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THE

London Philatelist:

THE MONTHLY JOURNAL

OF THE

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M. P. CASTLE

VICE-PRESIDENT OF THE SOCIETY.

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THE

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Past and Future.



THE annals of the bygone year will in the future be principally memorable amongst the world of stamp collectors by somewhat sad reminiscences of those who have passed away, prominent among whom in English circles were the Earl of Kingston and Mr. Gilbert Lockyer. The late Lord Kingston was the first Past-President of the London Philatelic Society to depart from us, the first and second Presidents, Sir Daniel Cooper, Bart., and his Honour Judge Philbrick, Q.C., both being happily still spared to us—while it is the sincere hope of all ranks that they may yet be spared for many years more of their busy and successful careers.

Among other features of 1896 were the holding of Philatelic Exhibitions on the Continent, at the Hague and Geneva, and an unusual number of convictions in connection with stamp robberies and frauds. In "Society" life there has been a steady and satisfactory increase in membership both in London and the country, while in New York, the first real home or club common to all the local branches connected with stamps (while reserving to each also its own precincts and liberties) has been most successfully founded. It is to be hoped that some day so excellent an example may find followers in Europe.

As regards what most affects our readers—the stamps themselves—1896 has seen some striking and significant evolutions as regards literature, "finds," and prices. Prominent among the former have been the appearance of the first portions of the London Philatelic Society's work on the African Colonies and the *Stamps of Barbados* by Messrs. Bacon and Napier, while the successful editing of catalogues has, in this country

especially, made marked advance. Among the "finds" have been the recent Nova Scotia cents issue and a number of West Indian and certain Australian stamps in their primitive mint condition. Although the financial aspects of the question do not call for especial stress in our columns, we are not justified in abstaining from passing them briefly in review, seeing how vitally they may affect the interests of many of our readers. The prices attached to many of the stamps of the West Indian Colonies—ancient and modern—have, to use the expressive American vernacular, "burst through the roof," and every variety of stamp, except current issues, hailing from the West Indies, has been raised from the dimensions of the frog in 1890 to those of the bull in 1896. May the final result in the Æsopian fable, however, be averted, though the danger of over-inflation must be patent to all; sudden rises in all things commercial mean possible equally sudden relapses. In other grades, there has been a distinct revival of interest in the better South American States, and further growing evidence of the popularity of the European countries. Even here the swelling propensities of the would-be bull are to be seen, and the stamps of Scandinavia unused have been, and are being, forced up far too quickly. From all this one thing stands out clearly. No one, except abnormally rich people, will after this century be able to afford to make general or even group collections of unused stamps, which will be left to the patriotic or specialist collector. It is palpable that the early issues of unused stamps of most countries do not to-day, and certainly will not suffice to-morrow *to go round*, and that therefore they will inevitably be driven beyond the reach of the general collector. In all these cases, however, the rise is slow, gradual, and hence sure. Fortunately for the latter there are, and always will be, plenty of used specimens, and with due discrimination collections of the greatest interest may be formed therefrom.

As regards the future, we are all anxiously anticipating the glories of a Jubilee Year in general, and of the London Philatelic Exhibition in particular. The success of the latter is practically assured, and we are confident it will be a brilliant affair. Without doubt there will be an array of stamps shown that will astonish even the exhibitors themselves, while we firmly believe, on financial grounds alone, the results will astonish the public—and (we hope) the guarantors. Everything points in the sixtieth year of Her Gracious Majesty's reign to continued and increasing Philatelic prosperity—a consummation which we most devoutly wish to all concerned.

The O.S. Stamps of New South Wales.

By N.S.W. and CROWN.

IT is possible that Philatelists will read the title of this article, and turn away with indifference, or even a stronger feeling, leaving its perusal for some future day when the atmosphere is less clouded with sulphurous remarks about the series.

But, really, there is no time like the present to publish a "full, true, and particular account" of these really interesting stamps. Their existence as prepayment labels was brought to a close on the 31st of December, 1894, and the reprints which threatened to do, and did, so much harm to their reputation and market value, have been withdrawn from sale and destroyed. Consequently now is the time to gather all the available information in one connected article, so that the student may have sure and certain ground to go upon, the fullest and most reliable data as to varieties officially issued, and such guiding lines with regard to the reprints as will enable him to pursue his collecting tactics well informed as to all mines and pitfalls.

From the date when adhesive stamps were first issued in New South Wales, official correspondence was required to be prepaid by means of such stamps—there being no mark placed upon them to distinguish them from those used for ordinary correspondence. There were a few exemptions from postage, such as communications between the head office and branch or country Post Offices, petitions to the Governor and Legislature, and returns of births, marriages, and deaths; but the bulk of departmental mail matter was franked by stamps representing the ordinary rates of postage.

These stamps were supplied to the various departments on requisition, and the face value debited against their votes for expenditure, thus forming part of the revenue credited to the Post Office.

The Secretary of the Post Office, in June, 1879, suggested that a die for a 2d. stamp of special design should be prepared, and impressions struck on envelopes for official use. The major portion of the official correspondence coming under the 2d. rate, it was submitted that an impressed stamp of that value would be sufficient to serve the purpose, *i.e.*, to save the time expended in affixing adhesive stamps; and that adhesive stamps of the other values in use might be *perforated* with the initials of the respective departments by which they were used, such as P.O. for Post Office, Tr. for Treasury, L.D. for Lands Department, &c. The principles of rendering these stamps available for official correspondence only, requiring them to be affixed to envelopes endorsed "O.H.M.S." and the name of the department, and forbidding their repurchase by the Post Office Department, were concisely laid down.

The general principle of a distinctive stamp for official purposes was approved, and on the suggestion of the Government printer, it was decided to surcharge each denomination of the ordinary postage stamps with the initials "O.S." (on service) in *black*, and to issue them to all Government Departments for official use.

I have seen an essay for an impressed stamp, apparently prepared partly in accordance with the suggestion above referred to.

A circle, with thick outer and thin inner line, contains an inscription in block capitals, "Official Postage New South Wales. One shilling." The centre of the circle is left plain, but beneath this impression there is a diademed profile of Queen to left, on ground of coarse horizontal lines, enclosed in a fine circular line. This was evidently intended to occupy the inscribed circle. The words, "One penny," "Twopence," and "Sixpence," are also printed on the same paper as the above-described two portions of a design. The impressions are in orange-brown, and plate printed. The principle of this essay was never carried out.

The first *Gazette* notice relating to the new system was as follows:—

"General Post Office,
"Sydney, 15*th Dec.*, 1879.

"His Excellency the Governor, with the advice of the Executive Council, has been pleased to approve of the introduction of a special description of Postage Stamps for use by the various Government Departments. These stamps—which are distinguishable by the letters 'O.S.' printed thereon in black—are only available for official correspondence, and letters having Postage Stamps of this character affixed thereto are liable to be intercepted by the Post Office, unless the envelopes bear the endorsement 'O.H.M.S.,' with the name of the Department from which they are sent in the corner; or, in the case of letters addressed to a Department, the name of the sender written in the corner.

"Under no pretext whatever will these stamps be purchased by, or exchanged for other Postage Stamps at the Post Office.

"Saul Samuel."

It will be seen that no date was fixed by the notice for the system to come into operation, and it appears somewhat doubtful whether the 1st January, 1880, generally accepted hitherto as the date of issue, was the exact date of the earliest use of O.S. Stamps.

The first requisition sent to the Government printer by the cashier of the General Post Office, for a supply of official stamps, was entered under date "for the week ending 22nd October, 1879," and the order was for 120,000 1d., 240,000 2d., 3000 3d., 30,000 4d., 24,000 6d., and 6000 1s. The first supply of these stamps was issued by the cashier to "Public Offices" during the same week, and consisted of 11,760 1d., 21,720 2d., 1440 4d., 160 6d., and 320 1s.

A brief account of the method followed in the procuring and issuing of these stamps will be useful to the reader.

All stamps were (and are) printed at the Government printing office, the Government printer being also Inspector of Stamps, and supplies were furnished to the cashier of the General Post Office upon requisition, the

totals of these requisitions being entered in the Cashier's Stamp Receipt and Issue Book. Supplies were obtained by the various public offices from the cashier, also upon requisition, and the quantities were entered as issued, a page of the book being devoted to each week. The page thus showed the total receipts and issues for the week, together with the balance remaining on hand.

At the time of issue of the O.S. stamps, the ordinary adhesive stamps in use were 1d., 2d., 4d., 6d., 9d., 10d., and 1s., from De La Rue's electrotypes; and 3d., 5d., 8d., and 5s., from Perkins and Bacon's steel plates. There were also envelopes stamped with the 1d. type, and the small-sized post card of 1876. From these were selected the types which were overprinted with the letters "O.S." on 22nd October, 1879, and subsequent dates, until superseded by types of later-issued stamps.

