variations of the current issues. We do not profess to chronicle everything, but with the kind help of correspondents, are desirous that all the important novelties may be included. Speculative stamps—i.e. those not really required for postal purposes—will be considered on their merits, and Jubilee issues will not be chronicled.

GREAT BRITAIN AND COLONIES.

CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.—We have received from Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. a specimen of a new 2½ pence envelope lately issued; size 140×78 mm. The stamp is of oval shape, impressed in the right-hand upper corner.

Envelope. 2½ pence, bronze-green on grey.

HONGKONG.—We are informed that the postal rate here has been raised from 7 cents to 10 cents per ½ oz., thus doing away with further use for 7 c. and 14 c. stamps.—*Monthly Journal.*

INDIA.—We copy the following from the *Monthly Journal:* "We have received a copy of the following official notification of the issue of the service registration envelope which we chronicled last month:

"POSTAL NOTICE.

"Registration envelopes of the large size (10 inches by 4½) have been overprinted with the words 'On Her Majesty's Service' on the face, and with the letters 'On H. M. S.' across the registration stamp. These envelopes are now available for official correspondence, and may be obtained in the same manner and under the same rules as service postage stamps. The price of a packet of eight is R. 1.5.3.

"2. The use of these envelopes is recommended for official documents of importance or value, and specially for official remittances which for any reason are not made by money order.

"L. G. WAIT,
"*Deputy Postmaster-General,*
"*Sind and Baluchistan.*"

Reg. Env. (Service). 2 annas, black and blue, 250×126 mm.

LABUAN.—Our surmise as to the surcharge on the North Borneo types (that they are a collector's issue, page 136) has proved correct, and already we are in receipt of news of the re-issue of the old "Queen's head" type, lithographed, the colours remaining practically as before.

NATIVE INDIAN STATES.—*Travancore.*—We have received from Messrs. Ridpath & Co. a modification of the 2 chuckrams value. The difference exists in the stamp, which is no longer embossed, but lithographed on laid paper.

Envelope. 2 chuckrams, rose.

NEW SOUTH WALES.—An inter-Colonial 1½ pence letter card has been issued with stamp similar to that on the cards of 1892. Its use is restricted to the Australian continent.

Letter Card. 1½ pence, red on dark grey.

NIGER COAST.—We formally chronicle the surcharge of one halfpenny on 2½ pence, alluded to last month.

Adhesive. One half-penny, in black, on 2½ pence, blue.

SAMOA.—Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. write: "Referring to the 4d. Samoa surcharged Five pence (see *Monthly Journal* for June), we have just received another sheet, in which the type is smaller and badly impressed. This is *not* a more recent issue, but is contemporary with the larger and clearer type. We fancy the surcharges were impressed by hand, one stamp at a time, and perhaps two persons were engaged in the stamping, necessitating two stamps, which were set up in different type. This is only a surmise on our part, but it seems to us a reasonable explanation of two types existing. We send you both sheets for your inspection."

The appearance of the sheets in question seems to bear out our correspondents' surmise, the surcharge, especially smudgy in the instance of the smaller one, being found in very various positions on the stamps. The larger overprint measures as to the word PENCE nearly 9 mm. in length, the letters (black block capitals) being almost 2 mm. in height, while on the smaller the same word is only 7 mm. in length and the letters 1½ mm. high. On the latter are found numerous badly-formed or misplaced letters, and also a double surcharge.

STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.—*Johore.*—The *Monthly Journal* gives the quantities of the surcharges recently issued and chronicled on pages 136 and 147. From the same source we learn that the 2 c. was *not* surcharged.

	Quantities Issued.
4 c.	10,000
5 c.	4,000
6 c.	3,500
$1	1,000

TRINIDAD.—*Le Collectionneur de Timbre-Poste* chronicles a 5 pence stamp of same type as the Seychelles.

Adhesive.
5 pence, yellow-green, value in rose, wmk. Cr. CA.

ZULULAND.—The ½ penny value of the De La Rue new type has now appeared (page 147). Mr. Tilleard has also shewn us a high value that has not been recorded hitherto, as far as we are aware, consisting of the five pounds. The stamp is practically the current Great Britain 6d. as to design, with the inscription of value at base, and the word "Zululand" added in black inscription.

Adhesives. ½d., lilac and green.
£5, mauve on orange-red, black inscriptions.

EUROPE.

BELGIUM.—The 2 c. Sunday stamp has appeared in a new colour.

Adhesive. 2 c., red-brown.

HOLLAND.—The *Ill. Briefmarken Journal* notes an error in the current $2\frac{1}{2}+2\frac{1}{2}$ c. card, with the inscription on the first half *inverted.*

(NIET BETAALD ANTWOORD)
BRIEFKAART

MONTENEGRO.—The *Monthly Journal* notes four new letter cards here, the two lower values of which have a heading in two lines and instructions at the left side and on the back fold, while the two higher have "Carte-letter" added below the heading, and no instructions. All are on very thin card, *azure* outside and *white* inside, and have three dotted lines for the address, the third underlined. The perforations cross at the upper corners.

Letter Cards. 3 nov., black on *azure.*
5 ,, rose ,,
7 ,, mauve ,,
10 ,, blue ,,

ROUMANIA.—We have a new card from Messrs. W. King & Co., value 5 bani, Arms in the left upper corner, "Carta Postala" and "D" with two lines for address; stamp of the new type.

Post Card. 5 bani, blue on white.

From the same firm we have received some curiosities in the higher values of adhesives, as follows: 1 lei (? proof), in wrong colour, blue and red (centre blue), *used postally*, and 2 lei, blue and orange-blue centre, *used* postally. The normal colours should be: 1 lei, bistre and rose, and 2 lei, orange and brown. The 1 lei bears postmark of Oct., 1893, and the 2 lei of 26 April (?), 1893.

SPAIN.—We have received from Messrs. Thos. Ridpath & Co. the current 10 c. card on a deeper shade buff card.

10 c., brown on deep buff.

SWITZERLAND.—*Le Timbre-Poste* notes that the shade of the current 12 c. adhesive has been modified.

Adhesive. 12 c., *deep* blue.

AMERICA.

BRAZIL.—We have seen three values of the new issue which has been in anticipation for some time. These are the 20, 100, and 200 reis values, and were the only ones to be bought at the post-office on the departure of the last steamer.

The design in all values is rectangular, consisting of an oval, enclosing in the lower value a view of the well-known "Sugar Loaf," and in the two other values the head of Liberty, "Correio" in a diagonal band at top, and value in words and figures at base, printed in two colours on white wove paper.

Adhesives. 20 reis, pale orange and blue; perf. 11½.
100 ,, rose and black; perf. 11.
200 ,, orange and black; perf. 13½×11½.

CHILE.—A stamp for acknowledging returned letter receipt (similar to those recently issued by Colombia) has been issued, "Correos de Chile" at top, profile of Columbus in centre, "A R" at base. Specimen received from Messrs. Whitfield King & Co.

Adhesive. No value, brown (*returned letter receipt*).

UNITED STATES.—We have received, through the courtesy of Mr. J. N. T. Levick, of New York, specimens of the new type 4 c. and 6 c. adhesives. The design, with the exception of two double-lined triangles enclosing three dots inserted in the top corners, is precisely similar to the old design. The colours vary slightly from the previous set, the former being a shade brighter, and the latter more reddish and distinctly duller. They bear on the margin of the sheet the words "Bureau, Engraving and Printing."

Adhesives. 4 c., new type, dark brown.
6 c. ,, red-brown.

From the same correspondent we have also an example of the 1 c. Postage Due, which appears, however, to have only come into partial use as yet, as most of the Post-offices are still issuing the like value of the former set: the colour of the specimens kindly forwarded by Mr. Levick is rather paler than that of the 2 c. (described in our last issue).

Adhesive. Postage Due, 1 c., pale claret.

OTHER COUNTRIES.

ANGOLA.—Messrs. Whitfield King's letter elsewhere explains the creation of a new surcharge, viz., 25 reis on 2½ reis, brown, current issue.

CHINESE LOCAL POSTS.—Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. write:

"The following have now been added to the list of above:

"*Tientsin.*—½ c., green; 1 c., brown; 2 c., violet; 5 c., yellow; 10 c., blue; 15 c., pink. Also the same surcharged 'Postage Due.' Specimens of the ½ cent stamps enclosed.

"*Wuhu.*—Two varieties of ½ c., 1, 2, 5, 6, 10, 15, 20, and 40 c. Specimens not yet to hand."

FRENCH COLONIES.—*China.*—The following values of current French adhesives have been surcharged for use in Shanghai with the single word *Chine*. The overprint is in different colours, as follows:

5 c., green;	carmine surcharge.	
10 c., violet	,,	,,
15 c., blue	,,	,,
20 c., red on green;	black	,,
25 c., black on rose	carmine	,,
30 c., bistre	black	,,
40 c., vermilion	,,	,,
50 c., carmine	,,	,,
75 c, black on orange;	carmine	,,
1 franc, olive-green;	black	,,
5 francs, lilac	,,	,,

NYASSA.—We have received from Messrs. Whitfield King and Co. twelve varieties of adhesives, issued by the Nyassa Company for use in their territories between Lake Nyassa and the East Coast of Africa. Realising the value of the *provisional* to the collector, this enterprising company have not only supplied three values *imperf.* and *perf.* 14, but also a series of three surcharges, also *imperf.* and *perf.* 14.

Adhesives. 10 reis, red.
20 ,, lilac.
50 ,, yellow-green.
5 on 10 reis, red; black surcharge.
75 on 20 ,, lilac ,,
100 on 50 ,, green ,,

ORANGE FREE STATE.—*Le Timbre-Poste* chronicles the following in new colours:

Adhesives. ½ penny, yellow.
1 ,, violet.
2 pence, rose.
2½ ,, green.
3 ,, brown.
4 ,, grey.
6 ,, blue.
1s., red-brown.
2s. 6d., orange.
5s., carmine.

The 2s. 6d. value appears to be a new addition to the list of adhesives.

TONGA.—There are several errors in each sheet of the latest Tonga provisional ½d. on 1s., the word "surcharge" being misspelt "surcharce." The Tongese seem to have taken up letter writing seriously!

Philatelic Societies' Meetings.

BRADFORD PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

President: OLIVER FIRTH.
H. W. ATKINSON.
A. DOMRY.
R. A. EBSTEIN.
Hon. Librarian: H. W. ATKINSON.

Vice-President: W. M. GRAY.
R. M. MCMASTER.
GEO. PARK.
W. E. WHITE.
Hon. Treasurer: W. M. GRAY.

Hon. Secretary: W. H. SCOTT, 1, Piccadilly, Bradford.

THIS Society, which has been recently formed by a few of the Bradford Philatelists, held its second meeting on Thursday evening, the 11th October, in a class-room at the Boys' Grammar School. There were a good number of members (who now number over twenty) present. Only formal business, such as electing new members, going through and settling the rules, &c., &c., was transacted. The Secretary reported the receipt from Messrs. Hilckes & Co., Limited, of six copies of their new paper, *The Stamp Collector's Fortnightly*, for distribution among the members, for which it was resolved to send Messrs. Hilckes and Co. the best thanks of the Society. It was also resolved for the Society to form a collection of stamps of its own, members being requested to contribute. The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, the 6th of November, when a paper on "The Stamps of Great Britain" will be read by Mr. Atkinson.

THE JOHANNESBURG PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

MINUTES of ordinary fortnightly meeting, held at the Y.M.C.A.'s Buildings, September 5th, 1894.

Mr. Leon Schuler presided in the chair; there were 15 members present.

After the reading of the minutes by the Secretary, Mr. E. P. Solomon (of the firm Solomon and Thomson, solicitors, of this town) was elected an ordinary member of the Society.

Mr. Samuel Epstein put it as a recommendation to the committee that some alteration be made as to the sending of approval sheets to the members.

It was resolved that Mr. Emil Tamsen's articles on "Stamps of the Transvaal" be read in parts at the meetings.

Mr. Booleman proposed "That an Exhibition be held in May, 1895, subject, on the amendment of Mr. Neuburger, to a committee of seven being appointed to report on the possibility of holding such exhibition successfully." This was carried unanimously.

The Committee elected was composed of the following gentlemen: Messrs. Osborn, Dr. Meyer, Chaplin, Booleman, Graumann, Van Diggelen, and Klagsbrun.

A vote of thanks to the Chairman terminated the meeting.

SALLO EPSTEIN,
P.O. Box 1239. *Hon. Sec.*

All communications in reference to this Society to be addressed to the Hon. Secretary. Address as above.

MANCHESTER PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

President.—VERNON ROBERTS. | *Vice President.*—F. BARRATT.
Hon. Sec.—W. DORNING BECKTON. | *Assistant Hon. Sec.*—C. H. COOTE.
Hon. Treasurer.—G. B. DUERST.
Hon. Librarian.—J. H. ABBOTT.
E. P. COLLETT. | W. GRUNEWALD.
G. F. H. GIBSON. | W. W. MUNN.

THE opening meeting of the Session was held at the Mitre Hotel on Friday, September 28, 1894; the President in the chair, supported by 40 members and visitors, amongst whom were the Vice-President and Hon. Secretary of the London Society, the President of the Leeds Society, the Hon. Secretary of the Liverpool Society, and the President and Hon. Secretary of the Oldham Society.

The President, in a few opening remarks, referred to the kindness of Mr. T. Ridpath in again giving his services in preparing and completing a most interesting series of photographic slides, which would be thrown on the screen. The members would remember that at the opening meeting last session a limelight exhibition was held, whereby the differences between certain genuine stamps and well-executed forgeries were pointed out. On the present occasion the feature of the limelight exhibition would be the illustration of different types of genuine stamps.

That the exhibition was a success seemed to be the unanimous opinion of all present. A special word of praise is due to Mr. Ridpath, for the high excellence of the slides and the faithful colours in which the stamps appeared upon the screen, and for the manner in which he manipulated the lantern.

Upon the motion of the President a hearty vote of thanks was passed to Mr. Ridpath, who suitably responded.

A vote of thanks was also passed to Messrs. Abbott, Beckton, Duerst, and Munn for the descriptions given by them of the stamps, which was acknowledged by Mr. Duerst.

Upon the request of the President, Mr. Castle shortly addressed the meeting, expressing, on behalf of himself, Mr. Tilleard, and the other visitors, the very great pleasure the exhibition had afforded them.

W. DORNING BECKTON.

DAISY BANK, SWINTON PARK.

THE NEW YORK PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

THE regular meeting of the Society for September was held in its rooms, 25, Ann Street, on the 17th inst. (Sept.)

Although this was the first meeting since the summer vacation, the attendance was not very large, owing to the intense heat.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved. The resignation of Mr. Jonas D. Rice was reported by the Secretary as having been received and placed before the Governing Committee in due course.

No regular subject for discussion had been appointed, and no paper was read, but the subject of the Confederate stamps was taken up and discussed by the members. A 10 c. Baton Rouge had been brought to the attention of some members, and a photograph of this and the 2 c. Baton Rouge was exhibited. The general opinion developed was that neither of these stamps had been sufficiently authenticated to the satisfaction of collectors of Confederate stamps.

Several members reported a practical completion of their collection of entire sheets of the last issue of 5 c. and 10 c. Confederate States stamps. No complete sheets have been brought to the knowledge of the Society of the TEN or of the 10 c. with outer line, but one of the members reported having had a block of 12 unused outer line 10 c., thus showing that the opinion expressed hitherto by several eminent Philatelists, that the outer line had been printed in sheets of 10 stamps only, was incorrect.

Another new discovery was exhibited to the members of the Society, being a Gordon City Express 2 c. stamp, black on red paper. Copies on green paper are quite common, but in over thirty years that this stamp has been known no copy has ever turned up in anything but the regular colour. The red stamp in question was on the original letter addressed to Messrs. Sparkman and Truslow, cork merchants, and mailed on February 5th, 1849. Two copies only were found, one of which is slightly damaged.

The meeting adjourned at 10.15 p.m.

The Market.

SALE OF MR. M. P. CASTLE'S AUSTRALIAN COLLECTION.

WE have to announce that Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Limited, have purchased this well-known collection for the sum of ten thousand pounds.

AUCTIONS IN GERMANY.

THE inauguration of a series of auctions by the International Stamp Dealers' Society took place on the 10th of last month at Berlin, and, although it attracted a numerous attendance, seems not to have been a brilliant success. It appears that there were a number of rare envelopes and stamps submitted, but in almost every case they were protected by such high reserves that no business ensued. One of our German contemporaries in fact, classes it as no auction, but an attempt, without running any risk, to increase prices, and if they are to take firm hold in Germany they will have to be founded on a more liberal basis than this. Philatelic auctions are intended for the benefit of buyer and seller alike, and if the latter wishes to have all the plums the former will cease to attend, and the affair will die a natural death. Experience in this country has clearly shewn us that except in rare instances reserve prices are quite unnecessary. The standard of appreciation of stamps has spread widely of late years; in few large towns and certainly in no capital is there any fear that no one will know the value of a stamp. If specimens are poor or of little value no reserve or puffing up will sell them; and if, on the contrary, they are rare or superfine they are absolutely safe to attain their full value. The leading Philatelic auctioneers in England strongly discourage reserve prices, and we are confident that their clients gain thereby.

The highest prices attained at the Berlin auction were :

	Marks.
Naples cross, used	82
Saxony, 3 pf. „	110
Lombardy 5 soldi, large size, used	100

Amongst the reserves not sold (and richly deserving their fate) we note :

Tuscany, 2 soldi, used	125 (!)
Sardinia, 1820, used, 15, 25, and 50 c.	550
Oldenburg, ⅓, 1st issue	40
U.S., 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5 dollars on envelope	125 (!)
Prussia, octagonal envelope, 6 g., used	250
Ditto, 7 g., used	300

MESSRS. VENTOM, BULL, AND COOPER.

AT their second sale a very fine selection of stamps were disposed of; the attendance was phenomenal, and the prices in many instances in like ratio. The total arrived at was over £1800, and it will be seen that fresh records were established in several instances :

	£	s.	d.
Great Britain, V.R., unused, *slightly torn*	8	12	6
Ditto, 6d., lilac, wmk. "4 flowers," plate 6, unused	3	3	0
Ditto, 2½ pence, rose, wmk. "Orb," plate 3, unused	3	0	0
Mecklenburg-Schwerin, ¼ sch., red, dotted background, rouletted	5	5	0
Austria, head of Mercury, the yellow, unused on original	3	5	0
Spain, Madrid, unused, original gum	4	8	0
Ditto, 3 cuartos, bronze	11	0	0
Ditto, 2 reales, red	17	0	0
Ditto, 6 cuartos, 2 and 6 reales, (3) unused, with gum, large margins	6	0	0
Switzerland, Geneva, the double stamp, unsevered	25	0	0
Vaud, 4 c., red and black	18	0	0
Ditto „	19	0	0
Ditto „ on original	18	0	0
Zurich, 4 rappen, vertical lines	16	0	0
Ditto „ horizontal lines	13	10	0
Tuscany, 60 crazie	7	0	0
Ceylon, 4d., rose, imperf.	12	0	0
Hong-kong, 96 c., yellow-brown, unused	6	10	0
Philippines, 1863–64, 1 real, dark violet, surcharged Habilitado	4	4	0
Cape, woodblock, 1d., red	4	10	0
Mauritius, post-paid, 1d., vermilion, earliest state of plate	9	0	0
Ditto, 2d., blue „	7	0	0
Mauritius, envelope stamp, unused, cut square, 1s., yellow	6	10	0
Transvaal, 1877, red surcharge, 3d., lilac, surcharged *twice, once in black*	20	0	0
Ditto, darker shade	5	0	0
Ditto, 1877, 1s., green, pair, unused	2	12	0
Ditto, strip of 3, unused	5	0	0
Ditto, a *tête-bêche* pair unused, wide roulette one side	20	0	0
Ditto, remainder of original sheet, unused (25)	32	0	0
Ditto, 1877, 1s., green, block of 4, unused (upper pair *tête-bêche*), wide roulette one side	9	10	0
Ditto, remainder of the original sheet, unused (23)	6	6	0
Do., 1878, 3d., lilac on buff, imperf., unused sheet, 24 with upright V.R., 16 slanting V.R. (40)	9	0	0
Ditto, 1878, 6d., blue on blue, imperf., entire sheet, unused, containing the *tête-bêche* variety, 13 with upright V.R., 27 slanting V.R. (40)	6	0	0
Ditto, part sheet of above, unused, with original gum (31)	6	0	0
Canada, 6d., green, unused	6	0	0
Ditto, 12d., black on wove	30	0	0
New Brunswick, 1s., violet	10	0	0
Ditto ditto	11	0	0
United States, Executive, set complete	4	17	6
Ditto, Justice, set complete (except 1 c.)	6	12	6
Ditto, State, 5 dols., unused	15	0	0
Ditto „ 10 dols. „	6	10	0
Ditto „ 20 dols. „	6	6	0
Bermuda, provisional, surcharge in fancy letters, 3d. on 1d., rose, unused pair	4	0	0
British Guiana, 1851, 1 c., black on magenta	3	0	0
Ditto, 4 c., black on deep blue	4	10	0
Nevis, 1s., green, unused, and 1d., rose, unused (2)	3	7	6
Antioquia, first issue, 2½ c., blue	13	0	0
Ditto, 5 c., green	14	0	0
Ditto, 5 c. (darker shade)	10	0	0
Ditto, 1 peso, unused	4	15	0
New South Wales, laureated, coarse background, 6d., brown, unused	12	10	0
New Zealand, blue paper, pair	5	10	0
Ditto, pelure, 1s., green, perf., unused	4	17	6
Queensland, first issue, 1d., carmine, pair on entire letter sheet	5	15	0
Ditto, 2d., blue, imperf., on piece of original	7	0	0
South Australia, perf. 10, 4d., grey; 6d., blue; and 1s., brown, unused (3)	4	0	0
Tasmania, 1d., blue	3	3	0

MESSRS. CHEVELEY & CO.

AT the sale of October 2nd the following realised over £2 :

	£	s.	d.
Labuan, 6 c. on 16 c., red on blue	10	10	0
South Australia, set of "Reprint" and "Specimen" stamps as issued by Government, ½d. to £20	2	6	0
New South Wales, laureated, 8d., orange	2	2	0
Victoria, 5s., blue on yellow, slightly damaged	2	0	0
Nevis, first issue, 6d., grey, unused	3	4	0
Ditto, 1s., deep green, perf. 15	3	4	0
Newfoundland, 1s., vermilion	12	15	0
Tobago C.A., 6d., ochre, unused	6	5	0
United States, "Justice," unused set	7	5	0

MR. W. HADLOW.

WE note the following lots as interesting. Sale held on September 21st last :

	£	s.	d.
Great Britain, £5, on blue paper	2	8	0
Portuguese Indies, first issue, 20 reis	2	10	0
Shanghai, error, 1 cand., rose-pink, unused	2	2	0
Ceylon, first issue, 9d., imperf.	2	10	0
Antigua, first issue, 6d., imperf., green, no wmk., unused	3	6	0
Ditto, ditto	4	8	0

Correspondence.

COMMUNICATIONS.—*All communications on Philatelic matters or Advertisements should be addressed to the Editor of* THE LONDON PHILATELIST, Kingston Lodge, Richmond Place, Brighton. *No anonymous contributions can be noticed.*

SUBSCRIPTIONS.—THE LONDON PHILATELIST *will be sent, post free in Great Britain or the countries of the Postal Union, to any subscriber, on receipt of* 6s. *Subscribers' remittances should be sent to* The Publishers, EFFINGHAM HOUSE, ARUNDEL STREET, STRAND, LONDON, W.C., *of whom also bound copies of Vol. I. can be procured. Half morocco, gilt edges,* £1 1s., *postage* 9d. *Abroad extra.*

THE NIGER COAST STAMPS.

To the Editor of the "London Philatelist."

SIR,—My attention has been drawn to a letter from Mr. A. J. Griffiths, acting Vice-Consul at Old Calabar, which appeared in your number of September of this year.

I quite agree with your want of appreciation of the "natural causes" which have led to the creation of the surcharges mentioned in Mr. Griffith's letter, a want of appreciation which will be shewn in a marked manner when I arrive on the Coast, for which I leave next Saturday. Mr. Griffiths has only been in the Protectorate service a few months ; his letter, which was written without authority of any kind, contains many inaccuracies; 20,000 ½d. stamps were sent out, not 8000 as stated by Mr. Griffiths—a further supply of 36,000 are now on their way out.

All obliterating marks are now circular and not square, and have so been for some time. The square ones were abolished by circular letter sent to all stations by my order. The damp climate of the Protectorate does not allow of a large stock of stamps being kept on hand, but every effort s made to keep up a constant supply. Surcharging is strictly forbidden, unless with the special sanction of the officer administering the government for the time being.

Faithfully yours,

CLAUDE M. MACDONALD,

H.M.'s Commissioner and Consul-General, Niger Coast Protectorate.

14, SUFFOLK STREET, PALL MALL,
LONDON, S.W., *October 9th*, 1894.

[We are pleased to receive official evidence of the Niger Coast Protectorate's intention to consult the public wants only as to the issue of these stamps. The communication, inserted in our last issue, had a speculative flavour that was assuredly not consonant with Philatelic aspirations alone !—ED.]

ANGOLA STAMPS.

SIR,—We enclose a copy of the *Boletim Official* of Angola, dated August 18th, also translation of decree on page 476 of same, concerning the issue of a provisional 25 reis stamp, surcharged on 2½ reis. We should suppose the latter value was selected owing to there being a large stock of them. One of the provisional stamps in question you will find on the outside of the newspaper in part payment of postage and registration. The surcharge is of the same colour as the

postmark, so it is not apparent till you look for it. It is evidently struck by hand from the inking pad used for postmarking.

Yours faithfully,

WHITFIELD KING & CO.

IPSWICH, *October 2nd*, 1894.

TRANSLATION OF DECREE, No. 577,

(From the *Boletim Official* of Angola of 18th August, 1894.)

POTARIA, No. 577 (DECREE).

MY attention is called to the fact that the supply of 25 reis postage stamps recently received from Portugal is exhausted. Consequently, in order to attend to the wants of the province, it is necessary to create a stamp of the same value, pending the arrival of supplies from Portugal.

The old system of using the word "Paid," in lieu of stamps, has been found very unsuitable and inconvenient by the Revenue authorities. Therefore in the name of His Excellency the Governor-General, I, in agreeing with the Inspector-General of Posts and Telegraphs, have determined to establish a surcharge of 25 reis on 5000 postage stamps of 2½ reis, which by this means will attain that value.