It will be noticed that the Executive approval and *Gazette* notice both speak of the overprint as being in *black*, and this term is repeated in the Executive approval of 17th April, 1882, hereinafter referred to.

The 1d., 4d., and 6d. values, overprinted in October, 1879, undoubtedly bore the "O.S." in *black;* but the 3d. and 1s. as undoubtedly bore it in *red.* In the case of the latter value the reason for this colour being adopted is abundantly apparent, the stamp itself being printed in black; but with regard to the 3d. the reason is not so clear, as black would show more distinctly against the light green of the stamp than red. Some copies of the 2d. appear to have been first issued with "O.S." in red; but at an early stage of the proceedings this colour was evidently abandoned in favour of the black.

Taking into consideration the distinct wording of the approval, it appears strange that even the 1s. stamp was permitted to bear the overprint in red, without some reference to the change in colour; but the fact that it passed without comment will also account for the absence of any special notice in the case of the other values.

(*To be continued.*)

The Retouched Lithograph of the 6 Rappen of Zurich.

A Paper Read Before the Philatelic Society, London, on 10th April, 1896,

By M. P. CASTLE.



ESPITE their unpretentious—not to say primitive—appearance, the stamps of Zurich have always maintained as strong a hold upon the affections of collectors as any others of the interesting and popular Cantonal Issues of Switzerland. The reasons for this popularity are not far to seek, the first claim being that of a hoary antiquity, judged from a Philatelic aspect. The Zurich stamps were issued on or shortly after the 1st March, 1843, being thus not only the senior of all the remaining Cantonals, but constitute the second issue of adhesive stamps of the whole world. England's lead in 1840, to the credit of Switzerland, was first followed among European nations by the Canton of Zurich, closely pursued, however, by the neighbouring Cantons and Brazil. The second claim to favour for the Zurich stamps has been their rarity; or to be accurate, the scarcity of the 4 rappen, under which designation I still describe it, although M. de Reuterskiöld, in his able work on the Swiss stamps, intimated that "kreuzers" is correct. The 4 rappen was used only for strictly local purposes, while the higher value was available for circulation throughout the whole Canton; the former was therefore infinitely less used, and has always been a scarce stamp. During my thirty years' acquaintance with stamps, and even in the days when a Zurich 4 was worth fewer shillings than its present value in pounds, I can never recollect this stamp being plentiful, or occurring in any way except as angels' visits—few and far between. A third and perhaps even more cogent reason for the popularity of these stamps—and one naturally affecting the value if not the rarity—is the fact that they exist in types. These types are, from a Philatelist's *point de vue*, "all that there is to desire," fairly easy to decipher, and strictly select in number.

In the excellent and interesting paper on the Swiss stamps, read before the Brighton Philatelic Society, and published in *The London Philatelist* in November and December last, by Mr. Otto Pfenninger, it is stated, *inter alia*, that on and after March (1843) the use of stamps, etc., would be instituted, the earliest dated copy known being March 12th, and the latest March 11th, 1850. It is also stated that "the stamps were printed on ordinary paper in large quantities, 100 on a sheet—that is ten each way," and that the familiar red vertical or horizontal lines were added subsequently to the printing "from the original plates." The formation of each line of ten stamps, as proved by existing blocks, was that of the five types

repeated, which five varieties, *en bloc*, should thus appear twenty times on each sheet without presenting any variation.

The object, however, of this note is to show that such is not absolutely the case, and that, though not of an important nature, certain varieties from the normal state are to be found in the case of the 6 rappen. I may premise my remarks herein by saying that although I have examined a large number of the 4 rappens, I have been unable to discover any defect in the printing such as I am now referring to.

Although these stamps are so well known that no description is required, it is necessary to call attention to the formation of the background, in order to show the subsequent deviations. The whole surface of these stamps is covered with oblique lines crossing each other, these lines being each in groups of four, and each stamp having either 15 or 16 of such groups, with or without a fractional part of another group; this applies naturally to both transecting sets of lines, and they necessarily vary with each type.

It is with regard to defective impressions of these lines that I wish to direct your attention. I may add that I have been possessed of some of these minor varieties for years, and that they have long been known to several Philatelic students. I should, however, have hesitated to publish these notes until I had obtained further information; but I have read lately in various Continental journals that it was a new discovery, and it seemed to me, therefore, a fitting occasion to say, that as far as several Philatelists in this country are concerned, the "discovery" is by no means new, and that there are phases of the matter that have not yet been fully elucidated. The origin of the paragraphs that have been going the rounds is doubtless one in the *Schweiz Briefmarken Journal*, which in No. 12 of last year contained the following remarks:—

"It may interest many collectors to know that there is a stamp of the 6 Zurich, namely, Type III., which shows in the network on the left top side a very rough, inaccurately-executed repair on the plate. This repair, starting from the Z of the word Zurich, touches the figure 6, and embraces (commencing from the left top corner up to the figure 6) exactly 19 of the inner netlines which run from the left-hand side upwards in a slanting fashion, and 12 netlines from the left corner, which run down from the top to the figure 6. The whole looks blotchy and like a repaired stamp, as the plate must have been mended in a superficial manner, so that some of the netlines run quite crookedly; two lines having become partially repaired, give the appearance of being one thick one, while further, two lines close together instead of one are visible. These stamps have, up to the present time, simply been looked upon as repaired stamps, which is certainly not the case, as the *Briefmarken Börse* a few days ago obtained possession of the exact counterpart. My specimen is on an original envelope; date, 1847."

This description is fairly faithful, but will bear amplification. I now submit to your inspection two unused unsevered strips of the 6 rappen, with horizontal lines, each one containing the five types. One strip (Illustration A) has all the varieties normal, and, as shown by the margin, is from the right-hand side of the sheet. The other strip (Illustration

B) has the third type presenting the peculiarities referred to. The fact that the repair was made upon the stone at the time will at once be apparent by the exact similarity in tone as to the ink of the added lines, and the undisturbed state of the original gumming on the reverse. Illustration B 1 is the same, but is of interest as showing how absolutely alike are these retouches. Counting the groups of lines from the upper *left* corner, it will be seen that all the five groups of four lines each between that angle and the figure have been altered or added to, while counting from the *right* upper angle, groups 6, 7, and 8 have been altered. It will be seen further that the retouch interferes slightly with the horizontal line beneath the word "Zurich" above, and that close to the left top of the figure 6 the normal white space separating the groups has been covered by additional faint lines. The entire alteration, as evidenced by the thick and irregular lines that quite destroy the uniformity of the design, must have been of a hurried and perfunctory nature, and doubtless was effected by the printer at the time of the transfer, when he perceived the defective patch. In the normal stamp there is a curious break in the lower extreme right angle, which, taken with the differing compartment lines, point to another position on the plate. It seems that this particular transfer was executed at a comparatively late date, as not only is the used specimen previously mentioned dated 1847, but I have a somewhat analogous variety bearing the postmark of July 12, 1848 (Illustration C). This latter stamp is Type IV., with horizontal background, and the defects occur in nearly the same position. Counting from the *left* upper corner, groups 2, 3, 4, and 5 have all been so ineffectively transferred on to the stone as to present, in conjunction with groups 5, 6, 7, and 8, reckoning from the *right* upper corner, a white space upon the stamp. A half-hearted attempt seems to have been commenced to repair this, as on the first lines of group 2 of the former and 7 of the latter, two short and thickened black strokes have been added. I am also inclined to think that there has been an additional faint tracing of lines over the whole of the white patch.

[Since the foregoing was written I have obtained a second specimen of this variety (Illustration C 1) which is a sharper impression, and to my mind seems clearly to indicate a retouch. It will be seen that the groups of lines, which in the normal variety of this stamp slightly infringe on the top label, have been apparently inadvertently lengthened. It will be seen on either side of the "I" of "Zurich"—those on the right of that letter projecting almost two-thirds across the upper label. Beyond this it seems to me that the last line of the second group from the left has been thickened, and that those on the third and fourth group from the left, as also those that transect them, have been faintly redrawn, with the result that their relative positions to each other are altered—as against those in the normal type; and further, that a large irregularly-shaped diamond is hence formed directly under the "R" of "Zurich." It is evident that these two stamps are either from a different part of the plate or from a fresh transfer. This is clearly shown by the outer dividing lines separating the stamps. In the retouch these are not joined at the top, and there is a trace of a second line in the upper right corner, while in both lower angles they practically touch each other. In the normal stamp the line above to the right has the appearance of being

made to touch by an additional short line, and in the lower angles leave off abruptly. Both my specimens of retouches have also a flaw in the frame of the stamp above the "I" of "Zurich," which does not appear in the like type in the strips. I may say, *en passant*, that these division lines are not without Philatelic interest, and that they vary considerably; *e.g.*, specimens E_1 and E_2 both being Type I., which have double compartment lines above, and is shown further by the frame of the stamp not to be the same on the sheet. It occurs to me as quite feasible to reconstruct the sheet by the aid of these lines and the slight lithographic defects in the stamps.]

I have also another specimen of Type III. (Illustration D), but with the vertical background showing a defective patch in the same position as in the first-mentioned stamp. It is, however, less conspicuous, although on the line beneath the word "Zurich" has exactly the appearance previously alluded to. From the shakiness of some of the lines and the thickness of some of the strokes I concluded that they had been retouched, though in a less decided manner. I think it probable that other such varieties exist, and hope that the publication of these notes may lead to further discoveries. I do not of course contend that these varieties are of an important nature, or that they merit collection by any but the specialist. To the latter, however, nothing can well be too minute in order to make his collection scientifically complete, and it is these colleagues alone who will find any interest in this short paper.

I may add in conclusion, and as showing that in studying our stamps something new or interesting will always be found, that while examining these 6 rappens, I have been led to note other and still smaller variations that occur in the sheets, owing doubtless to the reduplication of the original dies. White spots will be found (Illustrations E) in various positions, while breaks in the outer black line and those dividing the stamps are of frequent occurrence. In some cases the lower angles of the outer frame are quite defective, and numerous other minute deviations can be ascertained by a close search. I should like further to call attention to the marked gradation of printing in the specimens now submitted, varying from an indistinct grey to a sharp and clear black. I should add that this note has been written at quite short notice, and appearing, therefore, with all its imperfections on its head, craves your kind indulgence and friendly criticism.

[I have added a few alterations made since in studying further specimens, but I feel that this is an excellent opening for further research upon these stamps.—M. P. C.].

Philatelic Notes.

NOTE.—*The co-operation of Philatelists is invited in order to make this column of a varied and interesting nature.*

THE CAPE OF GOOD HOPE PROVISIONALS OF 1861.

WE are indebted to Mr. G. Johnson, B.A., the indefatigable Hon. Sec. of the Birmingham Philatelic Society, for notes of an apparently very interesting paper, read by him before that body on the 7th of this month. Mr. Johnson would seem to have studied his subject at considerable length, as his notes not only embody all the recent and best information—as embodied in the London Philatelic Society's work and Captain Norris Newman's paper (*London Philatelist* for Sept., 1896, p. 247–263)—but also includes evidence of information and research independently of these authorities. We are indebted to our correspondent for the correction of a small but apparent misprint. On the last line of page 250, in the September issue of this Journal already referred to, the dimensions of the sheet of Provisional triangulars are given as "$10\frac{1}{4} \times 4$," and, as Mr. Johnson says, this is evidently a misprint for "7," and averaging the spacing and numbers of stamps, as given by Captain Newman, would allow for a margin to the sheet of nearly three-quarters of an inch. It appears that of the 1d. 385 to 400 sheets were printed, and 200 to 240 sheets of the 4d. From these 24,660 stamps of the 1d. were issued, and 12,840 4d. stamps. "Thus, if the error was not rectified, there could have been some 201 1d. errors, and 386 4d."

Mr. Johnson's arithmetic is no doubt faultless, but we can hardly believe that these errors are so rare as this would indicate; and, indeed, Captain Newman distinctly states in his previously-cited article "that there is nothing to show what quantity was printed by Saul Soloman and Co., or actually delivered by them to the authorities." In the early sixties these errors, *pace* Mr. E. Stanley Gibbons, were received in quite a profusion, and we believe were quoted at a dozen rate of 42s.! They were also in the hands of Messrs. Young and Stockall, of Liverpool, and M. Moens doubtless had them. The number of copies even now known must be large, and we think it therefore clear that a far larger number of sheets than that above cited must have been printed and issued.

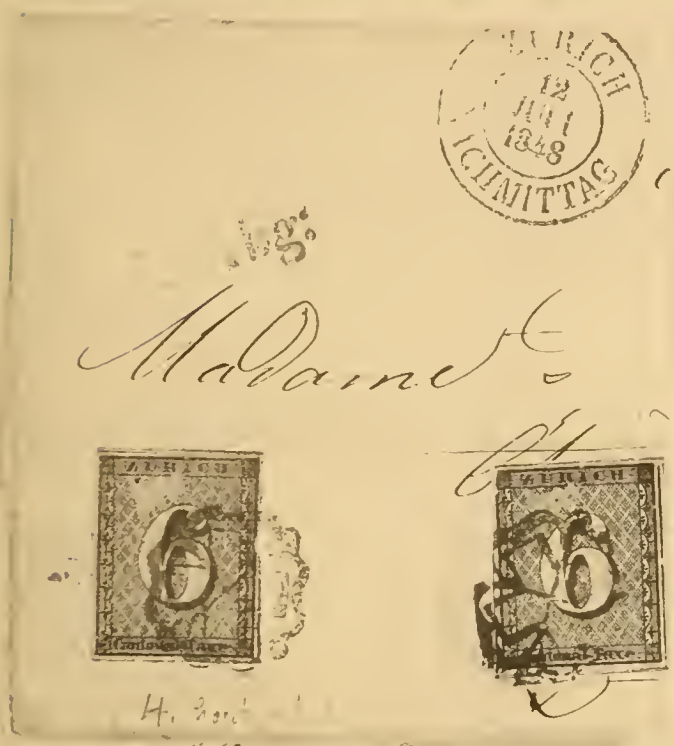
Mr. Johnson's paper also supplements the information contained in Captain Norris Newman's paper, by completing the author's evident intent therein, as to the position of the errors on the sheet (see *London Philatelist*, 1896, p. 251). The information subsequently received by Mr. Johnson enables us to round off this corner, and we are indebted to that gentleman for the accompanying sketches, which most satisfactorily locate the exact

A



B





B.1



C

C.1

D



E.1



E.2



E.3

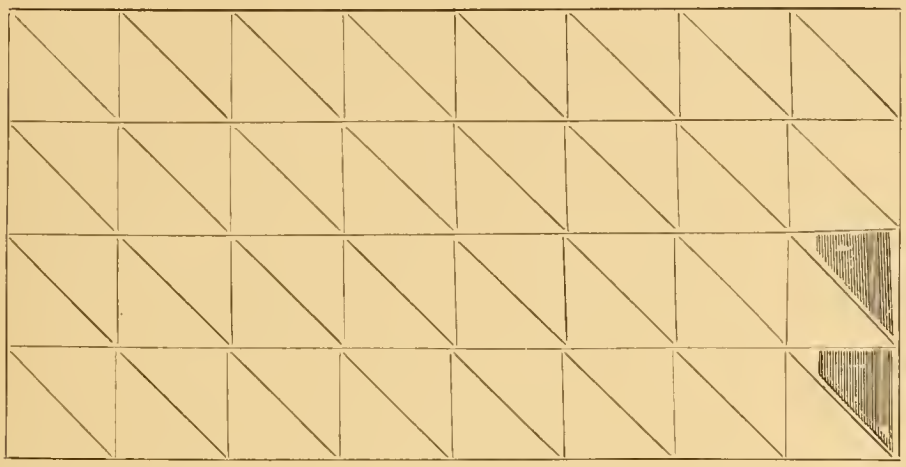


position of these two celebrated "Woodblock errors"—to give them their time-honoured appellation.

Rough sketch of sheet of Woodblock Reprint, showing blank spaces caused by removal of *error* and *broken* stereotype.

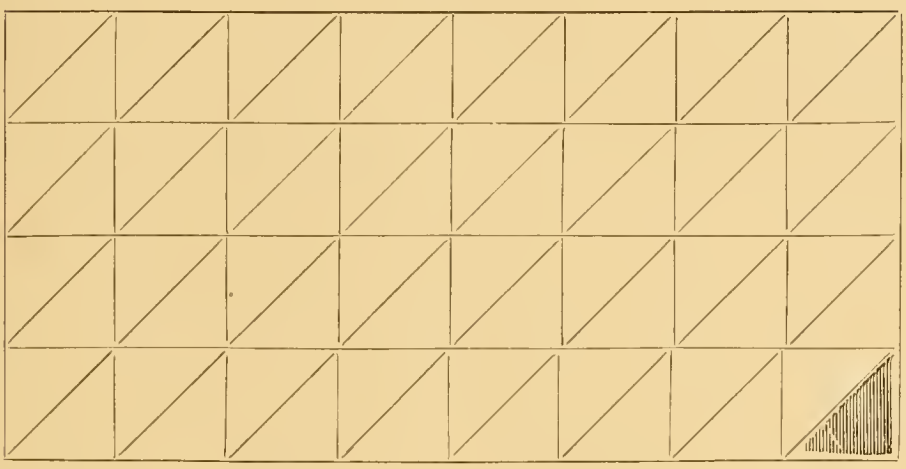
Whole sheet, including margin, $10\frac{1}{2} \times 7$. Margin, $\frac{3}{4}$ of an inch all round.