The authorities and all persons to whom this may concern are requested to take note.

Palace of the Government at Loanda, the 16th August, 1894. (S) Antonio José Cardoso de Barros, Acting General Secretary.

LOANDA, *August 24th*, 1894.

ISSUE OF 5000 PROVISIONAL STAMPS OF 25 REIS.

DEAR SIRS,—By registered post I send you a copy of our *Official Boletim*, dated 18th August, containing a decree sanctioning the surcharge of 25 rs. on 5000 stamps of 2½ rs. Considering the issue is so small, and that there is a great demand for 25 rs. stamps for the provincial postal service, these stamps are almost exhausted. The postal authorities, in order to prolong the existence of these stamps, have tried to avoid the sale in quantities, by giving smaller stamps equivalent to that value. The Express mail steamship *Zaire*, which left Lisbon on the 23rd instant, is bringing a supply of 25 rs. stamps; therefore by the time she arrives there will be very few of the provisional stamps left. The circulation of these stamps outside the Province of Angola will not exceed one-third of the issue. Many naval officers of British and French vessels at present in port have made purchases of this issue, and considering how these stamps are sought after by persons collecting, they should demand a good price in the European market. I await the favour of your reply, stating your highest price, the number you require, and particulars as to payment.

A NEW PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

SIR,—You may perhaps feel interested to learn that we have just formed a society called "The Rochdale and District Philatelic Society." Although only two meetings have been held, we have already some fourteen members, with several promises to join after the society is well started.

There is plenty of scope in the district and surroundings, and perhaps you would kindly notice this in the *London Philatelist*.

I may add that, should you wish for any further details later on, I shall be pleased to give them; and that our meetings are fortnightly, and our rules have already been passed

Faithfully yours,

I. ERNEST HEGINBOTTOM, B.A.

WOODFIELD, ROCHDALE, 6.10.94.

THE DESIGN ON THE TRANSVAAL STAMPS.

SIR,—The *Monthly Journal*, in chronicling the new sixpenny Transvaal stamp, draws attention to what it considers an error in the drawing of the Z.A.R. arms, viz. the waggon having shafts instead of the disselboom with which the modern waggons of the Boers are invariably supplied. The *Monthly Journal* opines that "this will have to be altered in future printings."

I was in the Transvaal in 1892, when the present money currency was first issued. I enclose for your inspection a sovereign and a penny. You will notice that the waggon on the former has shafts, while that on the latter has a disselboom. I believe the Volksraad has no intention of altering the design on the sovereign, and as the stamp in question repeats this so-called "error," I think it more than probable that the stamp will remain as it is.

In conclusion, I may mention that although such a thing as an ox waggon with shafts is never seen nowadays, nevertheless the first Boers to trek northwards travelled in such waggons. These were of much smaller dimensions than the modern waggon.

I am, sir, yours truly,

THOMAS A. RANCE.

BADMINTON CLUB, 100, PICCADILLY, W.,
3rd September, 1894.

THE

London Philatelist:

THE MONTHLY JOURNAL OF

THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY, LONDON.

VOL. III. NOVEMBER, 1894. No. 35.

The Late Mr. Gilbert Harrison.

SORROWFUL and unexpected in the highest degree are the tidings that we have to convey this month. By the announcement made elsewhere in this issue, it will be seen that Mr. Gilbert Harrison has been suddenly called away in the flower of his manhood, at the age of thirty-six. We have no hesitation in saying that the loss to Philately is immense, and that by his untimely death the pursuit has lost one of the ablest and most brilliant Philatelists that the world has seen. When the work that Mr. Harrison had already done, in his all too short life, is contemplated, there would seem to be no limit imposed as to what he might have achieved in the future by his marvellous industry and profound scientific knowledge.

The work that Mr. Harrison produced is in part known to our readers. The able and exhaustive monograph on the stamps of Portuguese-India, written in conjunction with Lieut. Napier, and published in the *Monthly Journal*, will be fresh in the minds of all. To state that one of the most difficult countries was exhaustively treated, the threads unravelled, and numerous fresh discoveries made, is but to briefly epitomise the enormous study that evolved order out of the pre-existing chaos of the Portuguese-Indian stamps. At the time of his death Mr. Harrison was actively engaged in writing a work on the Afghanistan stamps, to be published by the London Philatelic Society, a large portion of it being, we believe, written, and the plates of illustrations all executed. It is sad beyond measure that Mr. Harrison should not have been spared to complete what would have probably been his *magnum opus*, and the loss is one that will strike home to every member of the Society. Of Mr. Harrison's collection of Afghan

stamps, which formed the basis of his work, it is impossible to speak too highly, it being, in the opinion of competent judges, the most complete and valuable specialised collection of the stamps of any one country in the world. Those who have seen it can only wonder how he succeeded in getting together all the types of the very rarest of these stamps in so few years.

Nor was this the only difficulty tackled by Mr. Harrison. It seemed characteristic of the grit and pluck of the man that he found his pleasure in studying the difficult questions that others were glad to pass by. He leaves behind him a splendid collection of Cashmere, of Japan, and of the United States envelopes. The latter is reputed to be unrivalled either in the United States or elsewhere, and has been the means of breaking record upon record. On these envelopes Mr. Harrison had commenced writing a series of articles that were to have appeared in this journal, illustrated in a manner worthy of the text, and again here the Philatelic world is the poorer by his loss. It may indeed be briefly said that Mr. Harrison "touched nothing that he did not adorn" in Philately, and that both in the formation of his several collections, and in the study and knowledge of the stamps, he was entitled to take rank in the first flight of Philatelists past or present. The personal character of the man, his *bonhomie*, his chivalric scorn of meanness—carried to an extent that only intimate friends were aware of—and the geniality of his manners, all tend to accentuate the void that Gilbert Harrison's death has caused, and we sadly and respectfully tender to his relations and friends the deep sympathy of all true Philatelists in this country.

The De-oxidation of Postage Stamps.

A Paper Read before the London Philatelic Society on the 19th October, 1894.

By the EARL OF KINGSTON, President.

WITHIN the past few months it has been my good fortune to discover a simple and effectual means of removing the marks of oxidation from the surface of postage stamps.

To remove unsightly discolouration, caused entirely by chemical or atmospheric action, is, I think, a perfectly fair and legitimate proceeding; it is simply restoring colour to its original and pristine condition.

A process has, I believe, been already devised for removing this oxidation, and has been in use for some months past. What that process is I do not know;* it has been kept a secret within a limited circle, into which, fortunately, I have not been invited, for had I been a sharer of the secret I might not be free, as I am now, to make my discovery a "gift" to my fellow-collectors. If the recipe prove of use to them I shall be more than gratified.

* Mr. W. T. Willett's article in this number will explain the alternative system.—Ed.

Improper use of chemical agencies to obtain alteration of colour having done much damage in the past, I have been most careful in testing the compound I am about to describe, and feel perfectly satisfied that it cannot work evil, even in the hands of a stamp rogue or "faker."

1st. The preparation will not affect or diminish the density of a postmark.

2nd. It will not efface pen and ink cancellations.

These facts must be considered satisfactory in the interests of Philately.

The discolouration which has taken place on many of our stamps has been attributed to various causes. I have heard some people assert their belief in a "fungoid growth," others in the presence of a "microbe," but the majority of Philatelists are now probably agreed that the mischief arises from "oxidation" only. Personally I am convinced that the last theory is correct.

I have observed carefully certain specimens of stamps afflicted by the "disease" for seven or eight years, and have failed to notice any change in their condition; I think we may be nearly sure that neither "fungoid growths" nor "microbes" care for standing still.

The combination of oxygen with other elements is termed oxidation.

Now we find lead in chemical forms largely used as a foundation in the composition of paints, both oil and water-colour, and it occurred to me that if this element formed part in the manufacture of stamp-printing pigments, any excess of it out of due proportion to the other ingredients might possibly oxidize by exposure to the ordinary atmosphere, one-fifth of which is pure oxygen, just in the manner we see iron rust on exposure.

An excess of lead basis might occur, either from careless measurement in making the colouring pigment, or from insufficient stirring of the composition during use—*i.e.* the process of printing—the high specific gravity of the metallic substance, be it in the form of sulphate, carbonate, or oxide, making it sink to the bottom of the containing vessel, thus causing an undue quantity to be spread on the plates towards the end of the operation.

Ignorance on my part of chemistry prevents my being able to argue or show that this theory is the correct one, but at all events I acted upon the assumption that it was correct, and devised a mixture which contains at once a solvent and an absorbent, which proved successful. It is not a little extraordinary that I hit upon the right substance at the very first trial. Failing better reasons for success, we may style it in Philatelic language "A Fortunate Find."

I recommend that the compound be obtained from a chemist, but in case of difficulty in getting it, I will describe the mode of manufacture.

The apparatus required is as follows: A small porcelain crucible, stand for ditto, a spirit lamp, and a glass straining funnel to fit (when inverted) inside crucible. Into the crucible put a globule of mercury the size of a large pea. Add enough pure nitric acid to fairly cover the mercury. Light the spirit lamp—a small flame only is necessary—put it under the crucible, and place the funnel with its edges inside the crucible, so that it may collect the fumes and drive them upwards and away from the operator, for they are

dangerous to inhale. The mercury will soon commence to dissolve, but care must be taken not to hurry this part of the process by the application of too much heat. When the last particle of mercury has dissolved, the lamp must be instantly withdrawn and the glass funnel removed, for if the action be continued beyond this point the operator will have the unhappiness of beholding the liquid product suddenly congeal into a moist granulated white mass, useless for his purpose.

If the experiment has been carried out successfully, there will remain in the crucible a colourless liquid, which when *quite cold* should be put into a glass stoppered bottle and labelled

"NITRATE OF MERCURY."
DEADLY POISON.

This preparation is very powerful, and must be diluted for use by at least two equal quantities of water. To apply, use a very small sable hair brush (in quill). Camel's hair is too soft. Rub the oxidized surface of the stamp with the liquid until all traces of discolouration have vanished—which will be effected in a few seconds—then plunge the stamp into warm water immediately, and allow to soak for three or four hours, changing the water three or four times. This will remove all traces of free acid, and prevent any reaction taking place in the future. The brush must be thoroughly washed directly the stamp has been treated.

The above method is suitable only for used stamps. To renovate unused stamps, either singly or in blocks, and at the same time preserve the gum uninjured, they should, after the oxidation has been removed, be placed on clean blotting-paper, and carefully brushed over with plain water—using a medium sized camel's hair brush—taking special care that the moisture does not penetrate beneath the stamp; this can be avoided by shifting to dry parts of the blotting-paper. The washing should be repeated several times. A very weak solution of ammonia, one part to forty water, may be used with advantage—it helps to neutralize the acid.

In the case of very rare stamps I prefer sacrificing the gum by plunging into hot water, as in first method, as this tends to break up the nitric acid, and makes all safe.

It is impossible to say whether a deleterious action may not take place in the long hereafter, in the case of stamps treated by *any* chemical, if the residue of such chemical be not thoroughly eliminated. Such action we must at present risk when we retain the gum, but I am in hopes, however, of being able to discover a neutralizing agent, and so to relieve us from all fear of this danger.

It must be recollected that my discovery being very recent, I have not been able to test with it any very large variety of stamps. Doubtless it will be found that some kinds will not bear the treatment; caution will therefore be necessary. I have thought it better to at once give the benefit of my investigations to my fellow-collectors, who may now make their own experiments, rather than delay placing before them what I believe will prove a useful adjunct to Philatelic knowledge.

In conclusion, I would point out that oxidized stamps are an eyesore, and

spoil the look of a collection; they give a false impression of what their real colour ought to be, but if we renovate and restore them to a condition of comparative excellence, we at least make them worthy of a place in our albums.

The above paper was written in May last, but too late for reading before the Society. Since then I have experimented upon a large number of oxidized specimens, to the extent of, perhaps, some hundreds.

Stamps printed in indigo—such as the first issue of St. Helena and the 10 cents Chili—are apt to slightly turn colour if roughly treated. However, this is only to be expected, when we remember that indigo is one of the chemical tests for nitric acid!

Our English plate numbers require very judicious handling, when highly oxidized. I believe the colour to contain cochineal; this is inclined to fuse or run under the influence of the acid. Loss of brilliancy may, however, be largely restored by suspending the stamps after treatment in the fumes of ammonia, afterwards exposing them freely to the open air for an hour or two.

Highly glazed stamps are not suitable for our treatment, and those printed in aniline (tar) colours are best left alone.

With these few exceptions, within the range of my experience, I find the nitrate of mercury is harmless to colour.

On Removing Oxidation from Postage Stamps.

By WALTER T. WILLETT.

HAVING had the pleasure of hearing Lord Kingston's interesting paper on the above subject at the meeting of the London Philatelic Society, and as some three years ago I was fortunate enough to discover a method for removing the oxidation from stamps, which differs entirely from his, I think I cannot do better than follow his example, and explain to my fellow-collectors how to remove this unpleasing disfiguration.

The process is simple in the extreme. Let us for the sake of argument call that oxidisable ingredient in the ink X; it becomes oxidised, *i.e.* an atom of oxygen O is chemically combined with it, and it becomes X O; to this we add H_2O_2 peroxide of hydrogen, which is pure water with an extra atom of oxygen therein. In a short space of time the extra atom of oxygen in the oxidised stamp combines with the extra atom of oxygen in the peroxide of hydrogen, and is given off as ozone (O_2), leaving the ink (X) in its pristine condition, and also water (H_2O), which in course of time evaporates.

$$XO + H_2O_2 = X + O_2 + H_2O.$$

The best strength to use is 10 vols. The bottle should be kept carefully corked, else the oxygen will rapidly evaporate, and cause the material to become useless, in fact, water. Beware also of exposing it to too great a heat; this will cause an explosion, owing to the oxygen being too rapidly expelled. A quantity sufficient to treat a thousand stamps can be purchased from any chemist for threepence. Apply to the face of the stamp with a camel hair-brush, and allow to dry. If the stamp is badly oxidised it may require more than one coating. As a rule a light application should suffice. Any stamp that can be placed in water may in perfect safety be thus treated, and oxidation, however bad, and on any colour, must eventually succumb.

I can only add that I trust my *confrères* may be as lucky as I was. One of my first experiments being on a yellow Ionian Island that had gone completely black, imagine my joy on finding a neat little postmark underneath the oxidation.

The "Castle" Collection of Australian Stamps.

By E. D. BACON.*

MEMBERS of the Society, and other readers of the *London Philatelist*, will have seen the announcement of the sale of the above collection in the October number.

The collection has for many years past been famous throughout the world, and has acquired a reputation, deservedly, as being one of the finest and most complete that has ever been put together. It has taken Mr. Castle more than twenty years to bring the collection to its present perfection; but when one remembers the immense number of specimens and varieties comprised in it, the time seems all too short for any single collector to have accumulated such a vast array of treasures as are here to be found. This result could only have been accomplished by an ardent Philatelist like Mr. Castle, and one, moreover, who possessed the pluck to purchase freely, as opportunities arose of adding varieties to his store. The writer can testify, of his own knowledge, of the absorbing interest Mr. Castle has always taken in his Australian stamps, and of the indefatigable way in which he spared neither time nor money to make the collection a perfect one in every department. It seems a thousand pities that a collection of this magnitude should be broken up, but, as is generally known, Mr. Castle has also a very fine lot of European stamps, and it is not to be wondered at that he found these two divisions of the world were more than he could manage. He therefore reluctantly decided to sell his Australians, and to confine his attention for the future to the former stamps, where the field is certainly wide enough to satisfy the most ambitious

* This account of the Vice-President's collection has been written by Mr. E. D. Bacon in accordance with a widely-expressed wish.

Philatelist who wishes to collect upon the specialist lines of the present day.

Looking at the importance of the collection, I have thought that, before it is finally dispersed, it would be well to place on record a short description of what may be termed its more prominent features. The purchasers—Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Ltd.—have kindly allowed me to look through the books, so that I have been enabled to refresh my memory on one or two points, and the following list may therefore be taken as accurate in every particular.

NEW SOUTH WALES.—*Sydney Views*

6 unused, 1 proof, and 82 used specimens of the 1d. plate.					
18 unused and 88 used specimens of the 1d. plate, retouched.					
6	„	66	„	2d.	„
2	„	30	„	2d.	„ retouched.
5	„	81	„	2d.	„ re-engraved.
2	„	49	„	2d.	„ re-engraved a second time.
2	„	47	„	2d.	„ „ third „
1	„	46	„	2d.	„ „ fourth „
5 unused, 3 proofs, and 71			„	3d.	„

Making a grand total of 611 "Views," 47 of which are unused. Amongst the unused gems, specially fine copies are found of the 1d. retouched plate, the 2d. with vertical-lined spandrels, and the retouch of this plate, and of the 3d. Amongst the numerous shades and varieties of the used, there are several remarkably early specimens of the 2d. with vertical lines, shewing all the details of the engraving very clearly; a grand block of four, besides pairs, of the first re-engraving of the 2d., and no less than six copies of this stamp in the lilac-blue shade. Many of the 3d. are also exceptionally fine, and include the very rare variety on blue laid paper. In addition, all the nine different stages of the three plates have been made up complete.

The "laureated" issues are very largely represented, and include an almost complete unused plate of the first 2d. with the official approval of the then Governor of the colony written across it, a fine made-up plate of the 2d. six-rayed star, and two unused specimens of the 1d. on laid paper, and a very fine unused original of the 8d. on ribbed paper. The 3d. watermarked "2" is another variety that attracts attention; and the Registered complete, used and unused, are a grand lot.

The "diademed" series contain the 2d. with the rare error of watermark 1, the 3d. watermarked 2, and copies of the perforated 2d. shewing retouches made on the plate. All the later issues are equally complete.

NEW ZEALAND.—The first "star" set embraces an unused 2d. and a pair of the 1s., all on *bleute* paper, and a used copy of the 1d. in the early colour. The 1d. on blue paper is seen unused, with 16 used specimens, including a strip of five, while there are three unused 2d., besides many used of all three values. Of the next issue, on white unwatermarked paper, there are ten of the 1d., thirteen of the 2d., seven of the 6d., and one of the 1s. all unused, while the four values are shown pin-perforated and also serrated, and the 6d. and 1s. rouletted. The imperforate pelure stamps include one 1d., two 2d.,

two 6d., and one 1s., all unused, as well as an unused 6d., rouletted. There are a large number of the rouletted "star" stamps, an exceptionally fine unused copy of the 6d., imperf., watermark N. Z., and a very fine used copy of the same stamp rouletted. There are three specimens of the 2d. with "lozenge" watermark, one of which, although not brilliant, is undoubtedly unused. Altogether this country is very finely represented, and only specialists of it know how rare many of the varieties enumerated, and some few others are.

QUEENSLAND.—Of the imperforate stamps there are twelve of the 1d., including three unused and a pair used, one pair and three single used copies of the 2d., and one unused, a pair and eight single used specimens of the 6d. There are two unused 1d. and an unused block of 28 of the 2d. watermarked "Queensland Postage Stamps," while the issue watermarked "Queensland and truncated stars" includes a pair of the 1d. and two horizontal rows of 12 each of the 2d. all unused. There are also many scarce unused and imperforate varieties amongst the other issues.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA.—The first issue comprises fine pairs of all four stamps, and strips of some of the values; and the 6d., both London and local prints, are shown unused, the latter being an exceptionally rare variety. The perf. 11½ by roulette set has unused copies of the 6d., 10d., and 1s., a used pair of the 4d., and the 10d. printed on both sides. The 2d. is shown perf. 11½ all round and rouletted down the right side, and a fine vertical pair of the same stamp perf. 11½, the postmark being Aug. 17th, 1868. The 2d., Type II., with watermark "Crown S.A." exists perf. 11½ on all four sides, and there is a specimen of the same stamp, watermarked "star," perf. 11½ all round and rouletted down the right side. Both stamps have been surcharged for official use, the former bearing the letters S. T., and the latter C. D., and they are of the greatest rarity. The 10d., watermarked "Crown S.A.," is another scarce variety; while there are five copies of the 3d., red surcharge, one being unused, and five of the 4d. watermarked "V and Crown," including a pair. The collection of the departmental or official stamps is, with perhaps one exception, by far the finest that has ever been formed. There are literally hundreds of varieties of the various surcharges, with a large proportion of the early rouletted stamps unused.

TASMANIA.—Of the first issue there are 14 unused 1d., including a pair, and 21 used copies, including two strips of four each and two pairs. Of the 4d., Plate I., there are 11 unused, one being on thick paper, and many used specimens. The 4d., Plate II., has 12 unused (one strip of three), a large number of used stamps, and two unused copies of the rare variety on laid paper. In addition to the above, there is a fine plate of the 1d. and two each of the two plates of the 4d., one of those of Plate I. being made up of only five blocks, and one of Plate II. of only four blocks.

The "star" watermarked issue has three 1d., three 2d., and seven 4d. (one pair), all unused, while of the no watermark set there is an unused specimen of the 1d. on thick and also on thin paper, a magnificent unused 2d., certainly one of the rarest stamps in the whole collection, and five of the 4d. unused.

There is probably the finest and most complete lot of the rouletted, pin, oblique, and serrated perf. stamps that has ever been put together, while the later perforations of the early stamps are found in almost innumerable shades, and include an unused 1d. watermarked "2." There are three unused copies of the small 4d., blue, and four used, some fine shades being found amongst these, and there is an unused 5s. with second type of the "Tas" watermark.

It can truly be said, without the slightest disparagement of any of the other colonies, that this country is the strongest and most perfectly represented in the entire collection.

VICTORIA.—There are no less than 400 copies of the first issue, including several unused blocks and strips of all three values, the stamps being arranged according to the different printings, as given in Mr. Castle's paper in the *London Philatelist* of April and May, 1893. Of the Queen on throne there are several fine unused specimens, both of the engraved and lithographed sets, with a complete plate of the former and two plates of different printings of the latter. There are six unused "Too Late" stamps, including a pair, and one unused without the overprinting "Too Late—Six Pence." Of the "Registered" there are two unused and three rouletted.

The "Emblems" and "Beaded-oval" issues are a grand lot, the following being amongst the rarest varieties.

Emblems.

3 unused 4d., star, imperf., brick-red, and 4 ditto, rose.
2 „ 1d. „ rouletted.
2 „ 1d., no wmk., imperf.
4 „ 2d. „ „
1 „ 4d. „ „
2 „ 4d. „ rouletted.
3 „ 1d. „ perf., blue-green, and a pair yellow-green.
1 used 2d. „ „
4 unused (1 pair) 4d., no wmk., perf.
2 „ 2d., vert. laid, rouletted.
11 „ (1 pair) 4d. „ „
10 „ 2d., hor. laid „
2 „ 1d. „ perf.
4 „ 4d. „ „
9 „ (block of four) 1d., wmk. in words, perf.
6 „ 2d. „ „ „
2 „ 2d. „ "Three Pence," perf.
8 „ 2d. „ single-lined 2 „

Beaded Oval.

2 unused 3d., hor. laid, perf. (1 perf. cut off).
6 used 6d., orange, including two used on envelope with two 1s., octagonal perf.
1 „ 4d., wmk. single-lined 4, rouletted, on part of envelope.
4 unused 4d. „ „ perf.
3 „ 4d., no wmk., perf.
7 „ 3d., lake, wmk. value in words, perf.

The "laureated" issues have many of the errors of watermark unused, and there is a used specimen of the 10d., grey, without watermark, and three of the first issue of the 5s. unused. All the other issues are very fully represented, unused as well as used.

WESTERN AUSTRALIA.—There are 28 specimens of the first issue 2d., four of these being unused, 20 of the 6d. (one unused), and 38 of the 1s. (26 unused), there being several blocks of this value. The 4d. is seen in a great many different shades, and there are six of the varieties shewing defects in the lettering of the octagonal frame. Of the 2d., rouletted, there are four, including a fine unused copy, seven of the 6d., in addition to a grand pair on part of an envelope, and several of both the 4d. and 1s. The second issue contains 11 of the 4d., blue (two *used*), and the same number of the 6d. (three unused). There are also six rouletted copies of the latter value. The unwatermarked set has a used specimen of the 4d., apparently without watermark, but I am doubtful whether this value was ever printed on this variety of paper, and I believe that the stamp belongs to the "Crown C C" series. The later issues are very numerous, nearly all the varieties of shades, watermarks, and perforations being shewn unused and used, including the error 2d., lilac, and the "punched" or Commissariat stamps are likewise very complete.

The collection also contains a large assortment of the envelopes, wrappers, postcards, and franks of all the colonies, the stamps of Fiji, with a number of the rare surcharges, and an unused pair of the 3d., 6d., and 1s. *Fiji Times Express* on *quadrillé* paper. The stamps of Labuan, with two used specimens of the 6 cents on 16 cents, Borneo, Samoa, New Caledonia, with sheet of original first issue, Tonga, Sarawak, and Tahiti are also included, the whole collection being contained in twenty-two volumes.

Newfoundland Pence Issues.

A PAPER READ BEFORE THE LONDON PHILATELIC SOCIETY ON THE 2ND NOVEMBER, 1894.

BY E. D. BACON.

IT was, if my memory does not deceive me, in the autumn of 1890 that Mr. Donald A. King, of Halifax, who has added so much to our knowledge of British North American stamps, sent me a letter-sheet franked with a Newfoundland 6½d., scarlet-vermilion, adhesive, and postmarked early in 1857. As the first issue of stamps in this colony was always understood to have taken place in 1857, it follows that the scarlet-vermilion series must have been the earliest set, contrary to the order given in the Philatelic Society's *Catalogue of British North America*, which places the orange stamps among those first issued.

I have obtained from Messrs. Perkins, Bacon & Co., Limited, a complete

list of all the consignments of stamps sent out by them to Newfoundland; and as a perusal of the list cannot fail to be of great interest to philatelists, I make no apology for reproducing it here in its entirety.

1856. Oct. 3.

70,000	1d.
3,000	2d.
16,000	3d.
5,000	4d.
11,000	5d.
5,000	6d.
2,000	6½d.
8,000	8d.
2,000	1 sh.

1860. June 15.

5,000	2d., red.
6,000	3d., green.
5,000	4d., red.
20,000	5d., crimson.
10,000	6d., red.
1,000	1 sh. ,,

1861. July 11.

5,000	2d., red.
20,000	3d., green.
15,000	4d., red.
20,000	6d. ,,
5,000	6½d. ,,
10,000	1 sh. ,,

1861. Nov. 30.

10,080	1d., crimson.
5,000	2d., red.
50,000	3d., green.
20,000	4d., red.
10,000	5d., crimson.
50,000	6d., red.
10,000	6½d. ,,
10,000	8d. ,,
15,000	1 sh. ,,

The stamps for this colony were ordered through Mr. Edward Stanford, the well-known publisher, of Charing Cross, London, and he entrusted their execution to Messrs. Perkins, Bacon & Co. The plate of the 1d. consists of 120 specimens in ten horizontal rows of twelve; that of the 5d. of 40 stamps in five horizontal rows of eight, and that of the 3d. of 80, arranged in pairs, in five horizontal rows of eight pairs. The plates of the 2d., 4d., 6d., 6½d., 8d., and 1 sh. each contain 20 stamps in four horizontal rows of five. All the plates were steel, and were finished in September, 1856; and, as we see from the above list, the first stamps were despatched on the third day of the following month. They would therefore arrive in the colony in ample time for issue on January 1st, 1857, and this is possibly the date on which they first came into use. The colours of the first consignment, unlike the later ones, are not given in Messrs. Perkins, Bacon & Co.'s books, but, judging from the colours attached to the later supplies, they would not help collectors much if they were. There can, however, be absolutely no doubt that the 2d., 4d., 6d., 6½d., 8d., and 1 sh. first sent out were the scarlet-vermilion stamps. In the first place, there was only one other lot of 8d., viz., the 10,000 forwarded on Nov. 30th, 1861, which must have consisted of the lake stamps; and as this value was never printed in the orange colour, the 8,000 sent out on Oct. 3rd, 1856, must consequently have been those printed in scarlet-vermilion. Secondly, the postmarked specimen of the 6½d., referred to at the commencement of my article, shews by the date that the stamp came out of this first consignment.



The 2d., 4d., 6d., and 1 sh. are the only values known in orange, and these were among the stamps sent out on June 15th, 1860, while the two lots

despatched on July 11th and Nov. 30th, 1861, included the stamps printed in lake. The paper used for the first consignment was soft, stout, white wove, while all the other supplies were printed on a thin, hard, greyish-white paper.

The list of stamps I have given will enable collectors to gauge accurately the scarcity of the colours of the different values. It is small wonder that the prices of the scarlet-vermilion and orange stamps have increased so prodigiously of late years, when we bear in mind the insignificant numbers there were printed of some of the values. Of the 6½d. and 1 sh., scarlet-vermilion, there were only 2,000 each, and of the 2d., 4d., and 6d. of the same colour only small numbers. Of the 2d. and 4d., orange, there were 5,000 each, and 10,000 of the 6d., while for the orange 1 sh. there were but 1,000, which is only twice the number printed of the Mauritius "Post-office" 1d. or 2d.

Die proofs, and also plate proofs, in black, on soft white card, are known of all nine values, and I have seen plate proofs in black of the one penny on white paper, and of the threepence on pale bluish paper.

Mr. David Gill, of Messrs. Perkins, Bacon & Co., Limited, possesses a proof impression in black of the original die of the one shilling. This impression (see illustration) differs from the stamp as issued in the following particulars: The triangular-shaped blocks in the lower spandrels, instead of containing foliate ornaments, are divided into two equal parts by a thin diagonal line, the upper portion of each block being filled in with fine vertical lines, and the lower with similar horizontal ones. The blocks in the two top corners have also similar fine lines on either side of the numeral of value. It was afterwards determined to substitute foliate ornaments instead of the straight lines in all four of the blocks. These alterations were made on the original die, which Mr. Gill tells me he has carefully examined, and it distinctly shews traces of re-engraving in these four places. The proof belonging to Mr. Gill, which is believed to be the only one now in existence, is interesting, as it shews the design of the one shilling as it was first intended to be printed. The substitution of the foliate ornaments certainly added to the beauty of the stamp.

A Post-office Scandal at Tonga.

By W. R. Wallace.



DURING recent years Philately has provided such a plentiful supply of lawsuits in the English Courts, which have been followed with such interest by collectors in general, that we make no excuse for placing before our readers an account of what appears to us a remarkable trial that took place during the summer in that out-of-the-way corner of the globe—Tonga.

To many readers of this journal, and especially those connected with the

stamp trade, the name of Mr. A. M. Campbell, the late Postmaster of Tonga, will probably not be unfamiliar. It is presumably this gentleman whom we have to thank for the plentiful supply of surcharged rubbish and unnecessary new issues, which it has so often been our duty to chronicle since the happy Tongan, having embraced Christianity, has been supplied with the next best thing—a postage stamp.

It is also, we suppose, Mr. Campbell who must be held responsible for the thousands of obliterated though not postally used Tongan stamps, which during the past few years have been foisted upon the young or ignorant collector.

It would appear that Mr. Campbell has made a very paying business out of the persons foolish enough to purchase his rubbish; for when the post-office accounts were examined in December, 1893, by the Government auditor, it was discovered that stamps to the value of £26,775 3s. 4d. were unaccounted for. On the report of the auditor, Mr. Whitcombe, being published, Mr. Campbell commenced an action for libel against him, the trial of which took place at Nutrualoja, Tonga, on the 20th August of this year. The case appears to have excited extraordinary interest throughout the islands.

"To enable the Premier and members of Parliament to attend" (we quote from *The Auckland Star*, kindly submitted to us by Messrs. Whitfeld King & Co.) "Parliament suspended its sitting for a week. During the three days of the trial the court-room at the British Consulate was crowded continually, whilst, notwithstanding the heavy rain falling on Tuesday, the court-ground was crowded with natives, who waited patiently for the result."

To us it seems strange that a plea of privilege should not have been a complete bar to such an action, but it was otherwise ruled by the President of the Court, and the trial proceeded. In order to place before our readers as briefly as possible the charges made against the plaintiff, it will be well to quote from the report of Mr. Whitcombe, a paragraph shewing the system upon which it was alleged he worked:

". . . Stamps and registration envelopes to the value of £55,517 1s. 6d. were received by Mr. A. M. Campbell, and should have been entered as stock in his books, between the 27th July, 1886, and 24th November, 1893. Of these, values to the amount of £28,741 2s. 2d. only have been entered up and treated as stock; it is on this basis that the whole system of the late Chief Postmaster's books has been constructed, and, as has been shewn, the debit and credit sides of these accounts thus constructed are so nicely adjusted as very nearly to balance. What then has become of stamps and envelopes to the value of £26,775 3s. 4d. received by Mr. A. M. Campbell, but never entered by him as stock in the office books, or accounted for in any way? I have traced these stamps into the office, but neither the face value of the stamps, &c., nor any evidence of their existence, or of their having been dealt with in any way, is to be found in the books of the office."

The answer to Mr. Whitcombe's question as to what had become of the missing stamps, was given clearly enough at the trial. Mr. Campbell had sold them to stamp collectors and dealers all over the world, an immense quantity of letters relative to such sales being found among his papers. In

the witness-box he stated that with reference to the stamps and envelopes making up the sum of £26,775 3s. 4d. referred to in the report as being unaccounted for by him, the greater portion was obtained to fill orders received from a foreign dealer. They were never intended to be used as ordinary postage stamps, but were all obliterated before leaving the post-office. For this reason, and because of their having been sold at prices far below their face value, they were not entered up in the ordinary way. Some of his evidence appears a little involved, but we gather that on one occasion 105,000 stamps were *specially printed* for a German dealer, for which a sum amounting to £200 was paid. To a New South Wales dealer 100,000 stamps were sold at one time, and many similar transactions (all of peculiar interest to specialists in Tongan stamps!) were disclosed. The plaintiff, who was cross-examined severely by Mr. Cotter, an eminent New Zealand lawyer, specially retained for the defendant, on the third day of the trial withdrew from the case, judgment being entered for the defendant with costs.

It must, therefore, be taken that the charges made against him in the auditor's report were true ones, and that the Tongan Government has been defrauded of £26,775 3s. 4d. by its postmaster.

The following account of the feeling excited in the islands by the result is somewhat curious, and will be of special interest to our legal readers. We quote again from *The Auckland Star:*

"The general anxiety felt in Tonga in consequence of the reported statement that Mr. Campbell would endeavour to obtain damages from the Tongan Government if he were successful in his suit against Mr. Whitcombe, seemed to give place immediately to a widespread feeling of relief. Mr. Cotter was regarded and treated as some great foreign potentate who had chanced to pass that way by accident. Until his arrival lawyers were, in the eyes of the natives, a sort of curiosity which they could not find any word in their language to express; but after having their use so aptly illustrated to them, this impression was quickly superseded by one of esteem and admiration for Mr. Cotter, and a clear idea of the uses of his profession."

This trial should be of interest to philatelists, as it throws much light upon the manner in which enormous quantities of stamps are, in small countries, made for and sold to collectors, while the number actually required for postal purposes is extremely limited. If collectors will go on buying stamps of this description, unscrupulous postmasters will continue to supply them. It is the same with third-rate fiction, cheap German goods, or birds uselessly slaughtered to adorn the hats of would-be "smart" ladies—the demand creates the supply. Stamp manufacturing for the benefit (?) of collectors has so developed of recent years that it has become notorious that postmasters of many countries (some not so insignificant as Tonga) make large incomes out of this branch of their business alone. This being the case, it is easy to see how great is the temptation to cross that not always clearly-defined line dividing honesty from roguery, and we shall be surprised if during the next few years the case of Mr. Campbell, of Tonga, is allowed to stand alone.

Philatelic Notes.

NOTE.—*Under this title will be found all notes relating to postal issues other than those that are chronicled as current novelties, or which form the subject of special articles. The co-operation of Philatelists is invited in order to make this column of a varied and interesting nature.*

DATED NEW ZEALAND STAMPS.

MAJOR EVANS has kindly shewn us a stamp, that is dated earlier than any of the like issue in the list of New Zealand dates published in our last number. The specimen consists of a 2d., watermark N Z, perforated, and is obliterated "Christchurch Jy 15 64," thus antedating by about seven weeks the earliest in the forementioned list. The perforated 2d. stamps of this issue seem to bear earlier dates than the imperforate, and anyhow seem to point to concurrent use.

ST. CHRISTOPHER.

MR. W. D. BECKTON writes us: "Have you noticed the St. Christopher stamps printed in two shades of green? I enclose a specimen for your examination. Although I have a goodly number, it is the only one in which there is a marked difference." The value in question is in *dark* yellow-green, several shades darker than the remainder of the impression, which is in pale bluish-green. Perhaps other West Indian collectors can corroborate.

DISCOVERIES.

UNITED STATES.—We are indebted to the courtesy of Mr. J. N. T. Levick for a number of specimens of the lately current series of the United States stamps revealing small differences that may not have been noted by collectors generally on this side of the water. The range of colour in the 2 c. is remarkable; unfortunately our correspondent is unable to give their order of precedence, beyond stating "that the claret colour came out first, and that the light and deep shades fluctuated." We find the following shades:

2 c., full claret.
2 c., pale pinkish-red.
2 c., rose-red, shades.
2 c., carmine.
2 c., bright rose-lake.

The depth of impression also varies on the same blocks to a marked extent. The numeral "2," contained in the floreate ovals at the base of the stamp on either hand, in its normal condition has its head quite smooth and rounded, but, for some reason that we are unacquainted with, the authorities have invented a covering for its head in the shape of a small "cap," which lies horizontally upon the rounded portion of the top of the figure. Mr. Levick

sends us capped specimens on the left-hand figure only, and also with both figures capped. We are as yet unaware of the real significance or intention of these additions in shades of carmine-rose, which, combined with the many obvious shades that exist, must render these stamps, which have only just been superseded by the "Bureau" issue, of much interest to collectors.

THE BATON ROUGE 10 *c.*, *BLUE.*

MESSRS. RIDPATH & CO. have now kindly sent for our inspection the stamp alluded to in our last number, on page 239, and of which we had but a very brief examination before. We are now able to decipher the post-mark as December the 7th, 1861, in the centre of a circle inscribed above "Baton Rouge" in large capitals, and "La" below in small. The colour of the stamp is dark blue, and we must confess personally, with but a limited knowledge of Confederates, that the appearance of the whole thing has produced such a favourable impression on us that we should certainly require very strong evidence to contest its authenticity. Messrs. Ridpath purchased it from a gentleman well known to the writer, formerly of Liverpool, but now resident in New Orleans, and of the highest respectability, and it had been in the possession of a family in that city for over 20 years, having been treasured up as a memento of the civil war, and without any knowledge as to its Philatelic value. A similar specimen exists in the collection of Herr P. von Ferrari, in Paris, to whom this specimen has been submitted, and his opinion given that "the stamp is good, undoubtedly genuine, and quite similar to mine." In view of this history and these credentials, Messrs. Ridpath naturally express the greatest confidence in the authenticity of this *rara avis*.

QUEENSLAND 1879 ISSUE.

WE have been enabled to inspect two interesting plates of the 1d. and 2d. values of this issue, thanks to the courtesy of Mr. W. Hadlow. The colours are respectively dull red-brown and dark bright blue, the latter having the small lettering that has been generally assigned to the earlier printings; the paper is thinnish smooth wove, and unwatermarked; the stamps are imperforate, and the plate consists of twelve horizontal rows of ten each, in all 120 specimens. On the 1d. Plate No. 48 is the well-known "QOEENSLAND" error; on No. 46 of the 2d. there is a noticeable variety, with the "L" having a double base line, and on No. 116 with "PENGE," the "C" being practically transmuted into a "G" by a stroke at right-angles to the lower termination of the curve. There are also other minor varieties, but of course not those now generally known as "LA" or "TW" joined with bigger letters, which are found on the paler blue stamps, and undoubtedly form another and a later printing. Card or thick paper impression of the 1d. in vermilion, and of the 6d. in yellow-green, also exist, *pace* Mr. Hadlow, to whom we are indebted for this interesting information; and we would commend collectors with a taste for minor varieties to study up these stamps while they can be had, as they will be found well worthy of attention.

GREAT BRITAIN DATES.

MR. PHILBRICK sends us the following note on the paragraph inserted on page 240, *ante:*

"There is a little misconception in the statement made by Mr. Firth about the dates I gave for Large Crown paper. He has taken the one I describe as the first in a series of stamps I possess as being the earliest known; whereas, if p. 218 of the *Philatelic Record* be referred to, it will be seen I there state that I have seen it on the 2d., blue, postmarked 21st July, 1855, and on the 1d., red, 31st July, and draw the conclusion that Large Crown paper was issued to the printers about the latter end of June, and had entirely superseded the Small Crown paper by the end of the following month of October. The date therefore of August is some month or more later than is already known.

"Mr. Firth has very kindly sent me the specimen referred to in the *London Philatelist*, p. 240. It bears the Lombard Street postmark of 27th August, 1855, Bradford 28th, and is Die II., Large Crown, p. 16."

Mr. L'Estrange Ewen writes us as follows:

"I notice in the October number a letter from Mr. O. Firth, stating he has a 1d., red, on Large Crown, dated Lombard Street, Aug. 27th, 1855, and considering it to be the earliest known. This is not so; in fact, it is comparatively a late date. I have in my private collection two envelopes, one with 1d., Large Crown 14, dated *FD July 31, 1855* (London), the other with 1d., Small Crown 16, and strip of three 2d., Large Crown 14, dated *Birmingham, July 28, 1855*.

"As Mr. Philbrick has seen both, it must have been a mere slip of the pen when he wrote *Oct. 16th, 1855*, as the earliest date. Some time ago Mr. Levy, of Plymouth, announced a copy dated *July 16th, 1855*, but it has since been found to be Small Crown. I believe therefore my copies to be the *earliest*. The wmk. is in both cases undoubtedly Large Crown.

"I have also found a 4d., medium garter, on azure (on envelope), dated Lombard Street, Feb. 25th, 1856. This is a very early date, the previous record being late in March, 1856."

Occasional Notes.

Death of Mr. Gilbert Harrison.

It is with great regret that we have to announce the death of this gentleman, a member of the London Society, and so well known in Philatelic circles. Mr. Harrison, who had been ill for some weeks, expired at Ferriby on the 9th of November, at the age of 36.

PRIVATE POST CARDS FOR PLACES ABROAD.

We are officially informed that private post cards bearing adhesive stamps of the value of one penny, and private reply post cards with penny adhesive stamps on each half, may now be sent as post cards to places abroad, provided that they are in conformity with the official post cards. These private cards, whether single or double, must be of the same size and substance as the official cards, and must have the words "Post Card" printed on the address side, without the Royal arms. The reply halves of private double cards, which will be available only for return to this country from places abroad, must bear in print the words "Post Card—Great Britain and Ireland" and "Reply." Plain cards, without any printed inscription, cannot be sent abroad as single or reply post cards. The rules relating to the address side of the official single and reply cards for places abroad apply also to private cards. Any infringement of these rules will subject private cards for places abroad to be charged as letters.

THE LONDON PHILATELIC EXCHANGE.

We are requested by Mr. Ginn to publish the Balance-sheet and Report of this Society:

"At the First Annual Meeting of the Exchange it was resolved to reduce the yearly subscription to Ten Shillings. It was also further resolved to charge an Entrance Fee of Ten Shillings from *1st January*, 1895.

"In future the meetings will be held at Cossavella's Restaurant, 121, Cheapside, E.C., where a well-lighted and convenient room has been engaged.

"From the annexed statement it will be seen that the Exchange is in a sound financial position.

"Large additions are being made to the membership, whilst the attendance and business transacted at the meetings is rapidly increasing in importance.

"I trust you will use your influence to induce others to join, and that during the year now commencing you will find it convenient to attend the meetings regularly.

"FREDK. R. GINN, *Hon. Sec.*

"143, STRAND, LONDON, W.C., *31st October*, 1894."

BALANCE SHEET, 1893-94.

Dr.	£	s.	d.		*Cr.*	£	s.	d.
To Subscriptions . .	51	9	0	By Printing and Stationery .		3	19	1
				,, Rent . . .		16	15	6
				,, Postages . . .		1	12	1
				,, Office Petty Expenses .		3	9	0
				By Balance in hand		25	13	4
	£51	9	0			£51	9	0

THE EXPERT COMMITTEE OF THE LONDON PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

A VERY considerable number of specimens have now been submitted to this Committee, and stamps are arriving in a regular succession. We are desired to point out that the Committee are in no way responsible for any loss in transit, although the greatest care is taken, and no specimen ever passes from one member's hands to another's without due registration. The risk is a very slight one of loss by registered letters, and as such can well be borne by the owners of the stamps respectively.

AN INNOVATION IN PHILATELIC JOURNALISM.

MESSRS. H. HILCKES & CO., LTD., are certainly *fin de siècle* Philatelic purveyors, if we may be pardoned the alliteration. They have initiated a new venture in the guise of a journal entitled *The Stamp Collector's Fortnightly*. (Fortnightly what?) The very modest sum of one penny only per number is demanded, a sum quite inadequate to its merits, relatively considered. Our new contemporary, which does not chronicle new issues (what a relief it is!), is smart, lively, and interesting, and a credit to its joint editors. May we earnestly counsel "an avoidance of bellicosity"?

STAMP THEFT FROM THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT.

THE stamp robbery at the Bureau of Engraving and Printing, discovered on October 11th, turns out to be much larger than at first suspected. Instead of one package containing 50,000 two-cent stamps, it is now believed that over 200,000, and possibly 250,000, stamps of various denominations are missing.

Postmasters in all parts of the country, it is thought, have received fewer stamps than they ordered, and failed to notice the deficiency. When their quarterly reports are made up these shortages may be found. It will take weeks to discover the full extent of the robbery. When it is known that these consignments of stamps were served to 1800 postmasters, some idea can be gathered of the enormity of the task of ascertaining what offices have received short packages.

The stealing has been going on for thirty days, and seems to have been

the result of a plot. William B. Smith, formerly of Plainfield, N.J., and George W. Longstreet, who were employed in the Stamp Department of the Bureau of Engraving and Printing, are under arrest, and the detectives are looking for William A. Beach, who was until recently employed in a hotel billiard-room in this city, and a man whose name is believed to be Simmerslitz. Both men left Washington for the purpose of selling stamps. Smith made a proposition to the police authorities to turn State's evidence, and make a full confession, if they would sign a paper guaranteeing him protection. He said he would implicate Government *employés* much higher than himself, but he was told that such protection could not be granted.—*American Journals.*

FIRST EXHIBITION OF POSTAGE STAMPS, &c., HELD BY THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF VICTORIA.

THE first exhibition of the Philatelic Society of Victoria was held on Saturday, September 15th, 1894, in the banqueting hall of the Vienna Café, when there was an excellent display of postage stamps, post cards, envelopes, &c., representing nearly every quarter of the globe. Altogether there were exhibited 149 frames and cards and two albums, containing about 10,000 postage stamps, 400 post cards, and 700 envelopes. A continuous stream of visitors was maintained from two o'clock (the time of opening) till ten o'clock, and tickets collected represented an attendance of over 600. From the list of exhibits appended it will be seen that the exhibition was highly creditable to the Society, including as it did so many rarities, and without exception every stamp was in the finest condition.

Through the courtesy of the Postmaster-General several frames from the Department were placed on exhibition, containing photographs of the old and new post-offices, and fancy designs made up of the postal and duty issues of all values.

The following are some of the most interesting exhibits:

ABRAHAM, D. S.—Victoria, various issues, including 1860, 6d., orange, beaded oval, Registered rouletted, 3d., lake, beaded oval (5), 4d., lake ditto, &c. West Australia, 2d., brown on red (2), 6d., bronze (4), 4d., blue (5), 1 ditto, rouletted, and 1d., black, and 2d., vermilion, rouletted. First issues of each of the Colonies, and English compound envelopes.

ACKLAND, W.—Various unused Australians, Sydney views, used Australians on original covers, plates of engraved and lithographed 2d., Queen on throne, and English and foreign post cards.

BEAR, MRS.—Twenty-four Sydney views, mostly in pairs, eight Victoria 2d., half-lengths, fine background, N.S.W., laureated 1d. orange, 8d. brown, 3d. green, and 2d. blue. All these stamps were on original covers, and constituted a splendid exhibit.

DAVIS, JOSEPH.—Canada, 12d. black, Nova Scotia, 1s. purple, Nevis, 6d. green, wmk. C.A., Mauritius, post paid, 1d. and 2d. (early state), B. Columbia, 1 dollar, perf. 14, St. Vincent 5s., wmkd. star, Ceylon, 4d. rose, imperf., 1879, 2 Rup. 50 cents, 1869, complete set of official, Cape of Good Hope, wood block, 4d. dark blue, Tasmanian, 1889, half-penny on 1d., A.L. sideways, Victoria, 1860, 6d. orange,

beaded oval and 5s., blue on yellow, West Australia, 1884, ½ on 1d., red, surcharge inverted, South Australia, imperf., 1d. light green (pair), United States departmentals complete, and new issues of Labuan, North Borneo, Barbados, Niger Coast, &c.

DONNE, C. B.—Early Victorians in blocks, plate of engraved 2d., Queen on throne, duty stamps 1d to £10, proof sheet of 4d. emblems, sheet of Victoria 1d. on pink paper, Mulready envelopes and caricatures, Jubilee penny post envelope and post card, old Mauritius, and frame containing nearly all the issues of Victoria, unused, including 6d. orange-beaded oval; also philatelic cuttings and photographs.

DERRICK, A. J.—Rouletted stamps of Victoria complete, including 1d. and 3d. half-lengths, 1854, 6d. orange, serpentine, serrated and compound, 2s. green (2), 1s. blue (3), registered (2), 1d. emblem, wmkd. star (2), 4d. emblem, vermilion, star (two pairs), 4d. rose ditto (11), 4d. emblems, wove, no wmk. (two pairs), 4d. beaded oval, 3 on original covers, &c. 1852, 2d., Queen on throne, 1 engraved and 2 lithographed plates; St. George and Dragon, Tasmania, complete, Tasmania (1827), newspaper duty stamps and set of Tasmania beer duty stamps; two price catalogues of 1873; first issues of Tasmania, including 1d. blue (9), 4d. orange, Oct. (16–7 unused); South Australian first issues, fine copies, including 1s. orange, imperf., in pairs; New Zealand duty stamps, postmarked, 2s. to £10; Tasmanian reprints and sheets of Tasmania, small type, imperforated; envelopes, post cards, and wrappers of Australia, unused and entire, displayed on cards.

FRIEDMAN, A. J.—Cape of Good Hope, wood blocks, 1d. and 4d.; United States periodicals, 1 cent to 60 dollars; sets of Austrian newspaper stamps, 1850 to 1863; Obock, 10, 25, and 50 francs; Norway, Austrian Italy, Finland, Roumania, &c. This was a magnificent exhibit, as every stamp was unused.

HILL, DAVID, H.—Used Victorian stamps, complete from 1850 to 1885, including pairs of 2d. half-lengths, fine back ground, pair of registered and too late, 6d. orange, beaded oval (3), 4d. beaded oval, rouletted, watermarked *four pence*, 5s. blue on yellow (4), &c., &c. The duty stamps of Victoria complete, unused; plate of engraved 2d., Queen on throne; sheets of 1872 Fiji 2 cents and 6 cents; sheet of 1889 half-penny on 1d., Tasmania; sheets of Gambia, Labuan, and Indian States. Also the early envelopes of Great Britain, Ceylon, and Mauritius, unused; and about 100 foreign post cards.

HESSELMAN, C.—Complete collection of 1869 issue Victorian envelopes in every conceivable shade, size, and variety of flap ornaments.

INNES, S. E.—Victoria, 4d. laureated, wmkd. 8, and ditto without value label; Tasmania, rouletted, pin perforated and serrated issues; 1870, 4d. blue on original envelope; Perak, 1 and 2 cents, strips showing varieties in type of surcharge.

WHELEN, A. S.—Old issues of foreign stamps from 1840 to 1860, including Spain, Naples, Confederate States of America, Mobile (pairs), Switzerland, Tuscany, Oldenburg, Parma, Finland, Moldo-Wallachia, Italy, &c., &c., and Mulready Caricatures.

We are indebted to the *Australian Philatelist* for the foregoing, which marks an interesting innovation in Victoria, and betokens a wide interest in and the possession of rare stamps. Some of the exhibits, as Mr. David Hill's, must have been very fine.

Reviews.