1d



Rough sketch of Woodblock Reprint, showing blank space caused by removal of the error. Size, etc., same as 1d.

4d



Mr. Johnson's paper contained beyond this a vast amount of information on the general Issues of the Cape, and he and his Society are to be congratulated upon the success of his efforts.

ANOTHER "FAKE" OF THE FIRST ISSUE OF FRANCE.

THE word "fake" is not assuredly *des plus élegants*, but we know no other expression that conveys its equivalent—the surreptitious and delusive treatment of a stamp—so briefly or succinctly. With regard to the *tête-bêche* incidents lately described in this Journal and the following, the stamps have indeed been subject to "faking" of the first order. We are

indebted to the *Timbre-Poste* for the intimation, which again affects one of the values of 1849—the 15 c., green. It is well known that the stamp is common as a reprint and decidedly scarce in unused condition. In our opinion mint copies in undoubted shades are among the most under-appreciated European stamps. The aim of the present swindle is to unite with the common verdure of the reprint the tone of colour and the gum of age of the original. In order to successfully accomplish this the following recipe was followed:—Take a reprint, gently soak it with a chemical that will discharge the bluish appearance of the paper, and leave the hue of the stamp a more yellowish green; carefully coat the back with "original" gum, place it in an oven—to crackle the gum—bake carefully and slowly, and when well browned, serve to order—the sauce being added! We fear that a good many of these stamps have lately deceived collectors. Pairs unused of the 15 c. were "bolts from the blue," and they have lately been comparatively frequent. We hear also from M. Moens that the 1 franc has been changed to vermilion to make it more valuable (?).

DISCOVERIES.

BRITISH GUIANA.—We have been favoured by Mr. Allen H. Stamford with the sight of a variety of surcharge that has hitherto escaped attention. The specimens furnished to us consist of a strip of three stamps of the well-known 1889 issue, mauve, surcharged in black, "Inland Revenue 4 cents." In the right-hand stamp the figure 4 is of a distinct form from the others. The difference consists mainly in the wider and longer opening of the upper portion of the figure. In the normal variety the distance from the top of the 4 to the upper edge of the horizontal stroke is barely $1\frac{3}{4}$ mm., and in Mr. Stamford's specimen it is 2 mm., the whole figure in the latter being fully $\frac{1}{4}$ mm. longer, and projecting distinctly below the word "cents." In the normal variety the characters of "four cents" are all in a line, and the figure moreover is a trifle heavier. We have since been enabled, through Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Limited, to inspect some sheets, and find that this variety occurs throughout the sheet, being on the third stamp from the left on each row. It is curious that, with a plentiful stamp such as this, this variation should have remained unnoticed, and our correspondent, who we understand is a recent accession to the ranks of Philately, is to be congratulated upon his powers of Philatelic observation.

GREAT BRITAIN.—We have been shown by Mr. W. Morley a very fine unused specimen of Plate 2 of the $2\frac{1}{2}$d., of a distinct *bleuté* tone of paper, apparently precisely similar to those that are frequently met with in Plate 1. The existence of this variety was not unknown, although this is the first specimen that we have seen, and we refer to it in the hope that some of our readers may give us more information. In his last catalogue Mr. H. L. Ewen says that "Plates 2 and 3 are said to have been issued on bluish paper, but no regular issue was ever made." We should ourselves be glad to know how far blueness of paper is divisible into the two stages—original birth or accidental subsequent experiences.

Occasional Notes.

THE LONDON PHILATELIC EXHIBITION GUARANTEES.

We have good reason to believe that a number of responses have already been received in answer to the circular sent out by the Exhibition Committee, inviting guarantees or donations towards any possible deficit in the final balance-sheet of the undertaking. There must, however, still be many well-known names that do not figure in the list, and we venture to remind all those who have hitherto deferred their replies, that the Committee, in the best interests of all concerned, are most desirous that the Guarantee List should embrace not only the leaders, but a goodly proportion of the rank and file of Philately. From our own point of view and expectations, we see no reason to apprehend any deficit, while as stated, should any profit be made, a bonus *pro ratâ* would accrue to all guarantors. Beyond this only 25 per cent. of the amount guaranteed is now called up to cover disbursements between now and the period of opening—hence the financial call is extremely moderate. All concerned in Philately, dealers or collectors, should recollect that the aim and object of this Exhibition is to popularise and consolidate the fashion of stamp collecting, and that their interest in the success of the venture is in exact proportion to the value they ascribe to their Philatelic possessions. All communications, however, should be addressed to Mr. J. A. Tilleard, 4, Lombard Court, London, E.C.

OFFICIAL REISSUES.—U.S.

In the New York Notes of *Mekeel's Weekly Stamp News*, "Iberius," a writer who is always well posted on matters Philatelic, announces the reissue of the obsolete periodical stamps. We append his description, and cannot but express our hearty concurrence with his remarks thereon. "Sets of U.S. periodical stamps, one cent to sixty dollars, of the old types and values, printed by the Bureau of Engraving, have been placed on the market by a syndicate of dealers who undertake to guarantee that only 50 sets have been printed. The price asked of collectors is but $125 a set for stamps of the face value of about $205; and it is one of the mysteries of that mysterious and incomprehensible Bureau that such special issues, apparently without benefit to the U.S. Treasury, should be permitted to be made by the P.O. officials. The set will probably be catalogued; in fact, some of the small values have been known, and are catalogued already as printed by the Bureau; but whether the guarantee of dealers, here or in Washington, is worthy of consideration is a question which I leave to the discriminating care of would-be buyers. It would be useless to enlarge at this juncture upon the peculiar

and rather unsavoury methods of Bureau and postal officials who pretend to despise collectors and stamp collecting, on the one hand, but are ever ready to make an honest (?) dollar (in league with some intermediate dealer) out of stamp collectors."

SWITZERLAND, À LA CENTENNIAL.

ONE of our Continental contemporaries, the *Philatélic Helvétique*, has been dilating upon a probable new issue of stamps for the Helvetian Republic, similar to the U.S. Centennials, that shall embrace patriotic subjects like the Lion of Lucerne, William Tell's chapel, the Grütli, etc. In view of the staid postal demeanour of the little Republic, and the great cost of production, we should attach but scant credit to the news. A number of essays, including some with a view of the well-known and beautiful Grütli on the Lake of Lucerne, were on view at the recent Geneva Exhibition; but these have been known since 1882. A really beautiful issue of stamps appropriate to Helvetian scenery would cause a veritable Philatelic *furore*, and if they were permanent would be heartily welcomed by all classes.

THE ITALIAN POSTAL MUSEUM.

WE are enabled to make an announcement that will be generally received with pleasure, and especially so by all those collectors who take an interest in the stamps of the Italian Duchies and Kingdom. It appears that there has existed for some considerable period an embryonic Postal Museum, which has accumulated a variety of effects connected with the Postal Service, and a certain number of stamps. Little attention has been, however, devoted to it, and there has been practically no control exercised as to its guardianship or maintenance, with the consequent result that it has much suffered thereby, and is in a chaotic state of confusion. The Hercules to cleanse this Augean stable, selected by His Excellency the Minister of Posts and Telegraphs for the Italian Kingdom, is our esteemed contributor and friend Dr. Emilio Diena, of Modena. It is quite superfluous to comment upon the excellency of the choice. Dr. Diena is the *doyen* of Italian Philately, and to the learned and courteous author of *The Stamps of Modena* is most properly consigned the onerous task of rehabilitating the Postal collection of his country. We understand that in any case the duties involved will spread over many months; but the future tenancy of the curatorship is, as yet, undetermined. We can only respectfully impress upon the Italian Government the prime necessity, not only of setting its Philatelic home in order, but of keeping it so for the future, by the appointment of a curator, as in the cases of the British and Berlin Postal Museums. The laxity that has allowed the selling of dies, remainders of stamps, reprints, and "waste" stamps, coupled with the immunity allowed to unscrupulous forgers, presents a record that is a disgrace to any civilised country—not to say one of the Great Powers of Europe.