CATALOGUE OF GERMAN POSTMARKS.*



HE appearance of this little book, containing illustrations of no less than 690 cancellations, is an evidence of how deeply rooted is the fashion of collecting postmarks in the Fatherland. A novel feature is the addition of prices to all the varieties, and it is remarkable that the little bit of printers' ink that defaces the original beauty of the stamp must be frequently worth many times its weight in gold! We must however give M. Reinheimer credit for a careful weighing of his prices, as we put them to the test in the examination of the not inconsiderable number of used German stamps that the writer possesses, and in every case the relative prices quoted were borne out by the absence or scarcity of the obliterations noted. The "Alsace-Lorraine," or rather German occupation stamps, post-marked Paris, are quoted at 150–200 marks. This postmark has a historical significance that, independent of its real rarity, fully justifies this high price. The book is evidently the outcome of a protracted study, and as such merits an acceptance at the hands of all who regard Philately scientifically. It has also a distinct value, in the help it affords to detect false obliterations, with which "remainders" are so frequently obliged. We are not prepared to advocate the collection of used as against unused stamps, but in the case of the old German Hanse Towns, and some others, there can be no doubt that their stamps are so rare in used condition that no one with the spirit of a collector—*i.e.* the search for what is rare—can afford to ignore them.

MESSRS. MEKEEL'S CATALOGUE.†

In our August number we briefly reviewed this work, and have now to acknowledge the receipt of the complete book. The opening pages on the U.S. stamps have been re-written and re-priced up to date. (U.S. stamps, however, will require frequent attention in this matter, as their values seem to fluctuate within a week!) There will be also a useful appendix, giving a variety of information on U.S. locals, franks, envelopes, and many other points Philatelic, including—need we say—Mexican revenue stamps! There are some 416 pages in the whole catalogue, every type being illustrated (except U.S., for obvious reasons), and, as we stated in our previous remarks, we have much pleasure in recommending this catalogue of the enterprising St. Louis firm to all collectors as a good and a useful Philatelic guide book.

* *Illustrated Catalogue of the German Postal Obliterations.* By A. REINHEIMER, the International Philatelisten Verein, Dresden.

† MEKEEL'S *Standard Catalogue.* First and Second Parts. C. H. Mekeel Stamp and Publishing Co., Station C, St. Louis, U.S.A.

New Issues.

Under this head will be found notes of the new, and variations of the current issues. We do not profess to chronicle everything, but with the kind help of correspondents, are desirous that all the important novelties may be included. Speculative stamps—i.e. those not really required for postal purposes—will be considered on their merits, and Jubilee issues will not be chronicled.

GREAT BRITAIN AND COLONIES.

BRITISH HONDURAS.—Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. write: "On the 15th instant the currency of this colony was changed to that of the United States of America, the sovereign being rated at $4.86. A 5 cent stamp will probably be issued, taking the place of the 6 cent.

BRITISH SOUTH AFRICA.—We have from Mr. Tilleard a curious specimen of surcharging, on the current three-halfpence post card. Not having before met with a specimen, we are at a loss to know whether the surcharge is one to alter the value, or one of a "postage due" character. **2**d. is first surcharged on the inscription in black, and this is finally overprinted **1** in black, this being further erased with violet pencil. Anyway the final decision was that the card was fully paid. We shall be glad to learn the correct account of above.

GOLD COAST.—According to *Der Philatelist* the registration envelope is now issued with stamp of a new type. The chief alteration seems to be in the lower portion of the stamp, the three prominent rosettes in the old type having given place to a less pronounced ornamentation. The head has also been brought out more into outline, the hair having been cleared of the dark shading.

Registration Envelope.
2 pence, blue, black surcharge; 131×80 mm.

GRENADA.—*Le Timbre-Poste* has received the 2 pence envelope in deep grey, in place of ultramarine. The inscriptions remain red; makers, *Thos. De La Rue & Co., patent.*

2 pence, grey, 152×97 mm.

MAURITIUS.—We learn that the colour of the current 8 c. has been changed from blue to red-brown.

Adhesive. 8 c., red-brown.

NEWFOUNDLAND.—The *American Journal of Philately* informs us that the 10 c. is now printed in puce-brown; also that there is likely to be a change in colour of the ½ cent stamp from vermilion to black.

Adhesive. 12 c., puce-brown.

NEW SOUTH WALES.—An emission of a 1½ pence letter card. The stamp is similar to that on the post card of same value. Arms in the left upper corner, "NEW SOUTH WALES" LETTER CARD between the Arms and stamp, "The address only to be written on this side," "To open the card, tear off at the perforations," at base. The perforation crosses at the lower corners.

Le Timbre-Poste has received an envelope of 4 pence surcharged THREEPENCE, bag-shape.

Letter Card. 1½ pence, red on iron grey.
Envelope. 3 pence on 4 pence, black on carmine.

QUEENSLAND.—We are indebted to Mr. H. J. Gillespie for the sight of a copy of the 1s., mauve (current issue), perf. 9½×12, a hitherto unchronicled variety.

Adhesive. 1s., mauve; *perf.* 9½×12.

STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.—*Negri Sembilan.*—A 5 c., blue, stamp of "Tiger" type has just been issued. Specimen received from Messrs. Whitfield King & Co.

Adhesive. 5 c., blue.

We copy the following from *The Indian Philatelist:* "The 'Tiger' issue of the Protected Native States of the Straits is on its last legs. Five cents Negri Sembilan are not to be bought, Pahang 2 cents are finished, and the 5 cents very nearly. Pahang 1 cent and Sungei Ujong 1 cent have never existed—at least in the Post-office there—though Stanley Gibbons chronicles them. The 10 cents on 24 cents, green, are notorious for variety of type, chiefly in the 'o' of the '10.' It is also known, though not generally so, that there are inverted watermarks among these, as well as among the 8 cents, orange."

TRINIDAD.—The 5s. stamp is now printed in carmine instead of dull lake; the perforation also now gauges 14 instead of 12½; the paper is still Crown and CC.

Adhesive. 5s., carmine.

We learn from Mr. E. D. Bacon that in a letter received by him from Mr. J. G. Taylor, of Trinidad, the writer states that the

following values exist with surcharge O.S. in black.

Adhesives. 1 penny, carmine.
2½ pence, blue.
4 ,, grey.
6 ,, bronze-green.
1 shilling, venetian red.
5 shillings (old type), dull lake.

EUROPE.

BOSNIA.—*Le Timbre-Poste* chronicles a new value of the current type.

Adhesive. ½ novcics, black; perf. 10½.

FRANCE.—We have received a specimen of the new *reply* letter card, issued in October, from Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. It is of the same type as the ordinary letter card, but with extra inscription. Under "*Carte Lettre*" (*la carte ci-jointe est destinée à la réponse*); the second part bears the inscription *réponse.*

Letter Card. 15+15 centimes, blue on grey.

The 30 c. postage due stamp has been modified in colour.

Postage Due. 30 centimes, orange-red.

GERMANY.—Mr. Mascher informs us that there is a notice from the head office at Berlin to the effect that postage stamps of the value of 30 pf. and 80 pf. will shortly be issued, the higher value chiefly for registration use.

HOLLAND.—*Le Timbre-Poste* gives the following modifications in colour of the current adhesives.

Adhesives. 2 cents, yellow.
5 ,, ultramarine.
7½ ,, brown.
10 ,, carmine-vermilion.
12½ ,, grey.
15 ,, bistre.
20 ,, yellow-green.
22½ ,, green.
25 ,, violet.

The dies of the 5 and 10 c. postage due stamps have been re-engraved, and the colour altered to a brighter shade of blue; specimens from Messrs. Whitfield King & Co.

Postage Due. 5 cents, black and ultramarine.
10 ,, ,, ,,

ITALY.—The 10 c. post card is now dated 1894.

ROUMANIA.—Messrs. Ridpath & Co. have sent us a modification of the 10 bani reply card; instead of being on tinted card, it is now printed on plain buff. Also a specimen of the 15 bani letter card, which is now perf. 11½ in place of 13½.

Post Card. 10+10 bani, red on buff (reply).
Letter Card. 15 ,, brown on buff.

AMERICA.

BRAZIL.—The following notice being interesting, we copy *in extenso* from the *Monthly Journal:*

"We are indebted to a correspondent, stationed in those parts, for a translation of a Postal Notice relative to the new issue of Brazilian stamps, &c. Our correspondent adds that the novelties, though announced for August 20, had not made their appearance when he wrote, September 7!

"'BRAZILIAN POST OFFICE ADMINISTRATION.

"'On the 20th August, 1894, there will be placed in circulation the stamps described below.

"'*Stamps.*—All the new Postage Stamps of values of 10 reis to 2 milreis (2000 reis) measure 26×21 mm. The centre of all of the stamps is formed of an oval (11×15 mm.), surrounded by a band, on which reads "ESTADOS UNIDOS DO BRAZIL"; the right upper corner is cut obliquely by the word "CORREIO" on a white ground.

"'The ground in the upper part of the stamp is ornamented, and the lower part is formed by two little scrolls drawn horizontally. In the lower part of the central oval is read, in numerals, the value of each of the stamps. In the stamps of 10 reis, 100 reis, and 1 milrei, on the right side, are the figures of value on a small scroll, drawn vertically; and on the left side the word "REIS." In the other values the word "REIS" is repeated on both sides of the figures.

"'The stamps of the values of tens of reis have in the central oval a view of the entrance to the Bay of Rio de Janeiro. This view, as well as the value, is printed in *dark blue* colour. The rectangular frame which completes the stamps is printed in the following colours: 20 reis, *orange;* 40 reis and Postal Cards of the same value, *light green;* 10 reis, *vermilion;* 50 reis, *blue;* 80 reis and Reply Post Cards (40+40), *red.*

"'The stamps of the values of hundreds of reis have in the central oval an effigy of the Republic, printed in *black.*

"'The framework of the stamps of hundreds of reis is printed as follows: In the 100 reis (adhesives and Letter Cards), *vermilion;* 200 reis, *orange;* 300 reis, *bright green;* 500 reis, *blue;* 700 reis, *red.*

"'The stamps of the values of thousands of reis have in the central oval the figure of Mercury, which, together with the values (numerals), is in *violet.* The framework of the 1 milrei stamp is *green*, and that of the 2 milreis is *black.*

"'*Letter Cards.*—Letter Cards of 100 reis have the stamp like that already described for this value, and are printed on card paper of *ash* colour.

"'*Postal Cards.*—Post Cards of 40 reis are printed on similar paper, *red* on the face or stamped side, and *ash* colour on the other. Post Cards of 80 reis (reply 40+40) are printed on paper *yellow* on the stamped side, and *ash* colour on the other.

"'*Wrappers.*—Wrappers represent values of 20 to 60 reis, and are of *grey* paper, bearing in relief the figure of a woman symbolising the Republic, surrounded by a scroll (label) containing "REPUBLICA DOS ESTADOS UNIDOS DO BRAZIL." Above the label is "CORREIO," and at the bottom the value in numerals, above the word "REIS." The colours are as follow: 20 reis, *green;* 40 reis, *deep yellow;* and 60 reis, *chocolate.*

"'*Envelopes.*—On white paper, and will have the same device as the wrappers—100 reis, *vermilion;* 200 reis, *chocolate;* and 300 reis, *blue.*

"'POST OFFICE ADMINISTRATION OF ALAGOAS,
"'*8th August*, 1894.'"

We add the following to our list of last month as having now appeared:

Adhesives. 10 reis, blue and rose.
50 ,, blue and blue.
Envelope. 300 ,, slate on white wove, 135×109 mm.
Wrappers. 40 reis, orange on buff-manilla, 138×109 mm.
60 ,, brown on buff-manilla ,, ,,
Post Card. 80+80 reis, carmine and blue on white, 133×88 mm.

GUATEMALA. — The *Monthly Journal* gives the following explanation of the surcharge of 10 cent on 75 c., in black (referred to on page 178): "There appears to be a little doubt as to the *black* varieties of the recent surcharges; the impression is in a very deep *blue*, which when comparatively lightly printed is evidently *blue*, but in heavy impressions appears to be *blue-black*. The first specimens we saw, of the 10 c. on 75 c., certainly seemed to us to bear a *black* surcharge, but it may have been the *very* deep *blue*, which we are now told is the true colour of the overprint of the 2 c. on 100 c."

NICARAGUA.—The *Philatelic Journal of Great Britain* chronicles a surcharge of 1 Centavo on 11 Centavos in two lines.

Adhesive. 1 c. on 11 c., black on orange.

PERU.—The following is a list of the obsolete stamps which received the surcharge of the bust of the late President, Morales Bermudez. They were only sold at the Lima Post-office; surcharge in *black.*

1874. 2 c., lilac.
50 c., green.
1876. 10 c. ,,
1877. 5 c., blue.
1879. 1 c., yellow.
2 c., rose.
1880. 1 c., green.
1881-3. 2 c., carmine, U.P.U.
5 c., blue ,,
50 c., red ,,
1 sol, brown (?) ,,

UNITED STATES.—We are again indebted to Mr. J. N. T. Levick for a further batch of the new stamps printed by the Bureau of Engraving and Printing at New York. The values are the 2 c. and 10 c., with the additional triangular ornaments in the upper angles, as previously described, and further the 10 c. postage due. Since writing the above, we have received letters franked with new type 1 c. and 3 c. stamps.

Adhesives. New type. 1 c., blue.
2 c., carmine-red.
2 c., bright rose-red.
2 c., pale milky rose.
3 c, violet.
10 c., dark green.
Postage due. 10 c., deep carmine.

OTHER COUNTRIES.

CHINA.—Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. write: "Enclosed we send you a set of photographs of designs of the new Chinese stamps to be issued this month; also a set of prints of the same size as the original designs made for the stamps." The values are 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 9, 12, 24 "Cn." (Candareens?) The lowest value has a circular ornamental central design—the 5 cn. that of a fish in the sea, the highest value a junk at sea, and the remaining six having dragons in single or double harness. "China" is a vague term; nor have we much confidence in the latest Chinese "treaty port trash." Should these eventually prove of this tribe, due apologies shall be presented to our fellow-sufferers.

CHINESE TREATY PORTS.—The hardy annuals (?) still continue to flourish. From a letter received from Messrs. Whitfield King & Co., we quote the following at length: "*Hankow.*—The local postmaster has recently been to England and ordered some new stamps from Waterlow & Sons, Ltd.; 50,000 each of 2, 5, 10, 20, and 30 c. values, to be 'lithographed from a photographic process block' (this is how the postmaster describes it). On going to London and seeing the proofs, he was so disappointed with them that he cut down the order to only 5,000 of each instead of 50,000. The design of the 2 c., 5 c. and 10 c. are alike—a tea coolie carrying tea boxes; the 20 c. has a pagoda, and the 30 c. a view of the municipal buildings. We enclose specimens of the 2 c. and 30 c., the only ones we have been able to obtain."

CHINKIANG. — We have a solitary post card from Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. The stamp in the right hand upper corner is similar in pattern to the Hongkong type, the centre being occupied by a view, with pagoda, "CHINKIANG" at top, "ONE

CENT" at base, "POSTAL SERVICE" "CHIN-KIANG" with Chinese characters to left of stamp. "TO" and "THIS SIDE THE ADDRESS ONLY" to the left, Chinese characters to right, all enclosed by a key-pattern frame.

Post Card. One cent, brown on white; 127×88 mm.

MOROCCO. — *Fez-Sefro.* — Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. have forwarded for our inspection what purports to be a set of "*the* stamps of the courier service between Fez and Sefro." These we unhesitatingly denounce as made for sale and not for *postage.* The specimens sent are provided with a neat circular postmark—FEZ MAROC in the outer circle, 3 OCT 94 in the inner—and all bear *original gum;* five values, 5 c., 10 c., 25 c., 50 c., and 1 peseta, wove paper, perf. 13. We need not further describe them!

MOZAMBIQUE COMPANY.—This company has issued a set of fifteen varieties of adhesives. The design is the same for all values. In the centre the arms of Portugal, supported by two elephants; this is surrounded by an oval bearing the words "COMPANHIA DE MOÇAMBIQUE," ornaments in upper corners, and "Rs" in lower ditto, value in colours on a scroll shield in the centre of base.

Adhesives. 2½ reis, black and olive.
5 ,, black and orange.
10 ,, black and lilac.
15 ,, black and chocolate.
20 ,, black and grey-lilac.
25 ,, black and green.
50 ,, black and blue.
75 ,, black and rose.
80 ,, black and light green.
100 ,, black and brown on straw.
150 ,, black and orange on rose.
200 ,, black and blue on blue.
300 ,, black and blue on buff.
500 ,, carmine and black.
1000 ,, red and purple.

SIAM. — *The Monthly Journal* has received a specimen of the provisional 1 *atts*, chronicled on page 226, with the surcharge corrected to 1 *att.*

Adhesive. 1 Att, on 64 atts, black on brown and purple.

SWAZIELAND. — The following cutting, kindly sent us (*Monthly Journal*) by Mr. Nelson, contains news which sounds almost too good to be true:—

"SWAZIELAND STAMPS.—It is notified that all Transvaal stamps with the word 'Swazieland' printed over them have been called in, and will not, after November 7th, be usable. All who still have these stamps in their possession can have them changed for ordinary Transvaal stamps at the Post-office, Bremersdorp, before the 7th November, 1894."

TRINIDAD (PRINCIPALITY OF).—We have received a set of seven values of adhesives for the above principality from Mr. A. Ludwig, who writes as follows: "I have just received from a friend of mine, the European representative of Prince James I. of Trinidad, information that this little state has issued stamps of its own." The principality in question is situated on an island of that name in the Atlantic, about 700 miles east, off Rio de Janeiro (20° south, 30° west). The design is the same for all values, and much resembles the late issue of North Borneo (12 c., etc.). The centre is occupied by a view of the island, value in figures, and words in upper part of frame, "TIMBRE POSTE," "ET FISCAL" at sides, "PRINCIPAUTÉ DE TRINIDAD" at base. The centre is in all values black, and frame in colour; white wove paper, perf. 11½. We chronicle this set, but should like to have more news as to the necessity for them.

Adhesives. 5 centimes, black and green.
10 ,, black and bistre.
25 ,, black and blue.
50 ,, black and orange.
75 ,, black and mauve.
1 Franc black and vermilion.
5 ,, black and slate.

The Market.

AUCTIONS.

MESSRS. VENTOM, BULL, AND COOPER.

Sale of October 10th.

	£	s.	d.
Naples, ½, tornese, blue, "Arms," a superb specimen, used, on piece of original	18	0	0
Spain, 1853, 2 reales, red	4	10	0
Ditto, 1865, perforated, 19 cts., brown and rose	2	2	0
Switzerland, Basle, 2½ rap.	6	0	0
Ditto, Geneva, the double stamp, unsevered and used, on entire	24	10	0
Ditto, Vaud, 4 centimes, black and red	19	0	0
Ditto, Zurich, 4 rap., horizontal lines	15	0	0
Ditto, Zurich, 4 rap., vertical lines	15	0	0
Tuscany, 2 soldi, red	4	8	0

	£	s.	d.
Tuscany, 60 crazie, red	9	0	0
Ceylon, 2s., blue, imperf.	4	10	0
Canada, 6d., black, perf.	3	0	0
Newfoundland, 4d., red, unused	5	10	0
Colombia, 1 peso, lilac, unused	3	15	0
Peru, medio peso, yellow	2	4	0
Victoria, 5s., blue on yellow	4	0	0

The principal items in the sale, on October 24th and 25th, of Mr. Castle's duplicates were:

	£	s.	d.
Oldenburg, 1860, envelope, 3 gr., yellow, unused	6	0	0
Thurn and Taxis, lilac inscription, 2 s. gr., blue, unused	4	4	0
Finland, 1850, letter sheet, 5 kopecs, blue on bluish	8	8	0
Baden, 1st issue, 9 kreuzer, green (error), used, on entire letter sheet (included)	100	0	0
Afghanistan, 1293, value in tablet, abasi, black £8 and	8	15	0
Ditto, shahi, purple	6	0	0
India, 1st issue (9½ arches), ½ anna, red, unused	6	0	0
Ditto, 4 as., strip of four, with blue dividing lines (record)	25	0	0
Ditto, a vertical pair, on letter	3	0	0
Labuan, 6 on 16 c., red and blue, unused	14	14	0
Cape, 4 pence, blue on bluish, pair, unused	2	12	6
Mauritius, 2 pence, blue, the error Penoe	6	0	0
Ditto, provisional, ½d. on 9d., black and lilac, with surcharge inverted, unused	3	0	0
Nova Scotia, 1d., red-brown, pair	3	12	6
Tellico Plains, 5 c., red, unused	26	0	0
British Guiana, 1851, 1 c., black on magenta, a block of four, unused, original gum	30	0	0
Ditto, 2d., blue, error crevit	7	0	0
Sandwich Islands, 1853, 5 c., blue, and 13 c., red, postally used (2)	12	5	0
South Australia, O.S., 8d. (on 9d.), fawn, unused	3	5	0
Ditto, P.S., 9d., violet, unused	4	10	0
Ditto, ditto, 10d. (on 9d.), black and yellow, unused	4	10	0
Tasmania, provisional, ½d. on 1d., black, the error.	3	0	0
Victoria, 1861–66, 4d., rose, roul.	5	5	0
Western Australia, the error, 2d., pale violet, mended	13	0	0

At the sale of November 8th there were some very fine stamps, and a large company assembled.

	£	s.	d.
Schleswig-Holstein, 1st issue, 2 sch., red	4	10	0
Modena, the large B. G.	2	12	6
Naples, ½ tornese, blue, "Cross"	3	0	9
Naples, 50 grano, lake, unused	3	10	0
Spain, Madrid, 3 cuartos, bronze	6	0	0
Tuscany, 3 lire, yellow	27	0	0
Ceylon, 4 pence, rose; imperf.	16	0	0
Ditto, 9d., violet-brown; imperf.; unused	10	0	0
Ditto, 1s. 9d., green	3	0	0
Ditto, 2s., blue, imperf.	4	4	0
Ditto, ditto, ditto	4	10	0
Ditto, Star wmk., 8d., brown	2	10	0
Cape, woodblock, 1d., red.	3	15	0
Mauritius, post paid, 1d., vermilion	4	10	0
Ditto, grand vertical pair of 2d., blue, earliest state of plate (record)	42	0	0
Canada, 6d., green	5	2	6
New Brunswick, 1s., violet	8	8	0
Newfoundland, 2d., carmine-vermilion	5	0	0
Ditto, 1s., orange-vermilion	20	0	0
Nova Scotia, 1s., violet	12	10	0
Bahamas, 1d., lake; imperf.; block of four	5	0	0
British Guiana, 1853, 1 c., vermilion; unused	6	15	0
Ditto, ditto, vertical strip of four; used; on entire letter sheet	10	0	0
Ditto, ditto, horizontal strip, ditto, ditto	10	0	0
Ditto, 1862, provisionals, 2 c., black on yellow, border of crossed ovals; No. 4 on plate	4	4	0
Ditto, 2 c., black on yellow; border of grapes; 22 on plate	8	0	0
Nevis, 4d., rose; unused	3	0	0
Ditto, 6d., lilac on bluish; unused	4	10	0
Ditto, perf. 13, 1s., green	2	4	0
Pacific Steam Navigation Co., 1 real, blue on bluish	4	0	0
New Zealand, 1d., red, on blue paper; pair on original	5	10	0
Ditto, half a 1s., green, on blue paper; used as 6d., on original	15	15	0
Ditto, pelure paper, 1s., vermilion, perf.	9	0	0
Queensland, 1st issue, 1d., carmine, imperf.; vertical pair	13	13	0
Ditto, 2d., blue, imperf.	2	10	0
Tasmania, 1d., blue	3	12	6
Ditto, ditto; strip of four used on piece of original	8	8	0
W. Australia, 1st issue, 6d., gold	8	0	0
Ditto, ditto, 1s., brown; unused pair	2	8	0

MR. HADLOW'S sale of October 19th, included:

	£	s.	d.
St. Vincent, 5s., lake, unused	5	0	0
United States, 1893, set complete, unused	4	4	0
Fiji Times Express, 1s., on *quadrillé*, unused	3	2	6

And at the same auctioneer's sale of November 7th :

	£	s.	d.
Oldenburg, 1st issue ⅓ sgr., black on green, three copies on entire original envelope	3	9	0
India, 1st issue, 4 as.	2	18	0
Do., short "Service" 2 as., black surcharge	2	2	0
Ceylon, 1st issue, 9d., imperf.	2	6	0
Victoria, emblems, pair of 4d., carmine, imperf., no water-mark, unused	3	0	0

MESSRS. CHEVELEY & CO.

The following prices were attained at this firm's sale of October 23rd :

	£	s.	d.
Winterthur, 2½ rap., black and red	2	6	0
Basle, 2½ rap.	3	12	6
Naples, "Cross," ½ tornese, blue	5	5	0
Zurich, 4 rap.	11	0	0
Great Britain, 4d., small garter, unused	5	10	0
Ceylon, Star wmk., perf., 8d., brown	3	7	6
New South Wales, Sydney, 3d.	3	2	6
Ditto, "Registered," complete re-constructed plate of 50	10	0	0
Queensland, 1st issue, 2d., imperf., strip of three	26	0	0
New South Wales, Sydney, 1d., Plate II., Nos. 4 and 5 on plate	3	15	0
Victoria, 5s., blue on yellow	4	15	0
Mauritius, Britannia, 4d., green, curved surcharge	2	14	0
Trinidad, 6d., green, imperf.	2	10	0
United States, New York P.O., large 5 c., black, pair on piece of original	2	10	0
St. Kitts, last issue, 6d., olive-brown	2	8	0
British Guiana (1862), provisional, 4 c., blue, border of hearts and pearls, No. 8 on plate	10	0	0
Nevis, 1st issue, 6d., on greyish paper, unused	2	6	0
Ditto, 6d., green, unused	5	10	0
St. Kitts, 6d., olive-brown	2	10	0

At Mr. W. RIDOUT'S sale of November 2nd, the following were the most interesting lots submitted. Mr. Ridout announces a fine sale of English stamps next month.

	£	s.	d.
New South Wales, 1d. Sydney, pair, deep rich impression, early state of plate	4	6	0
Nevis, yellow-green, used	2	2	0
Victoria, 5s., blue on lemon	3	0	0
Ceylon, 2d., yellow-green, c.c., perf.	2	10	0
British Columbia, strip of three, 25 c., Mint State, large perforation, unused	5	0	0
Ditto, equally fine single specimen	2	5	0
Mauritius, 2d., early state of plate, fine margins	5	10	0
Canada, 6d., perf., fine	3	7	6
Trinidad, no wmk., 4d., brown-violet, perf. 15, unused	3	5	0
Great Britain, hair lines, 6d., imperf., pair	6	0	0
Ditto, 2½d., pl. 3 orbs, wmk. inverted	5	0	0
Ditto, Oxford, Keble, magenta stamp, cancellation, 5 dots; and ditto, orange, unused	3	15	0
Ditto, 3d., imperf., with dot at side, fine specimen	6	0	0

Philatelic Societies' Meetings.

THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY, LONDON.

Honorary President—H.R.H. DUKE ALFRED OF SAXE-COBURG GOTHA.
Hon. Vice-President—H.R.H. THE DUKE OF YORK, K.G.

Council for the Year 1894-95 :

President—THE EARL OF KINGSTON.
Vice-President—M. P. CASTLE.

Hon. Secretary—J. A. TILLEARD. | *Hon. Assistant Secretary*—R. PEARCE.
Hon. Treasurer—C. N. BIGGS. | *Librarian*—T. MAYCOCK.

E. D. BACON. | R. EHRENBACH. | D. GARTH.
A. W. CHAMBERS. | E. B. EVANS. | T. WICKHAM JONES.

THE first meeting of the season 1894-95 was held at Effingham House on Friday, the 19th October, 1894, at 7.30 p.m. The members present were the President, and Messrs. F. E. Cooper, E. B. Evans, C. N. Biggs, R. Ehrenbach, R. Meyer, H. Oldfield, W. Cowland, T. Maycock, J. C. Potter, J. G. Tolhurst, W. T. Willett, O. Pfenninger, F. West, E. L. Cator, F. E. Horton, E. D. Bacon, A. W. Chambers, A. A. Davis, E. A. Elliott, H. E. Wright, Gordon-Smith, E. J. Nankivell, R. Pearce, M. P. Castle, N.

Newton, A. B. Creeke, J. A. Tilleard, A. Boswell, and D. Garth. Captain Patmore also attended as a visitor.

The chair having been taken by the President, the minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed.

The Secretary reported the receipt of a letter from the Philatelic Society of Victoria, with an account of the work done by that Society for the past session, which was directed to be acknowledged. A letter from the Alamo City Philatelic Society announcing that the London Society had been elected to corresponding membership was also read and directed to be acknowledged with thanks. Amongst the other correspondence was a letter from Mr. Whitfield King with reference to recent forgeries of Japanese stamps, and one from Messrs. Winch Bros. enclosing for the Society's forgery collection a very dangerous forgery of the two reales stamp of the 1853 issue of Spain, which was directed to be acknowledged with the thanks of the Society. The Secretary also mentioned that during the recess a letter of invitation to attend the inaugural meeting of the current session of the Manchester Philatelic Society had been received. He explained that Mr. Castle and himself had been able to avail themselves of the invitation, and had been much pleased with the reception they had received as representatives of the London Society, and with the high order of the work which is being done in Manchester in the interests of Philately. The Secretary was directed, in the name of the London Society, to thank the Manchester Society for the invitation and for the hospitality shown to the Vice-President and Secretary on their visit, and to express the congratulations of the London Society on the work and progress of the Manchester Society.

Letters of resignation of membership from Mr. L. Scarth, Mr. B. E. Pemberton, Mr. J. S. Chappelon, and Mr. de Coppet were also read, and the resignations were directed to be accepted with regret. A letter from Mr. W. A. S. Westoby was also read announcing his desire to resign his membership, and, on the motion of the Vice-President, seconded by Major Evans, it was unanimously resolved that Mr. Westoby should be elected an honorary member.

The receipt from Dr. Legrand of his *Manuel de l'Amateur de Timbres;* from Mr. Albrecht of a volume of Priced Catalogues of American Auction Sales; from the Manchester Philatelic Society of an epitome of papers read during the past session; and from the Scott Stamp and Coin Co. of Mr. Lundy's work on the Compound Stamps (Postal and Revenue) of Great Britain, were directed to be acknowledged with the thanks of the Society. In forwarding his publication Dr. Legrand wrote, "I beg you will present it in my name to the Philatelic Society as a testimony of the great esteem in which I hold the members of the oldest society of amateurs."

Before proceeding to the business of the evening, Mr. Castle, in the name of the members present, addressed a few words of welcome to the President, congratulating him on his being sufficiently restored to health to be able to preside at the meeting. Lord Kingston having replied, the meeting proceeded to the election of new members, when Mr. George F. Jackson, proposed by Mr. W. T. Wilson and seconded by the Secretary; Mr. Leonard Marshall, proposed by Mr. F. C. Van Duzer and seconded by the Secretary; Mr. W. E. Muir, proposed by Mr. W. Patterson and seconded by Mr. L. Gibb; Mrs. Isabel A. Curteis, proposed by Major Burrowes and seconded by the Secretary; Mr. F. N. Schiller, proposed by Mr. A. Lyall and seconded by Mr. G. J. Hynes; Mr. E. R. Ackerman, proposed by Mr. C. B. Corwin and seconded by Major Evans; Mr. Adolph Lessing, proposed by the Secretary and seconded by the Assistant Secretary; Mr. H. J. Knowles, proposed by Mr. T. Maycock and seconded by the Secretary; and Mr. George H. Worthington, proposed by Mr. J. V. Painter and seconded by Major Evans, were duly elected members of the Society.

The President then read a paper entitled "How to renovate Oxydised Stamps," in which he explained how he had been led to discover the medium (nitrate of mercury) employed by him, and gave full details as to the manner in which it could be made, and of the mode in which it should be used.

In the course of the discussion which ensued it was stated by some of the members, who had used the preparation recommended by the President, that it had advantages over peroxyde of hydrogen, which had been hitherto most commonly employed for the purpose of removing oxydation from stamps. On the motion of Mr. Bacon, seconded by Mr. Castle, a hearty vote of thanks was

accorded to Lord Kingston for his most interesting paper, which, with his consent, will be published in the *London Philatelist.*

The remainder of the evening was occupied in the inspection of the President's magnificent collection of the Stamps of Great Britain, which he had kindly brought with him for inspection by the members present.

AT the second meeting of the season, held on Oct. 26th, the business of the evening consisted of the revision of the Reference List of the Stamps of Baden, which was proceeded with and adjourned for completion.

THE third meeting of the season was held at Effingham House on Friday, 2nd November, 1894, at 7.30 p.m. The Vice-President occupied the chair, and the following members were also present; viz., Messrs. W. Thorne, E. D. Bacon, T. Wickham-Jones, R. Meyer, H. R. Oldfield, W. Silk, D. Garth, T. Maycock, C. N. Biggs, T. Ransom, Gordon Smith, E. J. Nankivell, R. Pearce, F. E. Horton, J. A Tilleard, and H. F. Lowe.

The minutes of the last meeting having been read and confirmed, the Secretary read the correspondence, which included a letter from Mr. A. G. Griffith, the acting Vice-Consul of the Niger Coast Protectorate at Old Calabar, in reference to the issues of stamps in the Protectorate.

Mr. F. S. Scammell, proposed by Mr. L. Gibb, and seconded by Mr. D. A. King, and Mr. C. J. Tyas, proposed by Major Adamson, and seconded by Mr. C. J. Mumby, were elected members of the Society.

Mr. Bacon then read a paper on the "Newfoundland Pence Issues," in the course of which he explained that the first stamps issued were in the scarlet-vermilion colour. A complete list of all the stamps, supplied by Messrs. Perkins, Bacon & Co., was set out in the paper, which also contained a reference to a proof in black from the die of the 1s. stamp as it was first proposed to be issued. The proof, which is the property of Mr. Gill, was kindly sent by him for inspection by the members present. On the motion of Mr. Tilleard, seconded by Mr. Garth, a hearty vote of thanks was accorded to Mr. Bacon for his interesting paper, which with his consent is to be published in the *London Philatelist.*

The Vice-President addressed a few words of welcome to Mr. W. Thorne as Vice-President of the Philatelic Society of New York.

In the course of his remarks Mr. Castle requested Mr. Thorne to carry with him on his return home, the assurance of the high esteem in which the Philatelic Society of New York is held by the members of the London Society.

Mr. Thorne showed a number of rare stamps which he had acquired during his visit to Europe, amongst which were complete sheets of lithographed Nevis, 4d., 6d., and 1s. (pale yellow-green), the last-named imperforate vertically; British Guiana, 1850, 4 c., yellow, 1856, 4 c., blue, and also the latter stamp on the so-called "sugar paper"; Spain, 1865, a pair of the 12 c., one with inverted frame "se tenant" on original envelope; France (Republic), block of four, 1 franc, vermilion; St. Vincent, pair of 1st 1d. value, imperforate; Chili, portion of a sheet of the 5 centavos 1st type on ribbed paper, watermark of arms in lieu of numerals.

BRADFORD PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

President—OLIVER FIRTH.

Vice-President—W. M. GRAY.

H. W. ATKINSON. | A. DOMRY. | R. A. EBSTEIN. | R. M. MCMASTER. | GEO. PARK. | W. E. WHITE.

Hon. Librarian—H. W. ATKINSON. | *Hon. Treasurer*—W. M. GRAY.

Hon. Secretary—W. H. SCOTT, 1, Piccadilly, Bradford.

THE monthly meeting of this Society was held at 1, Cheapside, on Tuesday, Nov. 6th, Mr. Mc Master in the chair. There were nine members and a visitor present.

After the formal business of the meeting was concluded, Mr. H. W. Atkinson read a very interesting and instructive paper on the stamps of Great Britain, dealing with the various modes of printing employed in their production, the watermarks, perforations and plate numbers, illustrating his paper with his own collection, which is an extremely good one. A cordial vote of thanks having been accorded Mr. Atkinson for his paper, the members then inspected each other's collections, which they had brought with them.

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, the 4th December, when an informal discussion will take place on the stamps of Germany.

W. H. SCOTT, *Hon. Sec.*

1, PICCADILLY, BRADFORD.

BRIGHTON AND SUSSEX PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

Honorary President—BARON DE WORMS.

Committee for the Year 1894:

President—M. P. CASTLE. | *Vice-President*—J. H. REDMAN.
Hon. Sec. and Treasurer—A. DE WORMS.
Hon. Librarian—O. PFENNINGER.
W. T. WILLETT. | H. STAFFORD SMITH.
J. W. GILLESPIE. | R. J. WOODMAN.

THE first meeting of the season was held at Markwell's Hotel, Brighton, on Monday, October 22nd, at 7.45 p.m. Present—Messrs. M. P. Castle, R. J. Woodman, H. Stafford-Smith, R. J. Thrupp, J. W. Gillespie, O. Pfenninger, and A. de Worms. The President in the chair. The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, the Secretary reported the receipt of *Our Catalogue* from Messrs. Albrecht & Co., of New York, the second annual report of the Alamo City Philatelic Society, and six copies of Messrs. Harry Hilckes & Co.'s, Limited, newspaper, *The Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly*, all of which were accepted with best thanks. The programme for the session was then arranged, and after some discussion a syllabus was drawn up.

THE LEEDS PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

Officers for 1894-95.

President—T. KERSHAW SKIPWITH.
Senior Vice-President—JOHN H. THACKRAH.
Junior Vice-President—W. B. SIMPSON.
Hon. Treasurer—EUGENE EGLY, 88, Caledonian Road, Leeds.
Hon. Secretaries—
W. DENISON ROEBUCK, F.L.S., Sunny Bank, Leeds.
JOHN F. C. SIEBER, Guiseley, near Leeds.
Hon. Librarian—F. J. KIDSON.
Ex-Presidents—
WILLIAM BECKWITH. | OLIVER FIRTH.

THE sixty-second meeting was held at the Society's room in the Municipal Buildings, Leeds, on Saturday evening, October 6th, 1894, at 6.30 p.m. There was a total attendance of 14, and the chair was occupied by the President, who opened the session with a few brief introductory remarks.

Mr. S. E. Nixon was elected a member. Thanks were voted to the donors of books, which included *Our Catalogue* (from Messrs. R. F. Albrecht & Co.), *The Monthly Journal* (Stanley Gibbons), *Philatelic Journal of America* (Mekeel & Co.), *Philatelic Chronicle and Advertiser* (the publisher), and *The Post Office* (given by Mr. Beckwith). A number of novelties were shown by Rev. T. S. Fleming (Tonga, Switzerland, and Japan), Mr. W. Beckwith (Great Britain), and Mr. J. W. Duffield, (Chefoo, Chinkiang, Abyssinia, Azores, Siam, and Cabo Delgado). The President showed two hitherto unchronicled varieties of perforation; viz., New Zealand, 3d. brown, 1874–8, type 1726 of Stanley Gibbons, perf. 10 at top, 12½ at bottom and sides; and South Australia 2s., carmine, wmk. broad-pointed star, type 2847, perf. 10 at top, 11½ at bottom and sides. He also showed on the original envelope a South Australian stamp, apparently imperforate, with fair margins, but with a line of rouletting across the middle of the stamp. Various other topics were brought before the meeting, including the new San Marino and Niger Coast devices for raising the wind.

THE sixty-third meeting was held on October 20th, the President in the chair, and 9 members and associates present. The donations included the usual monthly period-

icals, and the Alamo City Philatelic Society's Second Annual Report. A letter from Messrs. Hilckes & Co. was read, calling attention to their new journal, *The Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly*. Congratulations to Mr. Walter Morley on his having secured the highest award (gold medal) at Paris for the collection of English fiscals, which had been previously shown at the Leeds Fiscal Exhibition, were voted. Novelties were shown by Mr. J. F. C. Sieber (Great Britain), and Mr. W. B. Simpson (ditto).

Mr. Francis J. Kidson, the Society's Librarian, then exhibited his fine set of U.S. envelopes, and gave an interesting description of them, after which he was thanked for the trouble he had taken. The President and Mr. W. A. Jefferson also showed their U.S. envelopes.

THE sixty-fourth meeting was held on November 3rd, with an attendance of 13, and the President in the chair. The usual donations of periodical literature were announced, after which two candidates for membership were proposed. Novelties were shown by Mr. Skipwith (new South Australian 2½d.), Mr. A. N. Skipwith (New Brazil), and Rev. T. S. Fleming (Labuan). Mr. John H. Thackrah exhibited a double perforation in the English Penny Red, small crown, perf. 16, the peculiarity of which was in the double perforation being on one side only, all the other three being normal. Mr. W. Denison Roebuck, F.L.S., showed part of his collection of postmarks and obliterations with the view of obtaining additions. The accounts of the Fiscal Exhibition held last July were then submitted. It was a most unqualified success in every point of view except the financial one, entailing an unexpected loss.

The subject for the evening was "The Large Square Stamps of New South Wales," on which a paper had been promised by Mr. Oliver Firth. Unfortunately, however, neither his paper nor himself were forthcoming, and the Secretaries read his apologies to the meeting. Messrs. Skipwith, Thackrah, Jefferson, and Fleming had their collections of these issues, and the evening was spent in their comparison, Mr. Thackrah giving the necessary particulars from the text-books, after which he was voted the thanks of the evening. It is intended to resume the consideration on a future occasion, when Mr. Firth shall have prepared the promised paper. The subject of the next edition of Messrs. Stanley Gibbons' Catalogue was discussed, and a resolution was passed that their attention be called to the desirability of incorporating the illustrations with the text.

W. DENISON ROEBUCK, *Sunny Bank, Leeds,*
JOHN F. C. SIEBER, *Guiseley, Leeds,* } *Hon. Secs.*

MANCHESTER PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

President—VERNON ROBERTS. | *Vice President*—F. BARRATT.
Hon. Sec.—W. DORNING BECKTON. | *Assistant Hon. Sec.*—C. H. COOTE.
Hon. Treasurer—G. B. DUERST.
Hon. Librarian—J. H. ABBOTT.
E. P. COLLETT. | W. GRUNEWALD.
G. F. H. GIBSON. | W. W. MUNN.

THE second meeting of the Session was held at the "Blackfriar's" Hotel, on Friday, October 12th, 1894, the Vice-President in the chair, supported by 21 members.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. The correspondence was read, including a letter from Mr. Griffiths, relating to the stamps and postmarks in use in the Niger Protectorate. Several members pointed out that the information contained in the letter concerning the postmarks was incorrect, entire envelopes obtained from houses in Manchester doing an African trade proving conclusively that the circular postmark was used for obliterating the mails.

The Librarian placed a number of publications on the table, which were directed to be acknowledged with thanks.

The Hon. Sec. read a paper on "Brazil, 1843 to 1890," dividing the stamps into three

series; viz., the first native engraved series, including all the figure issues; those engraved by the American Bank Note Company, including the first and second series of stamps with the Emperor's Head; and lastly the stamps issued from 1881 to 1890, which were again printed locally. The stamps in period No. 1 were printed at the Mint at Rio, where most of the plates (both copper and steel) are still preserved. In 1869, owing to a representation by the American Bank Note Co., who were then printing the stamps, the same were printed upon paper which, after the stamps were printed, by a chemical action became tinted blue. A thousand sheets of certain values (10 c., 20 c., 50 c., 80 c., 100 c.) were sent as a trial, but the Post-office for some reason did not adopt the recommendation of the American Bank Note Co., who claimed it was impossible to efface the postmark from stamps printed upon this specially prepared paper, and no more sheets were printed.

THE third meeting of the session was held at the Blackfriars Hotel, on Friday, October 26th, 1894, the President in the chair, supported by the Vice-President, Librarian, Hon. Secretary, Assistant Hon. Secretary, Treasurer, Messrs. Collett, Munn, Grunewald, Petri, North, Fildes, Ranck, Beasley, Gibson, Pemberton, Harrison, Wallace, Batty, Greenhow, Litchfield, and one visitor.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. Correspondence was read. Mr. Pitt-Harrison and Mr. Jones were elected members.

The President explained that, owing to the refusal by the authorities to allow him to illustrate his proposed book on the English stamps with photographs, he had abandoned the idea of publishing it.

He, however, had much pleasure in presenting to each member who had attended at least three of his papers with a copy of the book recently published by Messrs. Harry Hilckes & Co., which contained nearly all the information in his papers, and was, in his opinion, a handy little work. After making the presentation the President received a hearty vote of thanks upon the motion of Mr. Gibson, seconded by the Vice-President.

The petition being inaugurated by the editor of *The Million* for the repeal of section 7 of the Post-office Act, 1884, was placed on the table by Mr. Ranck. A long discussion ensued, those in favour of the amendment of the Act pointing out that the Society had been deprived thereby of the work of the President on the English stamps, which was intended only for private circulation, and therefore the authorities, in the exercise of their discretion, might well have acceded to the President's request. And further it was pointed out that if the letter and spirit of the law were carried out, no publication at present existing in this country would be safe from confiscation. Many, however, considered that section 7 was framed for the benefit and at the instigation of Philatelists, and therefore in view of the interpretation at present put upon the statute by the authorities, it was not becoming of Philatelists to seek for the repeal of the section in question. Except in very exceptional circumstances it could not be said that the section in question justified the opinion set out in clause 6 of the petition.

Owing to the differences of opinion, it was decided to take no joint action, but to leave each member free to either sign the petition or refuse.

A very large number of rare Cape, including both woodblock errors and unused English, were placed in the specially prepared frames, which stood on the table for the first time.

Owing to the lateness of the hour when the ordinary business was concluded, Mr. Munn postponed his paper until the next meeting.

W. DORNING BECKTON.

DAISY BANK,
SWINTON PARK.

PLYMOUTH PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

Session 1894-95.

President—A. R. BARRETT. | *Vice-President*—R. TYETH STEVENS.
Exchange Secretary—H. TUCKER, JUN. | *Treasurer and Hon. Sec.*—A. LEVY.

Committee—

H. W. MAYNE. | E. MILLMAN.
J. MILTON. | W. E. HARVEY.

THE first and second meetings of the Session were held on the 11th and 25th of October, at 9A, Princess Square. In the absence of the President (temporarily called away on official duties) the chair has been taken by the Vice-President.

Votes of thanks were passed to Messrs. Harry Hilckes, Limited, for a copy of their Catalogue of the Stamps of Great Britain, and to Messrs. R. F. Albrecht & Co. for a copy of *Our Catalogue*, presented to the library of the Society. In arranging the programme for the Session it was decided to devote alternate meetings of the Society to monthly displays of the members' collections of various countries. At the next meeting an exhibition of the Postage Stamps of South Australia will be held. As several members have specialized in this colony it is hoped that the show will be a fairly comprehensive one.

The Vice-President gave an address on the various methods he adopted in forming and mounting his collection, which was very much appreciated by the members present.

THE NEW YORK PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

ROOM—1, EVERETT BUILDING, 25, ANN STREET.

Governing Committee for 1894.

President—FREDERICK DE COPPETT. | *Secretary*—FREDERICK AUGUSTUS NAST.
Vice-President—WILLIAM THORNE. | *Treasurer*—HENRY CLOTZ.

CHARLES GREGORY. | FREDERICK WILLIAM HUNTER. | HORATIO NELSON TERRETT.
JOHN WALTER SCOTT. | WILLIAM HERRICK.

THE regular monthly meeting of the Society was held at its rooms on Monday evening, October 15th, Mr. Chas. Gregory occupying the chair.

The minutes of the last meeting having been read and approved, Mr. J. W. Scott proposed, and Mr. Frederic de Coppet seconded, the application for membership of Mr. F. W. Ayer, Bangor, Me.

Mr. F. W. Hunter proposed, and Mr. J. W. Scott seconded, the application for membership of Dr. Frank Abbott, 49, West 57th Street, New York City.

Both applications were referred to the Governing Committee for action, and the names put upon the notice board of the Society.

Several copies of the 1890 5 c. United States having been offered to collectors, in the dark brown colour of the 4 c. stamp of the same issue, Mr. Scott stated that the American Bank-note Company had informed him that all the stamps of 1890 issue, without exception, from 1 c. to 90 c., were each printed in complete sheets in about fifteen colours, one sheet of each stamp in each colour, and submitted in that form to the Post-office Authorities in Washington. With that exception none of the stamps had been printed in any other colour than those authorised by the Postmaster-General. Of course slight variations in shades would occur, as it is impossible to mix inks in such manner as to always preserve the desired value and intensity of shade and colour. The inference is that the stamps

that have lately been offered to collectors are a portion of the samples submitted to the Postmaster-General for his selection of colours.

Of the 1894 stamps now being made by the Bureau of Printing in Washington, a number were exhibited at the meeting.

The first that appeared was the 6 c., which is dull in colour, and will not compare favourably with the issues of the American Bank-note Company. The 4 c. and 10 c. are also inferior, but all three of the above are much better than the 2 c. which has just appeared. Of this stamp quite a number in the possession of the members are in the light shade of pink, and at first sight would seem to be lithographed instead of engraved. Indeed some of these 2 c. stamps are hardly superior in appearance to good counterfeits.

It is to be hoped that greater care will be taken in the printing of the other values.

The Chairman appointed the following gentlemen for the Monday social evenings:

October 22nd . .	Mr. Scott.
October 29th . .	Mr. Gregory.
November 3rd . .	Mr. Clotz.
November 10th . .	Mr. Herrick.

It was proposed and seconded that a Committee be appointed to consider the advisability of celebrating the anniversary of the Society at its January meeting, the said Committee to report at the regular meeting to be held November 17th. It was adopted, and the Chairman appointed Messrs. Scott, Clotz, and Nast as such Committee.

The stamps of Macao were ordered for consideration at the November meeting.

Mr. Brevomt brought his collection of United States and British Colonials. They were inspected with much pleasure by the members present.

THE JOHANNESBURG PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

MINUTES of ordinary general meeting, held at Y.M.C.A.'s Buildings, October 3rd, 1894.

Mr. Landau presided. There were also present twelve members.

The minutes of the last meeting being confirmed, the correspondence was then read by the Secretary.

The report of the Committee was put before the meeting.

Messrs. C. Langworthy, Ricketts, and Joseph Livada were elected as corresponding members.

Mr. Graumann proposed that the resolution, *re* the election of the Exhibition Committee, be, and is hereby rescinded. This was carried unanimously.

It was then resolved that the Committee be asked to prepare a programme as to the best manner in which the anniversary of the Society's existence be celebrated.

The Secretary read an article headed "Transvaal Stamp Frauds," which appeared in the *Standard & Diggers' News*. A vote of thanks was passed to Mr. Nelson for calling the attention of the members to this article.

A very ably written paper on "Natal Postage Stamps" was then read by Mr. Lawson. A hearty vote of thanks was accorded to him for the mass of information contained in his paper.

A cordial welcome was accorded to the visitor, Mr. S. E. Clark, from the chair.

SALLO EPSTEIN,
Hon. Sec.

P.O. BOX 1239.

Correspondence.

THE "CASTLE" COLLECTION.

To the Editor of the "London Philatelist."

DEAR SIR,—In a printed circular just sent out by Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Limited, giving the "history" of my old friend —Mr. Castle's—collection, I notice mine named, amongst others, as collections which have been "amalgamated" to form it. So far from anyone "amalgamating" mine, I never possessed so fine a collection of Australian stamps as I do at the present time—some £3,000 worth, mostly unused.

Nothing short of *dynamite*, combined with a burglar possessing an unusually extensive acquaintance with my four iron safes, and also of the resources of the district police-station close to my house, will succeed in "amalgamating" my "Australians."

Very truly yours,

E. SHORTHOUSE.

5, CHARLOTTE ROAD, EDGBASTON,
BIRMINGHAM, *Nov. 7th*, 1894.

[We insert our correspondent's letter with pleasure, as no document ever emanated from him that was not fertile of amusement! We are confident that Mr. Castle has not the slightest burglarious idea as regards Mr. Shorthouse's present collection, which he has never sought to amalgamate. But is it the only Australian collection Mr. S. ever formed, in all his long years of acquaintance with stamp collecting? Has he *never* parted with any stamps? and if he has, why could not Mr. Castle have amalgamated it in the past? The latter has still a handsome black leather album, inscribed in the well-known writing of the great Birmingham Philatelist, "Stamps of our Australian Colonies. Collection commenced Spring, 1877. 'Un' means 'Unused copy.'" This collection, having been first submitted to the late Mr. Tapling was, on April 28th, 1882, purchased by Mr. Castle from Mr. A. H. Wilson, who we presume could hardly have stolen it from Mr. Shorthouse! There were 82 Sydney Views in it, but Mr. S. unfortunately could not rise above 7s. 6d. for the finest 2d.—the prices still remain. (Does Mr. S. still note these always?) Nor were the West Australian octagonals, unused, marked at prohibitive prices! These were good old days, and our correspondent must wish that he instead of Mr. Castle had amalgamated his former with his present collection.—ED.]

THE NIGER COAST STAMPS.

DEAR SIR,—In the interesting letter from Mr. Griffith, which appears in the September number of the *London Philatelist*, he states, in the last paragraph but one, that "no stamps of this Protectorate (Oil Rivers) have been genuinely used through the post unless obliterated with the square outgoing post-mark."