A NEW SPANISH PHILATELIC PAPER.

THE evidences of a lively and an abiding Philatelic faith have not been so numerous in the Peninsula but that we can cordially welcome the latest accession to the ranks of our contemporaries. The new venture is entitled *Madrid Filatelico*, and is issued by the proprietor, Señor Miguel Gálvez Jimenez, Cruz No. 1, Madrid. Embellished with a picturesque and artistic cover, the journal is well printed, and contains illustrated lists of new issues and other matter, while its advertising columns bespeak an unusually liberal support. We shall be gratified to see a good beginning well continued.

PRESENTATIONS TO THE "TAPLING COLLECTION."

WE have much pleasure in announcing the following list of stamps that have been donated to the National Collection :—

ANTIOQUIA.—Unused errors of colour of the 1889 issue; 1 c., black on yellow; 2½ c., black on green; 10 c., black on rose—Mr. T. Ridpath.

BAHAMAS.—An unused specimen of the provisional 4d. on 6d., issue May, 1883, with surcharge in larger capitals than the ordinary variety—Mr. T. Ridpath.

GAMBIA.—A used specimen of the 4d., brown, watermarked "Crown CC," upright—Mr. J. A. Tilleard.

GREAT BRITAIN.—An unused pair of the current 3d., printed on deep yellow paper—Mr. G. Campbell.

Several stamped telegraph forms—Major E. B. Evans, R.A.

An unused specimen of the 3d., *perforated 12*, Electric Telegraph Co.'s stamp, issue 1861, for franking messages to the Continent—Mr. S. Bostock.

An unused copy of the 2s. 6d. British and Irish Magnetic Telegraph Co.'s stamp, with black control number, perforated 13—The late Earl of Kingston.

Several proofs and essays—Herr P. von Ferrary.

NICARAGUA.—Issue 1893, 5 c., grey, official, with inverted surcharge—Messrs. Brown and Skipton.

QUEENSLAND.—An unused pair of the 1d., issue 1895, on unwatermarked paper, with *burelé* band; 6d., issue 1883, with long "P" to "Pence," used, on entire envelope. Unused pair, 1s., on thick Beer Duty paper, wmk. Large Crown over "Q." Unused block of four of each of the following: 1d., with *burelé* band; 1d. and 2d., on thick Beer Duty paper, wmk. Large Crown over "Q"; 1d., head with white background, wmk. Crown over "Q," thin paper. Six unused ½d., wmk. Crown over "Q," thin paper; six unused ½d., on thick paper, with *burelé* band; and six unused ½d., on thick Beer Duty paper, wmk. Large Crown over "Q"—Mr. O. Firth.

SIAM.—Vertical pair of 2 atts. in small type on 64 a., with the surcharge printed on the back of the upper stamp, as well as on the face—Messrs. Brown and Skipton.

CANADIAN AND DOMINION PHILATELIC ASSOCIATION.

WE have been requested by Mr. Ernest F. Würtele, President of the Canadian Philatelic Association, to publish the following circular in the *London Philatelist*, in order to advise our readers of the matter therein referred to, and which will be read with due interest :—

Canadian Philatelic Association. *Dominion Philatelic Association.*

AMALGAMATION.

SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING.

The question of the amalgamation of the two Canadian Philatelic Associations, in the general interests of Philately, having reached that stage which demands that it be taken into consideration by the Members of the two Associations, we have the honour of drawing your attention to the following proposed basis for such an undertaking, and at the same time would request all those who are unable to attend the Special General Meetings to communicate their views in writing to the respective Presidents with as little delay as possible.

The Meetings will be held in the Cities mentioned herewith, and at the places stated :—

Canadian Philatelic Association.	*Dominion Philatelic Association.*
MONTREAL.	TORONTO.
Rooms of the Montreal Philatelic Association, Chateau de Ramezay Building, Nôtre-Dame Street. 3 p.m.	Office of Walter McMahon, Esq., Yonge Street, Arcade. 2 p.m.

Both Meetings to be held on the 28th of January, 1897.

BASIS FOR PROPOSED AMALGAMATION.

1st. That the Canadian and Dominion Philatelic Associations amalgamate for the general interests of Philately in Canada, under the name of the Dominion of Canada Philatelic Association, with effect from the 1st of January, 1897.

2nd. That the Annual Subscription be $0·50 per annum, with an entrance fee for new Members of $0·50.

3rd. That both Associations nominate one or more names for each of the following Offices :—President, Vice-President, Secretary-Treasurer, Exchange Superintendent, Librarian, Counterfeit Detector, and three names for Trustees.

4th. That both Associations nominate one paper for Official Organ.

5th. That each Meeting authorize its President to enter into negotiations with the other to complete the proposed amalgamation upon the terms submitted herein, or otherwise, as desired.

6th. That upon a satisfactory arrangement of this question, the names nominated by both Associations be sent to the Members for Election purposes in connection with the amalgamated Association, as well as the Official Organs.

Anticipating that the proposed change will meet with favour, and that we will hear from those who are unable to attend the Meetings,

We remain, yours in Philately,

ERNEST F. WÜRTELE, *President,*
Canadian Philatelic Association, Quebec.

I. E. WELDON, *President,*
Dominion Philatelic Association, 157, Gerrard St. East, Toronto.

1st January, 1897.

Reviews.

STANLEY GIBBONS' CATALOGUE, PART I.*

THE second edition of this firm's Catalogue, since it came into serious competition with latter-day Philatelic requirement, is a very great improvement upon its predecessor. It is now printed upon vastly superior and indeed excellent paper; the type, if not large, is remarkably clear, and this edition is suitably bound. As regards printing and general appearance, it reflects great credit to Messrs. Brendon and Son, of Plymouth (the printers of this Journal). The illustrations, except those since added, are as in the last issue—only worse. Such specimens as Sierra Leone, St. Lucia, or New Zealand (No. 20), are a disfigurement to the book. The most important improvement has been the separate illustration of all the surcharges, and we must absolutely reverse our last remarks as regards these. The greatest care and trouble have obviously been taken to have exact representations made of these. This is a great boon to all stamp students, and would alone cover a far greater multitude of sins than is included beneath the red cover of this price list. Among the latter, however, we consider that forty pages of introductory matter are far too heavy, and all the polyglot business instructions of the firm "never would be missed." We also consider that the price of this Catalogue, 5/-, when complete (Parts II. and III., *i.e.*, the new British adhesives, and the "Entires" respectively), is not really justified. The principal catalogues of the world are now published at prices varying from 1s. to 2s.; and excellent as is the work under review, we think it a mistake, in the interests of the vendors and the Philatelic public, to have again raised the price. Doubtless the expenses of production are greater, but one-fourth of the contents of Part I. is devoted to advertisements or announcements made in the interests of the publishers. These latter will probably be repeated in the subsequent parts, and must add materially to the expense without benefiting the reader.

Although we fully acknowledge the literary excellence of the work, it is avowedly a Trade Catalogue, as those of its rivals, and issued, as stated in the preface, to indicate the "actual price at which the stamps can be supplied by Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Limited." Alike in the best interests of the publishers and the public, the lowest possible price commensurate with the cost of production should be maintained. It must, however, be conceded that Messrs. Stanley Gibbons are content with a truly moderate profit on their wares, as the £5 Great Britain unused is quoted at 100/3d.—an addition to the face value that, from a collector's point of view, is perfectly

* *Priced Catalogue of the Stamps of the British Empire* (1897). Stanley Gibbons, Limited, 391, Strand, London.

in order and not excessive! There are a few other "vagaries," such as misprints of type, errors in prices quoted, or omissions—as the 15 c. current Canada—but in general the Catalogue is concise, comprehensive, and accurate. There is no occasion to specify any colony. It suffices to say that with the aid of many advanced and able Philatelists the whole has been rewritten, by the side of the stamps themselves, with numerous additions and emendations, while a great amount of information has been added in the notes after the Issues. There can be no "possible doubt whatever" but that the 1897 edition constitutes the most reliable and accurate existing Price Catalogue of the Stamps of the British Empire. *Floreant!*

POSTAGE STAMPS AND THEIR COLLECTION.*

THIS is one of the now numerous and excellent series of Handbooks upon every imaginable subject published by Mr. L. Upcott Gill, of the well-known *Bazaar, Exchange, and Mart.* The very numerous illustrations and the general "get-up" of the book are beyond praise; while its contents will be found to include a variety of notes that cannot fail to be of interest to the beginner or moderately advanced collector. A relic of "insular barbarism" is to be noted in the defacement of the illustrations of Colonial stamps, forced upon the publisher by the recent decision in the Court of Appeal in favour of the Commissioner of Inland Revenue. The publishers of such works as these should be encouraged, as it is by the dissemination of illustrated knowledge that the great army of Philatelic detectives is created—and no Government could otherwise possess so great a safeguard against the forgery of their own stamps.