This statement cannot be quite correct, as I possess several of the Oil Rivers stamps on their original envelopes, and none of them are obliterated in the manner he says is necessary—they all bear the little *circular* postmark he condemns—although they were posted in the Protectorate, were delivered by the postman here in the usual way, and safely acted as covers to various communications!

In proof of what I say I am sending you herewith three of the envelopes—posted respectively November 17, 1892, January 10, 1893, and December 11, 1893—for your inspection. Kindly return at your convenience.

Yours faithfully,

ROBERT TYETH STEVENS.

6, ST. JAMES' TERRACE, PLYMOUTH,
October 18th, 1894.

[The stamps in question, which include specimens of the ½d., 1d., 2d., and 2½d., all bear the circular postmarks mentioned by our correspondent, either "Calabar River," "Forcados River," or "Benin River."—ED.]

HOW TO OPEN LETTER CARDS.

SIR,—I have pleasure in supplementing my recent suggestion for opening Letter Cards by a much simpler and better means —discovered by a relative—which not only preserves the card *perfectly entire*, but does not require the help of a *sharp* penknife; namely, to insert the blade of a penknife, or any blunt-pointed article, such as a lead pencil or even a toothpick, into the openings which will be found in the edges of most Letter Cards *close to the fold*, from which point the gummed edges can be readily separated without tearing or even roughening the inside surface of the paper.—I am, &c.,

CHARLES S. S. JOHNSTON.

P.S.—Four specimen cards enclosed.

N.B.—Once the point is inserted, the *blunter* the article that is used the better—by preference the blunt or unsharpened end of a lead pencil.

EDINBURGH, *October 12th*, 1894.

THE

London Philatelist:

THE MONTHLY JOURNAL OF

THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY, LONDON.

VOL. III. DECEMBER, 1894. No. 36.

Signs of the Times.

VERY numerous have been the transactions of magnitude in the Philatelic world during the year now closing, and it may therefore not be deemed an inopportune time to briefly glance thereat.

A prominent feature has been the disposal of large collections. In this country the sale of the writer's Australian collection for £10,000, as recently recorded, is a significant event, the Winzer collection was also purchased for £3000, and now we hear of the sale of Mr. F. A. Philbrick's splendid collection of Great Britain, all these having been acquired by the enterprising firm of Stanley Gibbons, Limited. The lamented death of Mr. Gilbert Harrison has also placed in the hands of the same firm stamps amounting to many thousands of pounds.

In the spring a large and valuable general collection from the Continent was disposed of at auction by Messrs. Ventom, Bull, & Cooper, for a sum amounting to about £2500, and there are already announced by the same firm two other "important assemblages, being the property" of well-known Philatelists in this country. The auction sales have moreover been literally incessant, during a whole week at a time, and the marvel is that such vast quantities can find purchasers without unduly depreciating the market.

The marvel, however, does not cease here, as the effect of these transactions has apparently been to stimulate purchasers, while the fact of the enormous demand and enhanced prices must be patent to every reader of Philatelic journals. If, however, any absolutely convincing proof of this were needed, we have but to call attention to the fact that one of the largest firms on the Continent—Messrs. Senf Brothers, of Leipsic—have recently

advertised in the most prominent manner, in a Continental contemporary, their willingness to buy a large number of quoted stamps at prices far in excess of those noted in their own catalogue for this year. Accompanying this offer is the astounding statement, that acting on these lines the firm in question has purchased during the current year no les than £15,000 worth of rare and good stamps. In reviewing the otherwise excellent catalogue of this firm a few months since, we took occasion to allude to the obviously incorrect valuation placed by them upon very many of the stamps, and the advertisement now quoted is a palpable endorsement as to the correctness of our criticism.

One of the most frequent remarks made to Philatelists by the general public is "Will these prices keep up?" The question is a difficult one to answer. It is clearly impossible that stamps can always rise at such prodigious leaps and bounds as the year 1894 has seen, but we fancy it will be long before they exhibit any decadence. The pursuit is so universal, and its adherents, both Philatelic and financial, have so enormously increased, that there is literally safety in numbers, and for this reason alone, short of national calamities, we can see no reason for any falling off, either in the interest in or value of postage stamps. It may perhaps be urged that the tenour of these remarks is not strictly Philatelic, but it is clearly in the interest of all collectors that they should duly scan and consider the Philatelic horizon, when such heavy calls are made upon their purses in their efforts to form really fine collections. For the present they have nothing to fear.

The Nesbitt Envelopes of the United States.

By the Late Mr. GILBERT HARRISON and Mr. E. D. BACON.



NNOUNCEMENTS have been made in this journal as to the appearance of a series of articles on the above, by the late Mr. Gilbert Harrison.

The publication of this work has been delayed, mainly owing to the difficulty in procuring adequate illustrations. Shortly before Mr. Harrison's death these plates were all satisfactorily finished. They include twelve large plates shewing the varieties of the dies used for the stamps of the Nesbitt issues, a separate plate of the heads found on the 1853 set, and two plates of the different watermarks employed down to the end of the Nesbitt contract, and, as will be seen, are indeed specimens of magnificent reproductive art. The expenses incurred in the preparation and reproduction of the plates, and in other matters connected with this series of articles, will exceed one hundred pounds, and to meet this outlay in some measure it is proposed (as will be seen elsewhere) to make a supplemental charge of *2s. 6d.* to the subscription of the journal *for the year 1895 only*. The payment of this sum will be optional, as the United States articles will be published quarterly in

the form of a separately paged supplement, which can then be bound up together at the close of the year. Those subscribers who wish to have the *London Philatelist* as heretofore need only pay the usual price. The expense of producing the plates will be so great that of necessity only a limited number of copies will be printed, and the few remaining on hand at the close of the year will be disposed of (bound only) at a price considerably above that named to regular subscribers to our journal.

We may add that we are again indebted to that indefatigable and accurate writer, Mr. E. D. Bacon, for undertaking to complete a work of extreme difficulty, that was unfortunately but partly done, although well begun. We are confident that under his able direction the series of articles will be both loyally and scientifically completed, in accordance with the known wishes of our much regretted *confrère*.

The first quarterly instalment of the work will be published with the number for March next.

Impressions from an Unregistered Plate of the One Penny Great Britain, 1840.

A Paper read before the Philatelic Society, London, on November 30th, 1894.

By the EARL OF KINGSTON, President.



N inspection of the *official collection* of English adhesives at the British Museum, belonging to the late Mr. Tapling, reveals the fact that impressions from several plates used during the life of the one penny, black, are missing. Copies from plates 1, 2, 3, 5, and 8 are found, but plates 4, 6, 7, 9, 10, 11 are conspicuous by their absence. According to our authorities these were never registered.

From the *official collection* belonging to the Duke of York, and forwarded by H.R.H. for the inspection of members of the Philatelic Society at one of the meetings during the last session, it would appear that the following are the dates of registration of the several plates:

Plate 1, *two sheets*, registered 27 April, 1840
„ 2, *two sheets* „ „
„ 3, *one sheet* „ 9 May, 1840.
„ 5, *two sheets* „ 1 June, 11 June.
„ 8, *one sheet* „ 13 July, 1840.

When the stamps were changed from black to red, plate 12 was the first used, the date of registration being 25 February, 1841.

It will seem from the above that plates 1, 2, and 5 were registered twice over. This is also the case respecting the V.R., the dates of registration being respectively the 27 April, and 9th of May, 1840.

It is somewhat puzzling to understand why this should have been done; we may exercise our ingenuity in trying to divine the cause. It has been suggested that perhaps the first sheet in each case might have been an impression taken while the plate was in a *soft state*, and the second an impression from the plate after it had been *hardened*. This matter we must, however, leave for future investigation.

It is, I believe, an open secret that the book of registration sheets shows traces in some cases of missing numbers having been at some time or other in their relative places, and this being so, it is more than probable that all the missing plates were registered; this is an important element in considering the discovery I am about to describe.

Four years ago I purchased a block of black pennies. It once formed the top of the sheet, and consists of five entire rows of twelve stamps each. The margins are intact and perfect; the right and left top corners of the margin contain the plate number 11. Although somewhat thin in substance and placed rather far apart, by reason of there being no registration sheet of plate 11, I took these figures to represent No. 2 in *Roman numerals;* but from enquiries made this summer I ascertained beyond doubt that the practice has always been to number the sheets in *Arabic numerals*. It proves, therefore, that the block above described is not an impression from plate 2, but from plate 11—one of our missing (black) lambs!

The block is from an early stage of the plate, and, as far as I can at present see, does not differ from impressions of the same series, either as regards printing, substance of paper, watermark, or gum.

I believe another missing plate, No. 6, has been found, and now having turned up plate 11, we need not utterly despair of retrieving the others.

It is evident from the numerous discoveries made lately of plate numbers supposed never to have been printed from, and in some cases of plates not known to exist even, that our knowledge of the stamps of this, our mother country, is still very deficient, and that our histories and catalogues are not, owing to very great difficulties in making research in official quarters, as accurate and reliable as we should desire.

On one point specially we are still lamentably ignorant; viz. as to the actual date of issue of many of our stamps. In most cases we have only the dates of registration, and of these sometimes only the year is roughly given. This is not as it should be, and it behoves us to make fresh efforts to obtain more concise data.

I would venture to suggest to the gentlemen who I understand purpose bringing out a new and exhaustive work on English stamps, that valuable and important information might be afforded by an inspection of the *Stock Receipt* and *Stock Delivery* books kept by the authorities of the Inland Revenue and the General Post-office, if such records still exist and are available for examination. Some of these books would at all events show the dates on which supplies of stamps were received from the manufacturers, and we might naturally assume that an early distribution to the public followed. I am confident that a patient search in these quarters would yield an ample reward.

Oxidized Stamps.

By R. H. RIDOUT.



THE contributions of the Earl of Kingston and Mr. Willett have raised a matter of interest to Philatelists generally, and of real importance to those who have oxidized specimens in their collections. The authors treat the matter from entirely different standpoints, and each no doubt will achieve the best results with the method of his choice; but for persons not possessed of chemical knowledge, the peroxide method will, I think, be found the more generally available. My acquaintance with this process goes back to 1871, and though peroxide of hydrogen was then not so readily obtainable as now, yet it was well known in technical chemistry for precisely the same purpose as it is now being used by many Philatelists.

The term "Oxidized" as applied to stamps is a misnomer of the first water, but having been everywhere adopted, must, I suppose, be accepted as current coin.

The offending substance, however, is not oxygen (this is the restoring substance), but sulphur. The blackening or tarnishing of our stamps is due to the formation of sulphides, with one or other of the metallic bases of which pigments are composed. Now the metallic bases Philatelists are interested in, are those which are capable of forming *black* sulphides, and are Iron and Lead; also Nickel and Cobalt, which latter however are but seldom met with.

The sulphur usually comes from decaying vegetable and animal matter, is always present in our gas, and may result from the decay of varnish or size, and even gum; and generally the conditions which are injurious to our silver plate and "Old Masters" are equally noxious to such of our stamps as "oxidize." In some cases the sulphur directly combines with a free base in the pigment, but more frequently reduces a compound such as red-lead* to black sulphide of lead. I have taken this as a type, as the lead compounds occur more frequently than the others in "oxidizable" stamps. Neither process is capable of restoring the lead to its original state, because the compound resulting from the action of the restoring agent is sulphate of lead,† which is white as already mentioned, while the original compound was red, and it will be found in stamps which were very badly "oxidized," that the fine lines will appear weak, or in very extreme cases disappear altogether. In cases of average severity, however, the experimenter will be simply delighted with the result, but he must operate on his own stamps, or his friends may find it difficult to believe that he is not repeating the trick of

* RED BLACK

$$2\,Pb_3\,O_4 + 8\,SH_2 = 6\,Pb\,S + S_2 + 8\,OH_2$$

† BLACK WHITE

$$Pb\,S + 4\,O_2\,H_2 = Pb\,SO_4 + 4\,OH_2$$

the "Heathen Chinee" with the trump card. This was my experience some two and half years ago, and since then I have contented myself with regretting that oxidation was incurable!

The following application has been found the most successful:

(*a*) Slight cases. Apply the 10 volume solution with a soft flat brush, and dry between folds of blotting paper.

(*b*) Severe cases. Soak the stamp face downwards for 12 hours or more in clean cold water, and then immerse in—10 volume solution 1 part, water 20 parts. Leave till clean and dry as before. As none of the "oxidizable" pigments are affected by prolonged immersion, there is no danger of overdoing it.

It may be well to add a word of caution upon two points. First, commercial peroxide often contains traces of Barium salts, which are highly poisonous, and it is not safe to regard this reagent as wholly innocuous. Second, prolonged application results in the destruction of the size in the paper. Now it is just this size which imparts the grey or yellowish shade characteristic of some of the old papers, and after its destruction the paper becomes not only more porous from the loss of the size, but what is worse—chalky white. A specimen, once badly oxidized, will therefore always tell its own tale, and can only be regarded as a patient relieved—but not cured.

Philatelic Notes.

NOTE.—*Under this title will be found all notes relating to postal issues other than those that are chronicled as current novelties, or which form the subject of special articles. The co-operation of Philatelists is invited in order to make this column of a varied and interesting nature.*

DISCOVERIES.

GREAT BRITAIN.—Mr. A. de Worms has shewn some specimens of Plate II. of the 2½d., in which the lettering is "L H" in the upper, and "F L" in the lower corners. We had previously heard of this variety—error, shall we call it?—but in view of the fact of this stamp having been in existence twenty years, its existence seemed so unlikely that we hesitated to accept it finally. The registered sheet at Somerset House has been referred to and corroborates the variety.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA.—We have from Mr. W. T. Wilson a fresh variety in that perennial source of discoveries—the lettered official stamps of this Colony. The novelty consists in the discovery of *blue* letters on a not hitherto recorded variety—the 6d. to wit. This should be a scarce variety, and its authenticity is unmistakeable—6d., rouletted, in grey-blue, surcharged "S M" in blue letters.

Occasional Notes.

DEATH OF MR. E. H. WATTS, J.P., F.R.G.S.

It is with much regret that we have to announce the death of this gentleman, from an attack of typhoid fever, at the early age of forty. Mr. Watts, although not a frequent attendant at the meetings of the London Society, was a most earnest and enthusiastic collector, who bid fair to ripen into a first-class Philatelist. The sympathy of all members of the London Philatelic Society will be tendered to Mr. Watts' relations on their sad loss. Mr. Watts, who has travelled much, was a leading member of one of the largest firms in Newport, and had occupied many public offices in the town, where his death will be widely mourned.

THE STAMPS OF AFGHANISTAN.

We are officially informed that the work on these stamps that was to have been written by the late Mr. Gilbert Harrison, for the Philatelic Society, London, will be produced by that body within a few months. Although Mr. Harrison's labours were far from complete, a considerable portion of the work had been compiled, and the whole of the plates have been reproduced in a magnificent manner. The work will be, in fact, in every way worthy of the gentleman whose collection formed its basis; and when we state that Major E. B. Evans and Mr. E. D. Bacon have most kindly consented to finish this laborious undertaking, it will be apparent that every step has been taken to minimise the great and almost irreparable loss that Philately has incurred through the early death of Mr. Gilbert Harrison.

"OLD CONSULAR OFFICIAL STAMPS."

We are indebted to Messrs. Whitfield King and Co. for a copy of the following letter received by them. It hardly needs any comment at our hands, but we can only trust that, as there is some reason to hope, the matter may not be allowed to rest here. The uses of "Her Britannic Majesty's Consulate" are of a very varied nature, but we doubt if those indicated in the letter would meet with the approval of the Foreign Office.

HER BRITANNIC MAJESTY'S CONSULATE,
ICHANG, CHINA, 20*th September*, 1894.

SIR,—Being aware that you are dealing in Postage Stamps, may I ask if you would be willing to purchase a quantity of the very first issue of "Chungking Postage Stamps," all 2 candarins each, like the one I enclose herewith, which I sale at the rate 20 stamps per Mexican dollar, about 2s. 2d. These can be sent you in large or small consignments.

I might mention that the Authorities at this port have decided on establishing a Post-office, which will probably be in working order early November.

Her Britannic Majesty's Consul has been good enough to allow me to accept the position of Postmaster.

I should be happy to act as your Agent, and forward you a consignment of these stamps on the usual term paid by you as commission. Should you require any old "Consular Official Stamps" I shall be pleased to send you a quantity of many kinds very cheap. Begging the favour of a reply, I am, etc.,

(Signed) JOSEPH OLSEN, *Constable.*

THE TAPLING COLLECTION.

WE are informed by Mr. E. D. Bacon that the stamps of the National Collection now being exhibited are changed. The countries now on view are Antigua, Bahamas, Barbados, Bermuda, British Guiana (part). These West Indians include some of the choicest and rarest stamps of the collection, and will well repay pilgrims who travel to the shrine.

THE CAPE COLONY AND THE POSTAL UNION.

THE arrangement by which the Cape Colony will enter the Postal Union on January 1, 1895—the result of negotiations between the Cape Postmaster-General and the authorities at St. Martin's-le-Grand—has been recently concluded. As soon as the Cape Colony formally applies for admission, the matter will be finally settled. The new arrangement will cause no alteration in the Cape Colony so far as letters are concerned, but reductions will be made in the charge for printed matter. The entry of the Cape Colony into the Postal Union will, however, bring about reductions of tariff from many of the more important countries of the Union. In France, for example, where the postal rate to the Cape has been 5d., the tariff will be exactly half that amount. Similar reductions will follow wherever a higher rate than the uniform Union tariff is at present in force. The postal letter rate from Madeira, which is now 7½d., will probably be brought down to 2½d.

Reuter's Agency is informed that, in consequence of the entry of Cape Colony into the Postal Union from the beginning of next year, arrangements have been made for also admitting, at a later date, the territories of the British South Africa Company, which are already included in the South African Postal Union.

A POST-OFFICE SCANDAL AT TONGA.

IN the article upon this subject, which appeared in our last issue, the printers are responsible for a mistake in the *amounts* of stamps mentioned in Mr. Campbell's transactions. These should read "$26,775.3.4" instead of "£26,775 3*s.* 4*d.*," and "$55,517.1.6" instead of "£55,517 1*s.* 6*d.*" The sum of "£200" paid by the German dealer is correct. No doubt the receipts of the Tonga Post-office, owing to the patronage of Philatelists, are large, but the sums mentioned in the article must have surprised many of our readers, so we think it right to make this correction.

REPRINTS.

AN announcement has been recently made by Messrs. Senf Brothers, of Leipsic, that from the first of January next their firm will neither keep in stock nor sell any Reprints. This determination is in line with the policy of other firms in this country, and having regard to the marvellous reproductive facilities of Leipsic printing will perhaps cause a feeling of relief to the more uninitiated collectors. In our opinion there is, however, not much to fear from Reprints in the hands of any firm of standing such as those referred to above; the danger is constituted when they change ownership.

ROBBERY OF VALUABLE STAMPS.

WE have to record a severe loss sustained by a well-known member of the London Philatelic Society. Mr. Robert Ehrenbach, who has been making a somewhat extended journey in the South of Europe, has been the unfortunate victim of a robbery that represents a loss of nearly £1000 worth of stamps. We are confident that the sympathy of all his brother members will be given to Mr. Ehrenbach, coupled with the hope that he may yet recover his lost treasure. If, as it seems, it was a highway robbery, the Moorish Government should at least be "persuaded" to give compensation. We quote as follows from the interesting letter sent to us:

Although I as a rule don't like giving accounts of what happened for publication, I must make an exception in the case of the *London Philatelist*, for which I am only too pleased to do anything I can, and I send you therefore a few details. We arrived from Cadiz at Tangier on the 17th of November, and having despatched our large portmanteau direct to Granada—only having several handbags, rugs, etc. with us, one of which contained a quantity of stamps, duplicates of my own and a quantity of good stamps I had been buying in the towns I had already visited on my tour—we had no idea of going on an inland ride through country, but everyone in Tangiers told us that was *the* thing to do; and so, after having procured from the Governor of the town a soldier as guard, and a very good guide, who did all the rest in the way of the hiring of ponies, mules, and the coolies (2), we started at five a.m. on the Thursday morning (15th). After a lovely ride of six hours we arrived at the *fondak*, where we took a hearty lunch, and had a little rest of an hour, and restarted at about one o'clock on the second part of the journey; just after reaching a bridge about four to five miles from Tetuan a heavy tropical rain overtook us, which became so heavy just one mile off our destination that we pushed on our horses and left the mule with the luggage and the attending Moor about a quarter of an hour behind.

We arrived at Tetuan about five o'clock, and at once proceeded to the house of Mr. Isaac Nahom, H.B.M. Vice-Consul, who is in the habit of accommodating travellers at his house. Our guide had at once sent the soldier back to meet the luggage mule, and as it had become a little dark he himself proceeded to the Governor of Tetuan to get the permit to unlock the gates of the town, which are closed the moment dark sets in.

When he arrived at the gates he was at once told that our Moor had arrived at the gates some time ago, waiting for them to be opened, in a bad state, having been stabbed and knocked down by highway robbers, and the mule and everything on it, together with the property of the Moor, was carried off by the thieves. Our

guide and the Consul at once went to the Governor and lodged a complaint; the latter soon afterwards sent about 80 to 100 soldiers out in all directions, but nothing was to be found of the robbers. In the meanwhile we could do nothing than look happy and smile, which was easier said than done, considering that we were forced to remain in our wet things. Change we had none, and the only thing we could get in Tangier was a piece of soap; tooth brushes, hair brushes, etc., are unknown quantities in that part of the world.

On the advice of Mr. Nahom we at once decided not to continue our tour to Ceuta but to return to Tangier, in order to give personally details of what had happened to H.B.M. Consul—in the absence of the Minister, Sir Satow, who was at Fez. Mr. Nahom also drew up an account of the occurrence, which he sent to his superior in Tangier, and was also kind enough to lend me some cash against a bill on my London firm—in fact, he was quite a godsend to me. So on the Saturday morning we left Tetuan again on the road to Tangier, which we reached at about six p.m., and at once proceeded to Mr. Hubert C. White, the British Consul, to whom I gave details in full, and also, as far as I could remember, a list of the better stamps I had with me, and the value I attach to them. The value of the personal wearing apparel, etc., reached an approximate sum of about £200, made up from the value of the bags, rugs, dresses, etc., cash, jewels, etc., while the stamps I had would readily fetch over £800 at any London auction, containing some of the greatest rarieties of German States, British Colonials, U.S. of A., and last, not least, the finest lots of old unused Portugals and used Spain imaginable.

Acting on the advice of Mr. White I have offered a reward for the recovery of the stamps, which have no value whatever for a Moor. He has further promised to do all in his power to get the things back, and will put the matter into the hands of the British Minister in Morocco, but up to date I have heard nothing further.

Reviews.

THE PHILATELIC DIARY.*



SINGULARLY handy little *vade mecum* in the shape of a diary for collectors has been issued by Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., under the above title. A small red morocco cover containing pockets on the inside for the secretion of stamps, a really serviceable pencil, and a detachable perforation gauge, constitute the outer features of the Diary. The interior consists of the usual diary, three days being assigned to a page, on which are also noted, where known, the exact days on which stamps of the several countries were issued. Beyond this is a quantity of useful information; *e.g.* lists of the Philatelic Societies of the British Empire, of obsolete currencies with English equivalents for these and present currencies, of technical terms and colours in English, French, and German, and a series of statistics of the chief stamp-issuing States of the world. Most neat and

* *The Philatelic Diary for Stamp Collectors for* 1895. STANLEY GIBBONS, LTD., 391, Strand, London, W.C.

serviceable in appearance, it can be slipped into the smallest pocket, and should be as indispensable to the average Philatelist as is a Whitaker to the "ordinary British public."

A CHRONOLOGY OF GERMAN PHILATELIC NEWSPAPERS.*

The author of this "Directory of Journals" is well known in Philatelic circles on the Continent as a most zealous collector, and as the librarian of the Berlin Philatelic Club. Aided doubtless by his official position, Mr. Fraenkel has succeeded in producing a chronicle of no less than 146 Philatelic journals, which have made either an ephemeral or permanent appearance in the German language. The title of each journal is given first, and following this the name and address of the publisher, the date of the appearance of its first and (in many cases) its last number, the number of times it appeared, with other information and remarks. Most valuable and interesting is such a lexicon of the Fatherland's Philatelic productions, and we would that the example could be followed in this country. In the preface to the work, Mr. Fraenkel states that at the end of 1893 no less than thirty-eight journals were still in issue, a fact significant of the wide interest taken in Philately by the German nation; and he acknowledges his indebtedness to the Bibliograph of Herr Suppantschitsch, which, however, would not detract from the excellent result of the author's labours, on which he is to be heartily congratulated.

* *Chronological Table of the German Philatelic Newspapers.* By H. FRAENKEL, 52, Kurfürsten Strasse, Berlin, W.

New Issues.

Under this head will be found notes of the new, and variations of the current issues. We do not profess to chronicle everything, but with the kind help of correspondents, are desirous that all the important novelties may be included. Speculative stamps—i.e. those not really required for postal purposes—will be considered on their merits, and Jubilee issues will not be chronicled.

GREAT BRITAIN AND COLONIES.

BRITISH NORTH BORNEO. — Two reply cards of 1 + 1 cent and 3 + 3 cents have been issued. Both have stamp of the old type, and bear the inscription "UNION POSTALE UNIVERSELLE—STATE OF NORTH BORNEO —POST CARD—THE ADDRESS ONLY TO BE WRITTEN ON THIS SIDE," the last half bears the word "REPLY."

Postcards. 1+1 cent, red on buff; reply.
3+3 cents, blue on buff ,,

BRITISH EAST AFRICA. — Pending the preparation of permanent stamps of 5 and 7½ annas, two provisionals were made by surcharging the current 8 annas stamp "5 ANNAS," in block capitals, and the 1 rupee "7½ ANNAS." Specimens received from Messrs. Whitfield King & Co.

Since writing the above we have received the permanent 5 and 7½ annas from Messrs. Whitfield King & Co.

Adhesives. 5 annas, snrch. in black on blue.
7½ ,, ,, ,, rose.
Permanent type.
5 annas, black on bluish.
7½ ,, black.

CANADA.—The 1 c. reply card now has the stamp of the current single cards on *both* halves, in place of the double type which has been in use for some time.

Post Card. 1+1 c., grey-black on buff; reply.

GREAT BRITAIN.—We are enabled to state that early next year the Post-office will issue a new stout post card of the "court" or "correspondence" size. The new card will be issued in addition to the present cards, and will be sold at the same price as that charged for the stout inland cards already in use.