A large portion of the work is occupied by a list of "Stamps to look for," which is of doubtful utility—"whether to the beginner, general collector, or, perhaps, even the specialist"; and we cannot refrain from the suggestion that the author would have been well advised to have concentrated his energies in the endeavour to cater for one of these classes only.

* *Postage Stamps and their Collection*, by OLIVER FIRTH. L. Upcott Gill, 170, Strand, London, W.C.

New Issues.

NOTES OF NEW, AND VARIATIONS OF CURRENT, ISSUES.

(Varieties of Obsolete Stamps, and Discoveries, will be found under "Philatelic Notes.")

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.

Members of the London Philatelic Society, and other readers generally, are invited to co-operate with us in making the columns as interesting as possible. Our foreign readers can especially help us in this direction, by sending copies of any official documents relative to changes in the current issues, or early intimation of any new issue, accompanied, when possible, by a specimen; such information will be duly credited to the correspondent, and, if desired, the specimen promptly returned. Address: EDITOR "LONDON PHILATELIST," EFFINGHAM HOUSE, ARUNDEL STREET, STRAND, LONDON, W.C.

BRITISH EMPIRE.

CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.—We have received the halfpenny stamp from Messrs. Whitfield King & Co., printed in green, perf. 14. *Adhesive.* ½d., green.

QUEENSLAND.—Our Australian correspondent writes that the next values to be tinkered will have the numerals in all four corners

STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.—*Native States.*—The *M.J.* gives us some interesting information with regard to the stamps in use for the Native States mentioned below.

"*Negri Sembilan.*—Only the 3, 15, 25, and 50 cents exist at the Post-office, and in future this State is to be amalgamated with Sungei Ujong, the two being known under the name Negri Sembilan.

"*Pahang.*—The 3 cents only.

"*Perak.*—The 1, 2, 3, 5, 8, 10, and 50 cents, and 1, 2, and 5 dollars."

Perak.—The current series of adhesives, with head of tiger, is being used for official purposes with a surcharge "Service" in black. Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. send us the 5 c.

Service Adhesive.

5 c., lilac and mustard, black surcharge.

"*Sungei Ujong.*—The 3 cents only.

"It is possible that full sets have been issued for all the States, but other values than those mentioned above have not reached the States."—*M. J.*

TOBAGO.—A provisional stamp has been made by surcharging the 4d. Revenue stamp "½d." "Postage" in two lines, the latter surcharge obliterating the original value. Messrs. Whitfield King & Co., who send us a copy, assure us that they were only used for one mail on December 23rd, none being sold to the public except on presentation of letters or circulars to be posted.

Adhesive. ½d. on 4d., lilac and red, black surcharge.

WESTERN AUSTRALIA.—*Le T.-P.* informs us that the threepence post card has been surcharged 1½d. in lilac.

Post Card. 1½d. on 3d., green, lilac surcharge.

ZANZIBAR.—At last the surcharging business would appear to be terminated, the long talked-of issue, with head of Sultan, palm trees, etc., having made its appearance. A copy of the 2½d. is before us. We shall illustrate shortly, and only add to our present description that two flags appear above the central oval containing the head of the Sultan (now dead); these flags are printed in red, and form a pleasing contrast to the remainder of the design, which, in the case of the value mentioned, is printed in blue. The perforation is 14.

Adhesive. 2½d., blue and red.

EUROPE.

FRANCE.—*Mekeel's Weekly* announces the issue, or perhaps reissue of a 1 franc Unpaid Letter Stamp. We quoted in October last the decree authorising the suppression of this and the 60 c. value, and the present stamp is said to have been issued just previous to the suppression.

Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. write that the 10 c. post card and the 15 c. letter card have been altered, by the addition of the words "Republique Française" above

the inscriptions, and a modification of the letter M at the commencement of the address lines.

Unpaid Letter Stamp. 1 franc, rose on *carmine.*
Post Card. 10 c., grey on *greenish.*
Letter Card. 15 c., blue on *grey.*

MONACO.—*Le T.-P.* announces the decease of the 75 c. value.

SWEDEN.—Two new values reach us this month in the type with head of King, 15 and 25 öre. The 20 öre also has appeared in a bright blue shade, and the 10 öre official stamp is now printed in deep rose-red.

Adhesives. 15 öre, pale red-brown, perf. 13.
25 ,, orange ,,
20 ,, bright blue ,,
Official Stamp. 10 öre, deep rose-red.

TURKEY.—We learn from *Le T.-P.* that this Empire has added to its recent atrocities the offer of a prize of 200 francs to the artist who within one month sends the best design for a series of eight stamps.

AMERICA.

PERU.—Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. send us the 1, 10, and 50 c. adhesives, surcharged diagonally, "Gobierno," in an oblong frame, the surcharge reading upwards from left to right.

A set of stamps for parcel use has also been issued. They are of large square size, with a numeral in the centre, "Porte de Conduccion" above, and "Centavo(s)" below, all enclosed in a square frame of ruling and ornaments. The paper is white wove, and the perforation 12.

Adhesives. 1 c., ultramarine, black surcharge.
10 c., orange ,, ,,
50 c., rose-red ,, ,,
Parcel Post Stamps—
1 c., lilac.
2 c., yellow.
5 c., blue.
10 c., brown-lilac.
20 c., red.
50 c., green.

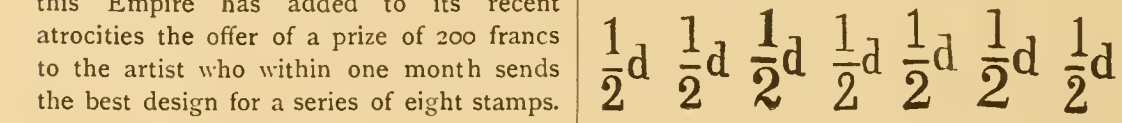
OTHER COUNTRIES.

LIBERIA.—We are indebted to Mr. H. L. Hayman for specimens of a new issue. The types of 1892 have been used, with an additional very handsome 50 cent stamp; but the values have been changed over, and slight alterations introduced into the frame-work surrounding the central designs, the change of values being, as we understand, necessitated by the admission of this country to the Postal Union. There will be no higher denominations, and it will be noticed that from 5 c. upwards the values have all been modified.

Adhesives. 1 c., mauve.
2 c., bistre and black.
5 c., lake-brown and black.
10 c., orange and slate-blue.
15 c., slate.
20 c., red.
25 c., green.
30 c., slate-blue.
50 c., red-brown and black.

The watermark is as before, and the perforation 15.

ORANGE FREE STATE.—Below we give illustrations of the seven varieties of the ½d. surcharge recently chronicled.



PORTUGUESE COLONIES.—*Angra.*—We have before us a complete set of adhesives in the current Portugal type, the same being sent us by Messrs. Whitfield King & Co.

Adhesives. 2½ reis, grey and black.
5 ,, orange-brown and black.
10 ,, emerald-green ,,
15 ,, brown ,,
20 ,, deep lilac ,,
25 ,, deep green ,,
50 ,, deep blue ,,
75 ,, rose ,,
80 ,, lilac ,,
100 ,, deep blue and black on *azure.*
150 ,, brown and black on *lemon.*
200 ,, lilac and black on (?*flesh*).
300 ,, deep blue and black on *pink.*
500 ,, black and red on *azure.*

Funchal.—From the same source the stamps for this Colony described under Angra.

Horta.—Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. send us the same series of adhesives for this Colony, as we have described under Angra.

Ponta Delgada.—The series for this Colony is to hand from Messrs. Whitfield King & Co., identical with that described under Angra.

TRANSVAAL.—*Le T.-P.* adds to the current set :—

Adhesives. 2 pence, brown and green.
3 ,, violet and green.
5 ,, olive and green.
5 shillings, grey-blue.

Philatelic Societies' Meetings.

THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY, LONDON.

Honorary President—H.R.H. The Duke of Saxe-Coburg and Gotha, K.G., &c.

Council for the Year 1895 96:

President—H.R.H. The Duke of York, K.G.

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. | T. Wickham Jones.
R. Ehrenbach. | D. Garth. | H. R. Oldfield.