We recently purchased two copies of the current 10d. stamps from the Post-office in an exceedingly deep shade of carmine, so deep that the colour has penetrated to the back of the stamp.

Mr. H. L. Ewen has sent us a specimen of the current 2½d. clearly printed on the wrong side, the impression being over the gum, and the reverse side entirely innocent of adhesive matter. The imprint, being made on a streaky surface, has a blotchy appearance, and knowing how careful Messrs. De la Rue are now-a-days it comes somewhat as a surprise.

2½d., current series; *printed on the reverse side.*

HONGKONG.—From *L'Echo de la Timbrologie* we learn that the $10 fiscal stamp has been surcharged "5-DOLLARS," in two lines of Gothic type, for postal uses.

Adhesive. 5 dollars, black on rose.

NEWFOUNDLAND.—The ½ c. stamp referred to last month is now in issue.

Adhesive. ½ c, black.

ST. HELENA.—There appear to be two varieties of the current half-penny value, one has the surcharge measuring 15 mm., the other 17½ mm.

ST. LUCIA.—The *American Journal of Philately* vouches for the provisional one half penny on three pence with a double surcharge on the face, and a single surcharge on the back of stamp.

Adhesive.

One half penny on three pence, black on lilac, *variety.*

SARAWAK.—The following letter has been received by Mr. Tilleard.

28th November, 1894

DEAR SIR,—As we believe there are some rumours about on the subject, we think it well to state at once, for the information of the Philatelic world, that we have recently shipped to His Highness the Rajah of Sarawak a new set of Postage and Revenue stamps, comprising the values of 2, 4, 6, and 8 cents, as per specimens herewith.

We may mention that we are writing this entirely on our own responsibility, and without the authority of His Highness the Rajah; but we have no doubt that, under the circumstances, it is best that correct information should be obtainable at the headquarters of Philately.

We are, dear Sir,
Your obedient Servants,
PERKINS, BACON, & Co., Ltd.
JAMES D. HEATH, Managing Director.

All values contain a portrait of Rajah Brooke, in an oval in centre, but the surrounding design is different for each value; the inscriptions are, however, the same on all, "SARAWAK" "POSTAGE & REVENUE" with value in numerals and words printed in colour on white, perf. 12.

Adhesives. 2 c., brown.
4 c., black.
6 c., violet.
8 c., deep green.

STRAITS SETTLEMENTS, *Sungei Ujong.*—We thought the "tiger was on its last legs." This can, however, hardly be so, for we have received 2 values from Messrs. Whitfield King & Co., not only surcharged, but printed in *different colours* from the 5 c. plate; the 2 c. has also reappeared in orange in place of rose.

Adhesives. 2 c., *orange.*
1 c., in black, on 5 c, *green.*
3 c., in black, on 5 c., *rose.*

VICTORIA.—The *Monthly Journal* has received a ½d. wrapper, with stamp of the current oblong type, but printed in *orange* on plain white wove paper, with marginal lines, and rouletted at sides; this was issued on September 24th.

Wrapper. ½d., orange on white, 112×278 mm.

EUROPE.

AUSTRIA.—The *Ill. Brief. Zeitung* states that on the 9th October last a card bearing a 5 kreuzer stamp instead of a 2 kreuzer was found in one of the Austrian offices.

Post Card. 5 kr., brown on buff; *error.*

BAVARIA.—The same journal gives us information as to the issue of a new wrapper of 3 pf., on whitish-brown paper, watermarked with wavy horizontal lines.

Wrapper. 3 pfennig, brown on whitish-brown.

HOLLAND.—We have from Messrs. Ridpath & Co. the current 1 cent stamp in a much deeper shade of green, approaching to blue-green; also a new Letter Card of 5 cent value, bearing a portrait of the Queen in centre, "NEDERLAND" above, "5 CENT" below, "POST" "BLAD" in a scroll on either side, two dotted lines for address, commencing "AAN."

Adhesive. 1 cent, blue-green.
Letter Card. 5 cent, blue on white.

ITALY.—Dr. Emilio Diena has kindly sent us a specimen of a new value of 20 c. which has been added to the current unpaid stamps

Adhesive. 20 c., *orange* and carmine; unpaid.

AMERICA.

CHILI.—The *A. J. of Ph.* chronicles a new variety of official post card. The card is the same as that issued at the end of 1892, but with the addition of an oval frame in the left upper corner, enclosing a steamship, and bearing the inscription "ADMINISTRACION PRINCIPAL DE CORREOS" "VALPARAISO."

Official Post Card.
No value, black-green on pale blue-green.

COLOMBIA (REPUBLIC).—*Le Timbre-Poste* chronicles a copy of the 5 c. stamp, *imperf.*

Adhesive. 5 centavos, black on yellow; *imperf.*

PANAMA.—The current 50 c. adhesive has received the overprint of "HABILITADO—1894—10—CENTAVOS," in four lines of capitals and figures. Specimen received from Messrs. Whitfield King & Co.

Adhesive. 10 c., in red, on 50 c., brown.

UNITED STATES.—We have received a letter franked with the new type 5 cents, adhesive. We are also further indebted to Mr. J. N. T. Levick, of New York, for the 15 c. The colour is an intense blue, almost approaching *black*.

Mr. H. M. Gooch also has shewn us the new 50 c., in the type of the late 30 c., with triangle additions.

Comment is being made freely upon the inferior quality of the stamps now being turned out under the new contract, by the Bureau of Engraving and Printing, and the general opinion seems to be that better work will be forthcoming when once the new contractors get on their stamp legs. We hope it may be so, for the present supplies shew a great falling off from the fine engraving and clean printing which have characterised former issues of this country.

Adhesives. 5 c., brown; *new type.*
15 c., Prussian-blue ,,
50 c., orange ,,

OTHER COUNTRIES.

CHINA.—We received from Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. a printed list of the values and designs of the new stamps spoken of in our November number. The list is interesting, but too long to be included here; suffice it to say that each design has a special Chinese significance. The designs were drawn by Mr. R. A. de Villard, Inspectorate-General of Customs, Statistical Department at Shanghai.

CHINESE TREATY PORTS, HANKOW.—With reference to our remarks in the November number, Messrs. Waterlow and Sons, Ltd., have written explaining that it was not any inferiority in their work which was the cause of the disappointment referred to. They were asked for an estimate for the stamps in Photo-lithography, which estimate was accepted, but on photographing the designs they found the result so poor that they declined the order. At the special request of the Postmaster, however, they printed off 5000 of each value, to enable him to show the local authorities the best results to be obtained from their sketches by this process! We only publish the above to justify any remarks which may have seemed to point to any misunderstanding to Messrs. Waterlow.

CONGO.—Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. have sent us six values of a new type which were issued for use on the 27th November last. Fine as the engraving of the late issue of Niger Coast and the designs of North Borneo are, these stamps are, we think, the finest specimens of engraving and printing we have yet seen in the shape of stamps. Needless to say, they are the work of Messrs. Waterlow & Sons. The values are: 5, 10, 25, and 50 centimes, and 1 and 5 francs. All bear the words "État Independant Du Congo," and the value in numerals and words. The centre of each is in black. The 5 centimes has a view of the port of Mtadi; the 10 c., the Falls of the Inkissi (?); the 25 c., the Stanley Falls (?); the 50 c., railway bridge in construction on the M'pozo; the 1 franc, elephant hunting; the 5 francs, native chief, portrait of Morangi, one of the Bangalas, with his wife seated at his feet, both in native costume. Printed in colour on white wove paper. The first five values of the set before us gauge 15, but the 5 francs gauges $15 \times 14\frac{1}{2}$.

Adhesives. 5 centimes, black and pale blue.
10 ,, black and carmine.
25 ,, black and orange.
50 ,, black and green.
1 franc black and lilac.
5 ,, black and deep carmine.

HAWAII (REPUBLIC).—Through the kindness of Mr. A. R. Raby we are able to give news of a new value which has been added to the current set; the value is *twelve* cents, which has been found necessary for postage

on parcels. The design consists of what is supposed to represent the *S.S. "Arawa"* of the Canadian-Australian line, bringing the recognition of the Republic by Great Britain, enclosed in an oval band bearing the words, "REPUBLIC OF HAWAII," "12" on a shield, and "CENTS" on either side of it at base, white wove paper; perf. 12.

Adhesive 12 cents, blue.

LIBERIA.—The official set for the future is to bear the letters "O.S." in place of the word "OFFICIAL"—the following have already been adorned:

Official Stamps. 1 c., red, black surcharge.
2 c., blue, red ,,
4 c., black and green, red surcharge.
8 c., black and brown, red ,,
12 c., carmine, black ,,
16 c., lilac, blue ,,
24 c., bronze on straw, red ,,
32 c., grey-blue, red ,,

MACAO.—The *Monthly Journal* has received a full set of stamps in the now general Portuguese colonial type.

Adhesives. 5 reis, yellow.
10 ,, lilac.
15 ,, brown.
20 ,, mauve.
25 ,, green.
50 ,, blue.
75 ,, rose.
80 ,, pale green.
100 ,, brown on buff.
150 ,, carmine on rose.
200 ,, blue on blue.
300 ,, blue on salmon.

Since writing the above we have received an extraordinary set of provisionals from Messrs. Whitfield King & Co., which consists of the *head* type of Macao, surcharged "PROVISORIO," with the value in figures and words, and Chinese characters. The values are now in *avos*. Our correspondents inform us that 1 avo is equivalent to 1 c. of a Mexican dollar. None of the specimens sent have any gum!

Adhesives. ½ avo, brown; *black surcharge.*
1 ,, black; *red* ,,
3 avos, carmine; *green* ,,
4 ,, violet: *black* ,,
6 ,, brown; *black* ,,
8 ,, blue; *red* ,,
13 ,, grey; *black* ,,
16 ,, brown; *black* ,,
31 ,, mauve; *black* ,,
47 ,, yellow; *green* ,,
Post Cards. 2 avos, blue on buff; *red surcharge.*
3 ,, pink ,, *green* ,,
5 ,, green ,, *red* ,,
5+5 ,, red ,, *black* ,,

ORANGE FREE STATE.—*Le Timbre-Poste* illustrates two new varieties of the post cards with adhesive stamps, surcharged with Arms of the State. The 1½ pence card has the value surcharged on the 2d. stamp in smaller figures, with a difference in the spacing of the words "BRIEF KAART," which now measures 94 mm. in place of 92, "ORANGE" 16 mm. in place of 15, and "VRIJSTAAT" 23 mm. in place of 17. The ½d. card has the Arms on a plain shield without the surrounding flags.

Post Cards. ½d., red-brown, surch. black, on white.
½d. ,, ,, ,, reply.
1½ pence, on 2 pence, violet, black on white.

PERSIA.—We have from Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. a new set of adhesives and post cards. The issue is made up of two types, the first contains the arms of the country in a circle with a crown above, and a curved band containing Persian inscription above this; a similar band, with "POSTES PERSANES," at base; values in Persian characters and numerals in circles at each corner. The second type is larger, and contains a portrait of the Shah in an oval, with Persian inscriptions above, with the value in numerals and words, and "POSTES PERSANES" below. Printed in colour on white paper, perforated. There are two values of post cards, both single and reply. The higher value contains the extra inscription of "UNION POSTALE UNIVERSELLE." The reply cards are printed on duplex tinted card.

Adhesives. 1st type. 1 shahi, violet; perf. 12½.
2 ,, green ,,
5 ,, blue ,,
8 ,, brown ,,
2nd type. 10 ,, orange; perf. 11½×11.
1 kran, red and yellow ,,
2 ,, brown and blue ,,
5 ,, blue and silver ,,
Post Cards. 2 shahi, green on buff.
2+2 ,, green on green and buff.
4 ,, carmine on buff.
4+4 ,, ,, pink and buff.

PHILIPPINES.—Two new values of the Baby type.

Adhesives. 1 c. de peso, carmine.
25 c. de peso, deep blue.

TIMOR.—A full set of adhesives has been issued of same type and same values, etc., as Macao.

TONGA.—After the disclosures in our last number we have hope of better things from Tonga, in the meantime we have yet two other *Campbell Surcharges* from Messrs. Whitfield King & Co.

Adhesives. Halfpenny in blue on 4d., brown.
2½ pence in black on 1s., green.

TRANSVAAL.—We have received from Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. the 2d. in the new type, lately described.

Adhesive. 2 pence, bistre; *perf.* 12½.

ZAMBESIA.—A new Portuguese colony is announced, provided with a full set of stamps of same type and values as Macao.

Philatelic Societies' Meetings.

THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY, LONDON.

Honorary President—H.R.H. Duke Alfred of Saxe-Coburg Gotha.
Hon. Vice-President—H.R.H. The Duke of York, K.G.

Council for the Year 1894-95:
President—The Earl of Kingston.
Vice-President—M. P. Castle.

Hon. Secretary—J. A. Tilleard.		*Hon. Assistant Secretary*—R. Pearce.
Hon. Treasurer—C. N. Biggs.		*Librarian*—T. Maycock.
E. D. Bacon.	R. Ehrenbach.	D. Garth.
A. W. Chambers.	E. B. Evans.	T. Wickham Jones.

The fourth meeting of the season 1894-95 was held at Effingham House on Friday, the 16th November, 1894, at 7.30 p m. The members present were the Vice-President, and Messrs. E. D. Bacon, D. Garth, R. Meyer, H. R. Oldfield, W. Silk, E. Stanley Gibbons, E. Lumley-Cator, G. J. Hynes, T. Maycock, Gordon-Smith, R. Pearce, E. J. Nankivell, C. N. Biggs, and J. A. Tilleard.

The chair was taken by the Vice-President, and the minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed.

The Secretary reported the receipt of a letter from Mr. G. T. Napier, tendering his resignation of membership of the Society, which was directed to be accepted with regret.

Mr. Bacon showed 2 copies of the 1d. (brown) New Zealand stamp with the watermark N. Z., sent for inspection by Mr. L. Gibb, and also a very dangerous new forgery of the ½ tornese Naples Arms stamp, forwarded by Mr. Graham Taylor, of Trinidad.

Mr. G. J. Hynes presented to the Society facsimile copies of two settings of the 4 anna stamp of the 1st issue of India printed from the dies upon the original watermarked paper; and on the motion of the Secretary, seconded by the Vice-President, a vote of thanks was accorded to Mr. Hynes for his interesting gift.

Before proceeding to the business of the evening, Mr. Bacon asked leave to call attention to the death of Mr. Gilbert Harrison, an esteemed member of the Society, and gave a short account of Mr. Harrison's connection with Philately. In the course of his remarks Mr. Bacon mentioned the work done by Mr. Harrison in connection with the Stamps of Portuguese India, the United States Envelopes, and the Stamps of Afghanistan and Cashmere, referring especially, in illustration of the perseverance of Mr. Harrison in unravelling intricate questions, to the fact that he had been able to elucidate the subject of the number of dies used for striking the early United States Envelopes, a problem which the greatest authorities in the States had been unable to clear up. At the time of his death Mr. Harrison had been occupied in the preparation of a paper embodying his further researches in this direction, which it is hoped may appear later on in the *London Philatelist*. Mr. Bacon explained that the loss would be specially felt in regard to the works on the Stamps of Afghanistan and Cashmere, which Mr. Harrison had offered to write for the Society. The plates of illustrations for the former work have been prepared, but it is not yet known what is the condition of the text part of the work. Mr. Bacon concluded by moving the following resolutions:

"That the members of the Philatelic Society, London, have heard with very deep regret of the death of Mr. Gilbert Harrison, and they desire to place on record their appreciation of the eminent services he has rendered to Philately, more particularly with reference to the issues of Afghanistan and Portuguese India, and the United States envelopes.

"That they also sincerely sympathise with the family of Mr. Harrison in their bereavement."

These resolutions having been seconded by the Vice-President, who also referred to the great loss sustained by Philatelists generally through the death of Mr. Harrison, were carried unanimously, and the Secretary was directed to communicate them to Mr. Harrison's family.

On the proposal of Mr. Geldard, seconded

by the Secretary, Captain G. Chichester was duly elected a member of the Society.

Mr. Nankivell called attention to certain dangerous forgeries of the 6d. (blue on color) surcharged stamps of the Transvaal which were being offered for sale, and produced copies showing a *tête bêche* specimen, for inspection by the members present.

Mr. Oldfield enquired what arrangements were proposed to be made in reference to the annual dinner of the Society, and gave notice that he would move a resolution on the subject at a subsequent meeting.

The Vice-President then read a paper entitled "Short Notes on Western Australian Stamps," in which he called attention to a number of varieties in the 4d. stamps of the 1854 issue, and to the varieties of perforations in the 1861 issue. Specimens of the stamps referred to in the paper were produced, and handed round for inspection by the members present. On the motion of Mr. Nankivell, seconded by Mr. Bacon, a hearty vote of thanks was accorded to Mr. Castle for his very interesting paper, which it is proposed to publish in the *London Philatelist.*

THE fifth meeting of the season was held at Effingham House on Friday, the 30th November, 1894, at 7.30 p.m. In the absence of the President and Vice-President, Mr. E. D. Bacon occupied the chair, and the following members were also present; viz., Messrs. W. T. Wilson, R. Meyer, W. Silk, F. Ransom, T. Wickham-Jones, T. Maycock, C. J. Daun, E. Lumley-Cator, G. J. Hynes, A. B. Creeke, E. J. Nankivell, R. Pearce, and J. A. Tilleard.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed.

Amongst the correspondence read was a letter from Miss Harrison in reply to the vote of condolence with the family of the late Mr. Gilbert Harrison, and a letter from Mr. G. B. T. Nicholls, informing the meeting of the death of Mr. E. H. Watts, junr. Upon the motion of the Secretary, seconded by Mr. Bacon, it was resolved: "That the members of the Society have heard with great regret of the death of Mr. E. H. Watts, junr., and sincerely sympathise with Mrs. Watts, and the family of their fellow-member, in their bereavement," and the Secretary was directed to communicate the resolution to Mrs. Watts, and to Mr. E. H. Watts.

Letters of resignation of membership received from Mr. E. W. Reeves, and Mr. McHenry England, were directed to be accepted with regret.

The receipt of a sheet of the recent forgeries of Japanese stamps, forwarded by Messrs. Whitfield, King & Co., was directed to be acknowledged with the thanks of the Society.

Mr. W. T. Wilson called attention to the fact that a large stock of stamps, which are believed to be forgeries, was being offered from Morocco, and stated that the matter would be laid before the Philatelic Protection Association. He also stated that he had recently received from America a £5 stamp of Great Britain, which had evidently been used for telegraphic purposes, but on which there was adedd an imitation of a postmark, with the obvious intention of deceiving collectors.

A letter from Messrs. Perkins, Bacon & Co., Ltd., announcing a new issue prepared by the Company for the Rajah of Sarawak, and enclosing specimens of the stamps, which reflect great credit on the manufacturers, was directed to be acknowledged, with the thanks of the members for the courtesy of the Company in giving the official information to the Society.

The meeting then proceeded to the consideration of the motion of the Secretary, seconded by Mr. Bacon, that the following article should be added to the Society's Statutes, viz., "35A. Every paper read at a meeting of the Society shall be considered the property of the Society, unless there shall have been any previous engagement with the Author to the contrary; and the Council may publish the same in any way, and at any time that they may think proper. But should the Council refuse or neglect within six calendar months to publish any such paper, the Author shall have a right to copy the same, and publish it under his own directions."

After some discussion Mr. Nankivell moved as an amendment the addition to the proposed article of the following words: "In either case the Council and the Author shall have equal rights of future publication of any such paper." The proposer and seconder of the resolution having signified their willingness to accept the amendment, the addition was, with the consent of the meeting, directed to stand as part of the original motion, which was then put to the meeting and carried.

On the motion of the Secretary, seconded by Mr. Bacon, it was further resolved that the following article should also be added to the statutes ; viz.

"25B. No member shall publish or communicate to any person for publication any notice of any paper read before a meeting of the Society, or any report of any meeting, or any matter connected with the proceedings of the Society in general meeting. Any breach of the provisions of this Article by a member shall be deemed to be a matter affecting his conduct within the meaning of Article 9."

Mr. Bacon then read a paper by the President, entitled, "Impressions from an Unregistered Plate of the One Penny, Great Britain, 1840."

The paper had reference to a portion of a sheet of Plate 11 of the black 1d. English Stamp in the President's collection. On the motion of Mr. Bacon, seconded by Mr. Creeke, a vote of thanks was accorded to Lord Kingston for his interesting contribution, which will be published in the *London Philatelist*.

Mr. Nankivell called attention to the question of the measurement of perforations, and gave notice that, at a subsequent meeting, he would move a resolution on the subject.

Mr. Hynes produced for inspection a portion of his collection of Indian stamps.

Amongst the most prominent stamps were sheets of the ½ anna (red) of 1854, with a proof sheet in black ; sheets of the ½ anna (blue) of the printings of May, July, and August, 1854 ; fac-simile sheets on original watermarked paper of the 4 annas stamp of the first issue; and panes or sheets of the 8 pies (no watermark), the ½ anna, of 1855, imperforate, the 8 pies and 4 annas and 8 annas (rose), with service in small type, and of all the issues of 1865, including the service stamps.

BRADFORD PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

President—OLIVER FIRTH. | *Vice-President*—W. M. GRAY.
H. W. ATKINSON. | A. DOMRY. | R. A. EBSTEIN. | R. M. MCMASTER. | GEO. PARK. | W. E. WHITE.
Hon. Librarian—H. W. ATKINSON. | *Hon. Treasurer*—W. M. GRAY.
Hon. Secretary—W. H. SCOTT, 1, Piccadilly, Bradford.

THE monthly meeting of this Society was held on Tuesday evening, the 4th December, Mr. W. M. Gray, the Vice-President, being in the chair. There was a large muster of members and one visitor present.

The Hon. Secretary announced that the President, Mr. Oliver Firth, had presented a copy of *The Postage Stamps of Australia and the British Colonies of Oceania*, published by the Philatelic Society of London, and also a Mulready cover, to the Society, for which the best thanks of the Society were accorded to him. It was also resolved to form an exchange club, and Mr. Atkinson was appointed to act as Hon. Sec. of the same, rules to be drawn up by the Committee at their next meeting.

After some further business was transacted an informal discussion took place on the "Stamps of Germany," which was both instructive and interesting, several members having very good collections of this country.

W. H. SCOTT, *Hon. Sec.*
1, PICCADILLY.

BRIGHTON AND SUSSEX PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

Honorary President—BARON DE WORMS.

Committee for the Year 1894:

President—M. P. CASTLE. | *Vice-President*—J. H. REDMAN.
Hon. Sec. and Treasurer—A. DE WORMS. | *Hon. Librarian*—O. PFENNINGER.
W. T. WILLETT. | J. W. GILLESPIE. | H. STAFFORD SMITH. | R. J. WOODMAN.

THE second meeting of the season was held at Markwell's Hotel, Brighton, on Monday, November 5th, at 7.45 p.m. Present—Messrs. M. P. Castle, A. de Worms, R. J. Woodman, O. Pfenninger, J. W. Gillespie, W. T. Willett, G. G. Hodgson, E. E. Manwaring, H. Stafford Smith, and one visitor, Mr. C. R. Morse. The President in the chair. After the minutes of the previous meeting had been read and confirmed, Mr. B. C. Murray, proposed by Mr. J. W. Gillespie, and seconded by Mr. A. H.

Thomas, was elected a member of the Society. The President then gave a very interesting account of the Stamps of Geneva, and exhibited a magnificent series of the same, both used and unused. Among his remarks he stated the "double stamp" was the first to be issued, in October, 1843, and was followed by the 5 c., with small eagle in shield, in January, 1846, and with the large eagle a year later. He said that these stamps were used only in the Canton of Geneva; but that in October, 1849, the stamps of the envelopes issued in 1846 were cut off and put into circulation as adhesives for the "First district of the Federal Administration." Mr. Gillespie proposed a vote of thanks to the President, which was seconded by the Hon. Sec., and carried.

THE third meeting of the season was held at Markwell's Hotel, Brighton, on Monday, November 19th, at 7.45 p.m. Present—Messrs. W. T. Willett, J. W. Gillespie, E. E. Manwaring, O. Pfenninger, A. de Worms, H. Stafford Smith, A. H. Thomas, C. R. Morse. In the absence of the President and Vice-President, Mr. Willett took the chair. The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, Mr. C. R. Morse, proposed by Mr. W. T. Willett, and seconded by the Hon. Sec., was elected a member of the Society. The Secretary then gave a short account of the Stamps of Labuan, and showed his collection of that country, in which all the principal varieties were well represented in fine condition, for which a vote of thanks was passed.

THE LEEDS PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

Officers for 1894-95.

President—T. KERSHAW SKIPWITH.
Senior Vice-President—JOHN H. THACKRAH. | *Junior Vice-President*—W. B. SIMPSON.
Hon. Treasurer—EUGENE EGLY, 88, Caledonian Road, Leeds.
Hon. Secretaries—
W. DENISON ROEBUCK, F.L.S., Sunny Bank, Leeds.
JOHN F. C. SIEBER, Guiseley, near Leeds.
Hon. Librarian—F. J. KIDSON.
Ex-Presidents—
WILLIAM BECKWITH. | OLIVER FIRTH.

THE sixty-fifth meeting was held on Saturday, the 17th November, 1894, at the Municipal Buildings, Leeds. There were twelve members and a visitor present, with Mr. T. K. Skipwith, President, in the chair.

The donations included a set of the *Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly* to date, from the publishers, and other magazines.

Messrs. Wilfrid J. P. Orton and W. K. Skipwith were balloted for and unanimously elected members; and another candidate was proposed.

The Rev. T. S. Fleming showed an entire sheet 40 reis Cabo Verde, imperforate, showing the "Mozambique" error, three values new issue Colombian Registration stamps, new issue Ceylon 5 cent letter-card, black on blue, and Labuan TWO CENTS surcharged on 40 cents brown. Mr. W. Beckwith showed several values Oil Rivers on original envelopes, and Mr. W. Denison Roebuck, F.L.S., showed three values of Cape stamped envelopes.

Mr. Washington Teasdale, F.R.A.S., F.R.M.S., then gave a most interesting account of "Postal Administration in India during the years 1856 to 1868," while he was resident there, illustrating his remarks by a large number of stamps on original envelopes, drawings, seals, and other objects.

The President and Messrs. Fleming, W. A. Jefferson, and J. H. Thackrah also showed their collections of Indian stamps, and at the close a most hearty vote of thanks was accorded to Mr. Teasdale.

THE sixty-sixth meeting was held at the Municipal Buildings, Leeds, on Saturday, 1st December, 1894. Eleven members were present, and the chair was occupied by the President, Mr. T. K. Skipwith.

The donations included the current numbers of the *Philatelic Chronicle and Advertiser*, and *Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly*.

Mr. Fred A. Padgett was balloted for, and unanimously elected a member.

The Rev. T. S. Fleming exhibited some good copies of very early stamps of Hawaii;

and Mr. John H. Thackrah a copy of the 6d. blue New Zealand, star wmk., perf. 10 × 12½.

A proposal from the Manchester Philatelic Society for the establishment of a federated system of exchanges was laid before the meeting. It was decided that the Committee consider it, and report to the next meeting.

Mr. John F. C. Sieber then read a most interesting paper on "Methods of Production of Stamps," in which, by the aid of actual examples of copper and steel-plates, matrices, stereotype and wood blocks, lithographic stones, etc., he gave a clear and useful account of the *taille-douce*, *epargne*, and *lithographic* methods of manufacturing stamps, with the view of enabling inexperienced members to understand how the various styles may be distinguished from each other. At the close Mr. Sieber received a vote of thanks, proposed by Mr. W. Beckwith, seconded by Rev. T. S. Fleming.

W. DENISON ROEBUCK, *Sunny Bank, Leeds,* } *Hon. Secs.*
JOHN F. C. SIEBER, *Guiseley, Leeds,* }

THE NEW YORK PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

ROOM—1, EVERETT BUILDING, 25, ANN STREET.

Governing Committee for 1894.

President—FREDERICK DE COPPETT. | *Secretary*—FREDERICK AUGUSTUS NAST.
Vice-President—WILLIAM THORNE. | *Treasurer*—HENRY CLOTZ.
CHARLES GREGORY. | FREDERICK WILLIAM HUNTER. | HORATIO NELSON TERRETT.
JOHN WALTER SCOTT. | WILLIAM HERRICK.

THE regular monthly meeting of the Society was held Monday evening, November 19th.

Mr. William Thorne, who had just returned from Europe, entertained the members with an account of all matters relating to Philately which had come to his attention during his trip.

The Secretary submitted for examination a beautiful copy of the Macon stamp, with plain frame on the original letter (which was a report to the Governor of the State upon the result of a local election). Also the new stamped envelope of Lynchburg, discovered some months ago, the general appearance of which is somewhat like the Memphis stamped envelope. Also a block of four (4) unused 5 c., 1890 issue, from the imperfect plate, showing the defect in the printing of each stamp somewhat resembling a star on the left side of the coat collar. This defect must have existed in the mother die. Quite a large number of used copies are known. Also a number of Sumter, S. C., Provisional envelopes used before the regular Confederate stamps were issued.

The regular subject of the meeting, the stamps of Macao, was then taken up under the leadership of Mr. William Herrick, who illustrated his remarks by his own collection of the stamps of this country. At the conclusion of Mr. Herrick's address, he was invited to prepare an article for publication in the *Metropolitan Philatelist*, on the stamps of this country, to which he kindly consented.

Several new members were proposed, and, after passing the Governing Committee, ordered to be posted on the board.

Adjourned at 10.20.

F. A. NAST, *Secretary.*

PLYMOUTH PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

Session 1894-95.

President—A. R. BARRETT. | *Vice-President*—R. TYETH STEVENS.
Exchange Secretary—H. TUCKER, JUN. | *Treasurer and Hon. Sec.*—A. LEVY.
H. W. MAYNE. | J. MILTON. | E. MILLMAN. | W. E. HARVEY.

A DISPLAY of the Stamps of South Australia was held at 9A, Princess Square, on November 8th, 1894, which was largely attended by members and visitors. Sixty-nine sheets containing 2,000 stamps were suspended from double lines of wires, stretched around the room, the lower wire some inches from the wall. This has been found a simple and

inexpensive plan for these displays, and if the room is sufficiently large, the whole of the stamps can be shown effectively on a level which admits of their close examination. Regret was expressed that owing to the absence of the President from Plymouth, his collection was not available for the occasion. The Vice-President, who had mounted his collection in the order of Messrs. Napier and Gordon Smith's work on the subject, showed several unchronicled varieties of perforation, and a copy of the 6d. dark blue London print *rouletted.* Mr. E. Coppin's exhibit included a fine copy of the 4d. V and Crown, and was very complete in all values, with a large variety of shades. Mr. Harvey's exhibit was a smaller one, but contained what is probably one of the scarcest stamps on view, viz., a brilliant specimen of the 4d. dull lilac, first star, with clean-cut perforation, gauging 12½ all round. Both Messrs. Milton and Kuttner had specimens of the 8d. and 9d. O.S. This latter gentleman sent a large variety of Departmental Surcharges, and two specimens of the 4d. rouletted by perforation of a peculiar shade. The Vice-President shewed a specimen of the same stamp, with almost similar dated post-mark. Mr. Westaway had retained on the official sheets the complete set of Government Reprints and Specimens, which he, as a member of the Navy, had been fortunate in obtaining when on the Australian Station. Among the stamps exhibited by the Hon. Sec. was a sheet of unused varieties, and several scarce perforations, more particularly those of the 2d. of the second type. With the exception of the Departmentals there are few South Australian Adhesives which were not well represented in the display, the stamps most conspicuous by their absence being the 2d. of the first type perforated, and second type close S.A. with compound perforations.

THE fourth ordinary meeting of the Society was held on November 22nd, when, in the absence of the President and Vice-President, Dr. Buchan was in the chair.

Dr. E. C. Cooke and the Very Rev. Monsignor B. Drew were elected members.

The Chairman read a short biographical sketch of the late T. K. Tapling.

At a meeting of the Committee it was decided that, for the correct interpretation of rule No. 5 of the exchange branch, the wording of line No. 4 shall be, "(2) Ordinary members, not contributing sheets *for two consecutive months*," the words in italics having been added. ASHER LEVY,

Hon. Sec.

109, UNION STREET, PLYMOUTH.

Correspondence.

COMMUNICATIONS.—*All communications on Philatelic matters or Advertisements should be addressed to the Editor of* THE LONDON PHILATELIST, Kingston Lodge, Richmond Place, Brighton. *No anonymous contributions can be noticed.*

SUBSCRIPTIONS.—THE LONDON PHILATELIST *will be sent, post free in Great Britain or the countries of the Postal Union, to any subscriber, on receipt of* 6s. *Subscribers' remittances should be sent to* The Publishers, EFFINGHAM HOUSE, ARUNDEL STREET, STRAND, LONDON, W.C., *of whom also bound copies of Vol. I. can be procured. Half morocco, gilt edges,* £1 1s., *postage* 9d. *Abroad extra.*

THE HERTFORD COLLEGE STAMPS.

To the Editor of the "London Philatelist."

DEAR SIR,—My attention has only just been drawn to a letter from Mr. W. T. Wilson with reference to the Hertford College stamps, which appeared in the July number of this journal, and, as I think two of its paragraphs are apt to convey a misleading impression, I should be glad if you would kindly allow me the opportunity of making a few observations on the subject.

The first paragraph is as follows:

"Various statements have been made implying that the Hertford mauve, perf. 12½ and imperf., are reprints; but, so far as I can judge, they are simply opinions given by various writers who have looked into the College stamps within the last year or two."

It is obviously a mistake for Mr. Wilson to say that the statements put forward are mere expressions of opinion, for they are statements of facts, which surely can leave no loophole for doubt that the stamps

alluded to are reprints. If Mr. Wilson had carefully studied these statements, I hardly think he would have termed them "simply opinions."

The other paragraph runs :

"With reference to the six sheets of each, imperf. and perf., stated by Mr. Turner to have been acquired from Messrs. Spiers & Son, 'prior to 1890,' I think it quite probable that these were a part of the same lot from which those I received came, and as they correspond in every particular I must certainly consider them to be remainders of a second printing, whether supplied or not to the College remains to be proved."

It is the latter part of this sentence that I take a very strong exception to. It has been clearly proved that only *one* printing of 15,000 was ever supplied to the College, but in case Mr. Wilson is really sceptical on this point, I will gladly furnish a few facts that should once for all settle the question.

It is well known that Messrs. Spiers & Son supplied the stamps, and on reference to the books of this firm Professor Napier ascertained that only *one* lot of 15,000 appeared therein as having been bought and paid for by the College. Had there been a second printing, it is certain that it would also have been recorded. To make doubly sure, however, I thought it as well to search the College books, which the College authorities very kindly placed at my disposal, and I accordingly went through them in the presence of the College butler, one of whose special duties it had always been to have the stamps under his care. Only the *one* entry of 15,000, ordered in 1875 and paid for in 1876, could be found, and the butler positively assured me that no other purchase of stamps had since been made. Could anything be more conclusive than this?

Moreover, I would point out that this supply of 15,000 was never used up. In fact we know by the entries in the College books relating to the sale of stamps, &c, a record of which will be found in Professor Napier's paper, published in last December's *Monthly Journal*, that there must have been a big remainder. I was informed, however, that practically all of it was destroyed when the Bursorial offices were rebuilt some years ago. It would therefore be interesting to know why there should have been a second printing, when the first one was only partly used up. Besides, if the reprints had been supplied to the College it would hardly have been possible for none of them to have been circulated about Oxford, and unearthed as the originals have been; for all copies of the reprints that I know of can be traced to the person or persons who procured them direct from Messrs. Spiers & Son.

It is also a notorious circumstance that the reprints are sadly deficient in gum, so much so indeed that a leading collector writing to me of an acquisition of a pair of the imperforated variety, stated that it was ungummed. I will, however, admit that there is a faint trace of gum on the copies I have seen, but it would be absurd to suppose that a first-class firm like that of Messrs. Spiers & Son would have sent out *for use* a stamp which could have but the barest pretensions to the name of adhesive. As to the explanation of their existence, I think it highly probable that this firm, which took care to print its name and address at the foot of each copy, may have been asked by some of the other colleges for *patterns* of the stamp supplied to the Hertford, and as the *one* order of 15,000 was supplied intact to the College, and the firm found itself without any specimens, it would naturally have written for a sheet or two to the London House which produced them. And, as I stated in a previous article, it is quite certain that six sheets of each of the reprinted varieties were supplied to a gentleman who wrote for "some of the Hertford stamps" prior to 1890, and from whom I understand Mr. Wilson's stock emanated. It is impossible to find out the exact date of the reprinting, because Messrs. Spiers & Son's Trade Ledger was not among the books which came into the possession of their successors, Messrs. Vincent & Sons; but it naturally follows that as these stamps were not an emission of the College, a knowledge of the date of their appearance would be quite immaterial to the point at issue.

The reprints are an entirely different article from the originals, which, fortunately for collectors, gauge 11½ in perforation, are on a yellowish paper possessing a decidedly thick layer of yellowish gum, and, moreover, are frequently to be met with imperforated on one or two sides, a peculiarity that is not attached to the reprint, which is always found either perforated or imperforated all round. The colour too and general appearance are readily distinguishable.

Thus the fact that only *one* printing was ever supplied to the College is alone sufficient to condemn the alien article as a *reprint* pure and simple, and it is surely inconceivable that any dealer after having perused my remarks will continue to sell them as *originals*.

Yours truly,
J. R. F. TURNER.

OXFORD, *7th Dec.*, 1894.

OXIDATION.

DEAR SIR,—I should like to correct a small error in Mr. W. T. Willett's article in the November number of the *London Philatelist* on the removal of oxidation from postage stamps. The symbol for ozone is O^3 and not O^2, the latter being the symbol for free oxygen.

Yours truly,
L. L. R. HAUSBURG.

December 7th.

The Market.

Mr. W. Hadlow.

The following were interesting lots at the sale of November 22nd and 23rd.

	£	s.	d.
Mecklenberg-Schwerin, $\frac{4}{4}$, rouletted, dotted background	4	10	0
Tuscany, 60 crazie	6	0	0
Saxony, first issue, 3 pf.	3	10	0
Mauritius, 2d., Greek border, strip of 4 on original	5	0	0
Ditto, 1d., post paid, early, plate	4	6	0
Ceylon, 1s., imperf., strip of 5, used, with 6d., perf., on original	5	5	0
Ditto, 1s. 9d., imperf., unused	2	12	6
South Australia, 2½d. on 4d., green, perf. 10, complete sheet of 120	3	3	0

The London Philatelic Co.

This Company held their first sale at the Café Monico on November 28th. The sale included some very nice stamps, and prices were in most cases well up to the average. The following are a few of the most interesting :

	£	s.	d.
Great Britain, 6d., lilac, on safety paper, used, on original	4	0	0
Ditto, 1d., carmine, die II., white paper, wmk. large crown, perf. 16, pair with original gum	9	15	0
Ditto, 2d., blue, die I., wmk. large crown, perf. 16, unused	18	0	0
Ditto, £1, "orbs," on *bleuté*	3	5	0
Ditto, 6d., oct, unused block of 6	25	0	0
Oldenburg, 3 gros., variety broken 3, unused	2	2	0
Saxony, 3 pf., red	5	10	0
Switzerland, Poste Locale, 2½ rap, cross without frame, unused	8	0	0
Ceylon, 9d., imperf	3	5	0
Ditto, 4d., rose, imperf	6	10	0
Ditto, 8d., yellow-brown, imperf	22	0	0
Mauritius, 2d., blue; first plate	5	0	0
Newfoundland, 6d., carmine-vermilion	4	0	0
Canada, 7½d., green	3	3	0
British Columbia, 10 c., perf 12½, unused	3	10	0
New Brunswick, half of a 6d., surcharged 3d. in circle; used	3	8	0
Ditto, 6d., unused	3	0	0
British Guiana, 1862, provisional 1 c., crossed ovals	4	0	0
Barbados, 5/–, rose; pair unused	5	0	0
Nevis, 4d., rose on grey; unused	3	3	0
Ditto, 1/–, green; unused	2	12	6
Ditto, 6d., litho; unused, *a record*	7	0	0
Ditto, 6d., green, CA; unused, *do.*	7	0	0
South Australia, 9d., grey, perf. and roulette; unused	11	0	0

Messrs. Ventom, Bull, & Cooper.

This firm, acting under Messrs. R. F. Albrecht's instructions, sold the collection of a New York collector on November 26th to 29th ult.; good prices generally were realised, the sale occupying four consecutive days. The following are some of the more interesting lots :

	£	s.	d.
Great Britain, 2s., red-brown, used	2	0	0
Brunswick, 1864, roul., 1 s. gr., black on yellow	3	7	6
Luxemburg, 1863, 4 c., *black*	4	4	0
Mecklenburg Strelitz, 1 sch., violet	2	17	6
Oldenburg, 1858, ⅓ gros., green, unused	5	5	0
Oldenburg, 1860, ¼ gros., orange, used	3	3	0
Saxony, 1850, 3 pf., red	4	10	0
Schleswig-Holstein, 1850, sch., rose, used	4	0	0
France, 1849, 20 c., blue (error)	7	0	0
Ditto, 1 franc., vermilion	5	15	0
Austria, 3 kr., red, *rouletted*	5	0	0
Zurich, 4 rappen, type 4	16	15	0
Bahamas, 4d., rose, no wmk.; perf. 15, unused	2	12	6
Br. Guiana, 1851, 1 c., black on magenta	4	0	0
Br. Guiana, 1862, 4 c., black on blue	9	0	0
Nevis, 6d., grey, grey paper	2	10	0
Ditto, 1886, 6d., green, CA, unused	3	3	0
St. Vincent, 1d. in red, on 6d., green	5	15	0
Turk's Islands, 2½d. on 1d., vermilion (short 2, with straight tail, $^1/_2$, thin numerals), unused	5	0	0
Turk's Islands, 4d. on 1s., prune, (short thick 4)	2	6	0
Turk's Islands, 4d. on 6d., black (large thin 4), inverted surch.	6	10	0
Virgin Islands, 1s., blank borders, unused	2	10	0
British Columbia and Vancouver's Island, $1, green; perf. 12½	2	10	0
British Colombia and Vancouver's Island, $1, green; perf. 14, unused	5	7	0

	£	s.	d.
Canada, 6d., dark violet on wove paper, imperf	2	4	0
Ditto, 7½d., green	2	4	0
Ditto, 6d., dark grey, perf 12	7	0	0
New Brunswick, two and a half of 3d., red, used on original as 7½d.	5	10	0
Ditto, half of 6d., yellow, used as 3d.	4	4	0
Ditto, "Connell," unused	20	0	0
Newfoundland, half of 8d., red, used as 4d.	3	15	0
Nova Scotia, 1851, 1d., red-brown, unsevered pair	2	4	0
Ditto, 3d., light blue, unsevered, unused pair	2	6	0
Ditto, 1/–, violet	11	0	0
Confederate States, Grove Hill, Ala., 5 c., black on white, unchronicled	50	0	0
Ditto, Nashville, Tenn., 5 c., carmine on bluish	4	4	0
Ceylon, 4d., rose, imperf.	6	15	0
Ditto, 9d., lilac-brown	3	3	0
Ditto, 1/9d., green	2	10	0
Ditto, 1/9d., green, unused	3	0	0
Ditto, 1867, 2r., 50c., CC 12½ × 14	2	12	0
Ditto, 1872, 24c., br'n., "Specimen"	2	15	0
India, 2 as., long rect, lilac and green	3	8	0
Cape, 4d., blue, unsevered rouletted pair	7	0	0
Lagos, 10/–, brown-violet, CA	4	0	0
Mauritius, "Fourpence," curved surcharge, on dark grn. stamp of 1858	2	18	0
Mexico, Cuernavaca, 2 reales, blk.	6	0	0
Peru, P.S.N.Co., 1 real, blue, and 2 reals, carmine; blocks of 4, unused	11	0	0
New South Wales, Sydneys, Plate I., 1d., red on yellowish, pair, Nos. 13 and 14	3	0	0
Ditto, 1d., red on bluish, pair, Nos. 8 and 9	3	3	0
Ditto, 1d., red on ribbed bluish, No. 16	3	3	0
Ditto, 1d., red on ribbed yellowish, No. 19	3	3	0
Sydneys, Plate I., retouched, 1d., red on bluish, No. 4	2	12	6
Ditto, ditto, pair, Nos. 6 and 7	3	12	0
Ditto, ditto, pair, Nos. 24 and 25	4	4	0
Ditto, 1d., red, on laid yellowish, No. 20	3	0	0
Ditto, ditto, pair, Nos. 13 and 14	4	8	0
Ditto, Two Pence, Plate I., No. 6	4	10	0
Ditto, Plate II., 2d., blue, yellowish paper	3	0	0
Ditto, No. 13 (crevit omitted)	7	15	0
Ditto, 2d., on bluish, ribbed paper, No. 13 (crevit omitted)	8	10	0
Sydneys, 3d., green on bluish, pair, Nos. 24 and 25	3	7	6
Ditto, ditto, ditto, ditto, ditto, laid paper, No. 11	3	0	0
Ditto, ditto, ditto, No. 7	3	3	0
Laureated, 8d., orange	4	4	0
Ditto, ditto, ditto, vertical ribbed paper	4	15	0
1856, 5d., green, imperf.	3	0	0
Ditto, 8d., orange	4	0	0
"Registered" perf. 12½, double *impression*	3	3	0
Transvaal, 1871, 6d., blue, variety	4	0	0
Ditto, 1878, surcharged V.R. Transvaal, 3d., lilac on green, wide roulette	3	3	0
New Zealand, 1s., green, blue paper	2	2	0
Ditto, 1872, 2d., vermilion; wmk. lozenges	3	6	0
Queensland, 1861, 1d., carmine, imperf.	2	12	0
Ditto, 1866, 1d., orange, script wmk., sq. perf.	2	5	0
S. Australia, 2d., orange, star wmk. 11½ × roulette	3	3	0
Ditto, 10d., yellow and blue (!)	16	16	0
Tasmania, 1853, 1d., blue	2	15	0
Ditto, 1870, 4d., blue, unused	3	0	0
Victoria, 1861–66, 3d., brown-lake, imperf.	2	10	0
Ditto, 4d., brown-lake, error	2	0	0
Ditto, 6d., orange	6	0	0
Ditto, 5s., blue on yellow	5	2	6
Western Australia, 1854, 2d., brown on red	7	10	0
Ditto, 4d., blue, rouletted	3	3	0
Ditto, 1860, 2d., vermilion, pin perf. 18	2	8	0

At the sale of December 12th and 13th.

	£	s.	d.
Great Britain, 2s., red-brown, unused	5	0	0
Ditto, 5s., plate IV., unused	5	0	0
Ditto, £1, marone, wmk. 3 crowns, unused	3	5	0
Ditto, Mulready, 2d., envelope	2	4	0
Ditto, College Stamps, envelope, embossed in blue	12	0	0
Ditto, ditto, Hertford, envelope in blue, large oblong size	3	0	0
Hanover, 10 gros., green, unused	2	8	0
Oldenburg, 2nd issue, ⅓ gros., black on green	3	15	0
Spain, 1851, 2 reales, red (fair)	11	11	0
Switzerland, "Basle," 2½ rappen	4	8	0
Ceylon, 9d., violet-brown, imperf.	3	12	6
Ditto, 1s. 9d., green, unused	2	4	0
Ditto, 2s., blue, imperf.	4	5	0
Ceylon, 8d., brown, perf., unused	4	15	0
India, 6 as. 8 pies, sur. SERVICE, unused	3	5	0

	£	s.	d.
Cape, Woodblock, 4d., dark blue	3	10	0
Mauritius, post paid, early state of plate, 1d., vermilion, and 2d., blue on bluish, used on entire letter sheet	17	10	0
New Brunswick, 1/–, violet	9	9	0
Newfoundland, 6½d., carmine, unused (!)	15	0	0
Ditto, 4d., orange, unused	6	10	0
Nova Scotia, 1/–, violet, penstroked	10	10	0
United States, 1869, 90 c.	2	0	0
Ditto, City Despatch Post, 3 cents, black on bluish, block of 6, unused	10	0	0
British Guiana, 1853, 1 c., vermilion, horizontal strip of 4 on orignl.	8	5	0
Ditto, ditto, vertical strip of 3 and 1 single on original	6	6	0
Ditto, 1862, 1 c., black on rose, border of grapes	10	10	0
Nevis, 1s., green, unused	3	3	0
Trinidad, ½, black and mauve, CA, unused	3	10	0
Brazil, 1850, 600 reis, perf. block of 8 on original	5	17	6
Peru, medio peso, yellow	2	10	0
N.S.W. laureated, 3d., green, wmk. 2, *error*	7	10	0
New Zealand, 1s., blue-green, on thick paper, *rouletted*	5	0	0
Ditto, *pelure*, 1s., green, unused	3	15	0
Tasmania, 1d., blue, horizontal strip of 4, pen stroked	9	0	0
Ditto, ditto, vertical strip of 3, used on original	5	7	6
Western Australia, 6d. bronze	6	0	0

Messrs. Cheveley & Co.

The 62nd sale was held at the Café Monico on December 10th and 11th. The following are some of the more interesting realisations.

	£	s.	d.
Switzerland, "Basle," 2½ rappen	3	15	0
France, 1849, 1 franc, orange, unused pair	15	10	0
Ceylon, 4d., imperf., unused	18	10	0
Ditto, 1s. 9d., green, imperf., unused	2	2	0
Ditto, 5d., brown, imperf., unused	2	2	0
Portuguese Indies, 4½ reis on 40 r., blue, 1873 issue	2	10	0
Ceylon, 9d., brown-violet, imperf.	2	6	0
Tasmania, 1st issue, 1d., blue, strip of 3, Nos. 15, 16, and 17 on plate	5	10	0
Ditto, 1d., blue	2	8	0
Ditto, ditto, unused pair	11	0	0
Ditto, ditto, single copy, unused	5	15	0
Fiji, "Times Express," unsevered pair, 1/– and 1d., on *quadrillé*, unused	4	4	0
Fiji, 1874, 2d., in black, on 12 c., carmine, unused	4	7	0
Ditto, ditto, variety, round stops after V and R, unused	5	0	0
N. S. W., 1d., Sydney, Plate II., No. 10, unused	7	0	0
Ditto, 3d., Sydney, pair, Nos. 16, 17	3	5	0
Ditto, Laureated, 8d., orange	2	2	0
Ditto, Sydney, 2d., Plate I.	2	14	0
Ditto, Sydney, 2d., Plate II.	2	2	0
Ditto, 5d., green, imperf., unused	2	4	0
Ditto, Sydney, 1d., Plate II., Nos. 11 and 12	4	10	0
Ditto, Sydney, 1d., Plate II., Nos. 7 and 8	4	10	0
Victoria, 5/–, blue on yellow	2	4	0
Ditto, 6d., orange, on original	6	0	0
New Zealand, *pelure*, 1/–, dark green, perf.	2	4	0
Western Australia, first issue, 2d., red-brown	3	8	0
Ditto, 4d., blue, rouletted, unused	4	0	0
Ditto, 2d., lilac, *error*, unused	10	10	0
Queensland, 1d., imperf., pair	4	0	0
Ditto, 2d., imperf., pair	24	5	0
Ditto, first issue, 2d., imperf.	2	14	0
Victoria, first issue, 2d., fine background	3	5	0
New Zealand, 6d., on thick paper, no wmk., perf.	2	2	0
N.S.W. 8d., orange, imperf.	5	0	0
S. Australia, 1s., orange, imperf., pair	3	10	0
British Colombia, 10 c., pink and blue, perf. 12½, unused	3	0	0
Ditto, ditto, $1, green and blue, unused	2	16	0
Nevis, first issue, 4d., rose, unused	2	6	0
Trinidad, 6d., green, imperf.	2	6	0
Peru, medio peso, yellow	3	0	0
Bolivia eagle, 50 c., blue	3	12	6
Ditto, 11 stars, 500 c., black, unused	2	8	0

Mr. W. Ridout.

The sale on December 14th included:

	£	s.	d.
Great Britain, 1½d., rose, imperf.	4	5	0
Ditto, 1½d., mauve, without plate number, pair on chemical paper, unused	3	5	0
Ditto, 4d., rose on white, *medium*, garter, block of four, unused	50	2	6
Ditto, 6d., embossed, die I., pair, unused	12	12	0
Ditto, 10d., embossed, die III., block of 9, unused	30	10	0
Mauritius, Post Paid, 2d., early state	2	12	0
Ditto, Post Paid, 2d., early state	2	16	0
Canada, 12d., on ribbed paper, unused	23	0	0
Vancouver, 2½d., imperf., unused	13	0	0
Western Australia, 2d., brown on red	3	0	0