The eighth meeting of the season 1896–97 was held at Effingham House on Friday, the 11th December, 1896, at 7.30 p.m. The following members were in attendance, viz.: Major Evans, and Messrs. E. D. Bacon, A. R. Barrett, T. W. Hall, R. Meyer, G. B. Routledge, R. Pearce, T. Maycock, Gordon Smith, and J. A. Tilleard.

Major Evans having taken the chair, in the absence of the Vice-President, the minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed.

The Secretary reported the receipt from Mr. Ewen of his album of British stamps, and from Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Limited, of a card with illustrations and descriptions of the two types of stamps from the general Colonial plates.

Mr. Bacon read a letter from Mr. Gibb, sending for inspection by members attending the meeting a 10 cent Canadian envelope stamp of their first issue printed in red. The specimen forwarded has apparently done postal duty, and is probably an error printed in the colour of the 5 cent stamp.

Major Evans then read a further portion of his paper on the "Stamps of Mauritius," dealing chiefly with the adhesive stamps and envelopes supplied by Messrs. De la Rue and Co., down to the end of the unwatermarked series.

On the motion of Mr. Tilleard, seconded by Mr. Bacon, the thanks of the meeting were voted to Major Evans for his most interesting paper; and arrangements were made for the reading of the concluding portion of the paper at the first meeting in the new year.

*

The ninth meeting of the season was held at Effingham House on Friday, the 18th December, 1896, at 7.30 p.m., the following members being present, viz.: Messrs. M. P. Castle, E. D. Bacon, H. R. Oldfield, R. Ehrenbach, R. Meyer, G. B. Routledge, F. F. Burghard, T. Maycock, A. R. Barrett, C. McNaughtan, Gordon Smith, R. Pearce, T. W. Hall, J. A. Tilleard, and B. D. Knox. One visitor also attended.

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

The Secretary read a letter from Mr. Luff, acknowledging the receipt of the books given by the Society for the library of the New York Club, and one from Mr. D. Montague Jacobs, sending specimens for the Society of some of the values of the Cape stamps overprinted for use in British South Africa.

The Vice-President having referred to the loss sustained by the Society and Philately through the death of Mr. Gilbert Lockyer, moved "That the members of the Philatelic Society, London, have heard with very great regret of the death of Mr. Gilbert Lockyer, and desire to express their sincere sympathy with Mrs. Lockyer in her affliction."

The resolution was seconded by Mr. Bacon, and duly passed.

Mr. Hall then produced for inspection by members present his very fine collection of the stamps of Peru, and read a very interesting series of notes which he had prepared in reference to the various issues, and the intricate subject of the various surcharges employed. On the motion of Mr. Castle, seconded by Mr. Bacon, the

thanks of the meeting were voted to Mr. Hall for affording the opportunity of examining his collection, which was much admired, and for the carefully prepared notes which he had read.

THE tenth meeting of the season was held at Effingham House on Friday, the 8th January, 1897, at 7.30 p.m. The members in attendance were Major Evans, Messrs. E. D. Bacon, C. N. Biggs, R. Ehrenbach, R. Meyer, T. Maycock, A. R. Barrett, C. McNaughtan, E. J. Nankivell, R. Pearce, Gordon Smith, B. D. Knox, G. B. Routledge, and J. A. Tilleard.

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

The Secretary read a letter from Mr. C. Harrison, resigning his membership, and the resignation was directed to be accepted with regret.

A letter from the Vice-President of the French Society, in regard to copies of this Society's works required for his Society, was also read, and the Secretary was directed to ascertain to what works the enquiry related, and to endeavour to comply with the request.

Mr. R. Frentzel and Mr. N. H. Withee, both proposed by the Secretary and seconded by the Assistant Secretary; Mr. J. S. O'Meara, proposed by Mr. Donald A. King, and seconded by Major Evans; Prince Doria Pamphilj, proposed by M. Pio Fabri, and seconded by Major Evans; and Mr. A. H. Stamford, proposed by Mr. Firth, and seconded by Mr. Beckwith, were elected members of the Society.

Major Evans then read the concluding portion of his paper on the "Stamps of Mauritius," prepared for the Society's work on the Stamps of the African Colonies, and the very hearty thanks of the meeting were voted to him for his most interesting paper, on the motion of Mr. Biggs, seconded by Mr. Bacon.

THE eleventh meeting of the season was held at Effingham House on Friday, the 15th January, 1897, at 7.30 p.m. The following members were present, in addition to one visitor, viz.: Messrs. M. P. Castle, E. D. Bacon, W. B. Avery, H. R. Oldfield, R. Ehrenbach, R. Meyer, W. Silk, G. B. Routledge, H. Hetley, C. N. Biggs, T. Maycock, A. R. Barrett, E. A. Elliott, C. McNaughtan, E. J. Nankivell, R. Pearce, Gordon Smith, J. A. Tilleard, and B. D. Knox.

The chair having been taken by the Vice-President, and the minutes of the last meeting read and confirmed, a discussion arose as to the hour for holding of meetings, and it was determined that for the future the meetings should commence at 7.45 p.m. punctually.

Mr. Gordon Smith then produced, for inspection by members present, his fine collection of the stamps of South Australia, and gave a very clear description of the various issues. In dealing with the question of the 10d. stamp, he explained the six types of the surcharge, and his reasons for adhering to the opinion that the types are limited to this number, a view which was entirely concurred in by the members attending the meeting, notwithstanding the theory which has been recently advanced by another collector as to the existence of a larger number of types. On the motion of Mr. Avery, seconded by Mr. Bacon, a very hearty vote of thanks was accorded to Mr. Gordon Smith for the display he had given, and for his interesting explanation of the stamps shown.

BIRMINGHAM PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

President—W. T. WILSON, ESQ.
Hon. Sec. and Treas.—MR. G. JOHNSON, B.A.,
208, *Birchfield Road, Birmingham.*

December 17th.—Display: U.S.A.

Messrs. Sallo Epstein (Transvaal), C. C. Morency (Canada), W. M. Thompson (N.S.W.), A. Schlachter (U.S.A.), were elected members.

Then followed the display of the stamps of U.S.A., including the collections of Messrs. Pimm, Stephenson, and Johnson, with some fine selections belonging to the President, including a superb set of current type Engraver's Proofs from the matrix dies, and a fine lot of 90 c. of First Issue.

The December packets were again a record far in advance of any circulated in this or any other Society. The totals were :

"A" Packet (mixed) .	£1506	8	4½
"B" ,, (Colonials) .	2016	6	7
"C" ,, (foreign) .	489	18	0½
	£4012	13	0

The packets for the whole year have amounted to £28,230 9*s.* 5*d.*, without counting any "special" sheets sent to foreign members. They have thus formed the finest and most valuable series that have ever been circulated. What is still more remarkable, to the nervous ones who talk about a fall in prices, is the fact that at no time in the history of the Society have sales been more satisfactory, and the members are all anxious for even still more valuable lots.

January 7th.—Paper: "Cape of Good Hope," by G. Johnson.

Messrs. R. Dalton (Bristol), W. A. Abraham (British Guiana), T. H. Nicolle (N.S.W.), J. H. Smyth (N.S.W.), Paul de Smeth (Belgium), E. H. Atchley (Bristol), Mario Pires M. B. de Lima (Portugal), were unanimously elected members.

Votes of thanks were given to Messrs. Stanley Gibbons for their Catalogue, and to Mr. W. C. Stone for two annual numbers of the *American Philatelist.*

The Hon. Sec. then read his paper on the "Stamps of the Cape of Good Hope."

Dates, etc., taken from London Society's *Africa*, Part I. Particulars *re* Wood Block Reprint were given by Captain C. Norris Newman.

THE BRADFORD PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

THE December meeting of this Society was held on the 1st of that month, Mr. George Park occupying the chair. The formal business of the meeting having been disposed of, Mr. H. W. Atkinson gave a paper on the "Stamps of Uruguay," which was illustrated with a very nice collection of this country. Mr. Atkinson, at the outset, stated the great difficulty he had experienced in getting any information regarding the postage issues of this country. He, however, imparted a good deal of information to the members present, and it was the universal impression that Uruguay deserved more attention than it had hitherto received at the hands of Philatelists.

W. H. SCOTT,
1, PICCADILLY, BRADFORD. *Hon. Secretary.*

BRIGHTON AND SUSSEX PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

Hon. President—BARON DE WORMS.
President—M. P. CASTLE.
Acting Hon. Secretary—W. T. WILLETT, West House, Brighton.

THE first meeting of the season 1896-97 was held at Markwell's Hotel, Brighton, on Monday, October 19th, at 8.15 p.m. Six members were present, Mr. Stafford Smith in the chair. After the minutes of the previous meeting had been read and confirmed, the librarian acknowledged the receipt of several magazines, and votes of thanks to the donors were passed. The programme for the season was commenced and adjourned to the next meeting.

THE second meeting was held on Tuesday, November 3rd. Nine members attended, the President in the chair. The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, letters were read from members saying that it would be more convenient to them if meetings were held on Tuesdays instead of Mondays, and after a short discussion this was decided upon.

The following resolution was put to the meeting and carried *nem. con.*:—"That the last meeting of the season shall be constituted the Annual General Meeting." The programme for the season was then proceeded with and completed.

THE third meeting was held on Tuesday, November 17th. Seven members were present, the President in the chair. After the minutes of the previous meeting had been read and confirmed, the President read some notes on the stamps of France, illustrated by his superb collection of this country. Among the most prominent stamps exhibited

may be mentioned — 1849 *Republic*, six specimens of the 1 fr., orange, from pale vermilion to Venetian red, 15 c. green, a page of shades, including a strip of three and all the other values of the first issue in many shades, all being unused. The Presidency and imperforate Empire sets were also very strong, including blocks, &c., of all values in mint condition. The *tête-bêches* of the early issues were also all shown, while in the later series of the Empire and the Bordeaux Republic every known shade was exhibited.

THE fourth meeting was held on Tuesday, December 1st. Eight members and one visitor were present. Mr. Seymour Burrows took the chair. The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. An exhibition of rare and interesting stamps then took place. Several of the members present showed some rare and curious varieties. There may be specially mentioned—two proofs of Ceylon envelopes hitherto unchronicled, viz., the 8d. and 9d. engine-turned trace on vertically lined paper. Unused copies of the 3 lire, Tuscany, 12d. Canada, 1862 provisionals of British Guiana, 2/6 on *bleuté* of Great Britain, 1d. and 2d. post paid Mauritius in the first state of the plate, and a pair of 10 gr., Hanover. Many other rarities and minor varieties were also shown.

THE fifth meeting was held on Tuesday, 15th December. Twelve members attended. The President in the chair. After the minutes of the previous meeting had been read and confirmed, a letter was read from a member resigning his membership, which was directed to be acknowledged with regret. The Librarian reported the receipt of Mr. Ewen's album for the stamps of Great Britain, and was instructed to tender Mr. Ewen the best thanks of the Society. Mr. E. J. W. Sang then conducted an Auction of postage stamps, which proved a great success. Upwards of ninety lots were submitted, and bidding was most keen for the more desirable stamps. At the conclusion of the sale it was announced that a very respectable total had been reached. A sincere and hearty vote of thanks was accorded Mr. Sang for the great trouble he had taken in arranging and conducting the sale.

THE sixth meeting was held on Tuesday, December 29th. Eleven members were present. The President in the chair. The President read some notes on the stamps of Oldenburg, exhibiting at the same time his splendid collection of this country, and explaining the several points of interest in the various issues. The first issue with its varieties of type as regards the $\frac{1}{30}$th and $\frac{1}{15}$th was shown complete, Mr. Castle pointing out the several details of the differing types. Many fine unused specimens of the first issue were noticed, including unsevered blocks and a unique pair of Type 2 of the $\frac{1}{15}$th. The second issue included all varieties used and unused. Among the former was included a strip of three $\frac{1}{3}$ gr., black on green. In the third issue the President carefully explained all the lithographic errors, showing specimens of all known, as also the two series of printings for this set. In the last issue attention was drawn to the two sets of roulettes, the former gauging $11\frac{3}{4}$, and the latter 10 to 12 mm., and Mr. Castle showed that there were still many interesting (if neglected) minor varieties to be found among these stamps. The collection, which is complete in almost everything, unused and used, was greatly appreciated by the members present, and at the close of Mr. Castle's remarks a most cordial vote of thanks to him was unanimously carried.

PLYMOUTH PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

SESSION 1896-7.

President—CAPTAIN G. H. W. STOCKDALE, R.E.

Treasurer and Hon. Secretary—W. J. W. MILLER.

THE second ordinary meeting was held at the Society's Rooms, 9*a*, Princess Square, on Wednesday, October 21st, at 7.30 p.m. There were seven members and one visitor present. Mr. Mayne in the chair.

Dr. M. H. Bulteel, of Durnford Street, Stonehouse, and Mr. W. Pryor, of 9, Westwell Street, Plymouth, were unanimously elected ordinary members of the Society.

The Hon. Secretary then read a paper on the "Stamps of Greece." He dealt with the early or French design only (*i.e.* up to the beginning of 1886), the Hon. Secretary illustrating his paper with his own collection, and several other members brought their collections for the same purpose. At the conclusion a vote of thanks was passed to the Hon. Secretary.

THE third ordinary meeting of the session was held at 9*a*, Princess Square, on Wednesday, November 4th, at 7.30 p.m. The Vice-President (Mr. R. T. Stevens) in the chair, supported by nine members and two visitors.

The Vice-President having informed the meeting that owing to pressure of private work the Hon. Sec. would be compelled to be temporarily assisted in his duties, it was arranged that Mr. F. A. Cocks, R.N., should take charge of the Society's library, and the Vice-President should call the meetings, &c., pending the appointment of another member. The Hon. Sec. consented to continue the Treasurer's work and correspondence.

Mr. J. E. V. Morton, R.N. (Stonehouse), was elected an ordinary member of the Society; Mr. E. Honeysett (Stoke), Mr. G. Hutson (Glasgow), and Mr. K. Thakur (Bombay), being elected corresponding members.

The Vice-President introduced as the subject of study the stamps of Gibraltar and Malta, and illustrated his remarks by the exhibition of his own collection. An interesting discussion took place on the dies used for the production of the "De La Rue" series; and a very pleasant evening was brought to a close by a vote of thanks to the Vice-President for his interesting paper.

THE fourth ordinary meeting was held at 9*a*, Princess Square, on Wednesday, November 18th, at 7.30 p.m. The Vice-President (Mr. R. T. Stevens) in the chair, supported by six members and two visitors.

The subject of study, the "Stamps of Cyprus," was introduced by the Vice-President, who illustrated his remarks by his own collection, and showed specimens of the different dies of the De La Rue types for the information of members.

A vote of thanks to the Vice-President for his interesting paper brought the meeting to a close.

THE fifth ordinary meeting was held at 9*a*, Princess Square, at 7.30 p.m., on Wednesday, December 2nd, 1896. The Vice-President (Mr. R. T. Stevens) in the chair, supported by eight members and three visitors.

The Hon. Secretary reported the receipt of the usual journals, and various publications and price lists, which were accepted with thanks of the Society.

Mr. J. R. Divett (Tavistock), Mr. K. J. D. Edwards (Stonehouse), and Mr. R. S. Triggs (Stonehouse), were elected ordinary members of the Society; Mr. W. G. Bowden (Cardiff), and Mr. R. R. Hoare (H.M.S. *Magnificent*), being elected corresponding members.

Mr. W. E. Harvey was appointed to assist the Hon. Sec. in accordance with the decision arrived at at the third ordinary meeting of the Society.

The subject of study, "The Stamps of Victoria," was introduced by Mr. H. W. Mayne, who, condensing his remarks into the space of one evening, referred only to some of the stamps of special interest, particularly those comprised in the "Tapling" Collection. The members were shown, by specimens from his collection, the difference in the dies used for the 3d., 1st issue, and some very fine specimens of the stamps to which he referred, particularly noticeable among them being the 1862 2d., lilac, wmkd. "Three pence," which was in fine unused condition.

An interesting discussion followed, the Vice-President supplementing Mr. Mayne's remarks with some valuable information, illustrated by his collection. He pointed out that the stamps under discussion afforded one of the best fields for specializing, there being such a variety of perforations and so-called "errors of wmk." He placed on view a fine specimen on original envelope of a very fine impression of the 3d., 1st issue, and stated that it was postmarked with probably one of the earliest dates yet discovered.

A hearty vote of thanks was accorded Mr. Mayne for his very interesting paper.

"The Stamps of Norway" was decided upon as the subject for study for the next meeting, to be introduced by the Hon. Sec.

W. J. W. MILLER, *Hon. Sec.*

5, ATHENÆUM TERRACE, PLYMOUTH.

Correspondence.

COMMUNICATIONS.—*All communications on Philatelic matters and Publications for Review should be addressed to the Editor of* THE LONDON PHILATELIST, Kingston Lodge, Richmond Place, Brighton.

ADVERTISEMENTS *should be sent to* MR. H. M. GOOCH (Advertising Department), Effingham House, Arundel Street, London, W.C.

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. ($1.50). *Subscribers' remittances should be sent to* Mr. H. M. GOOCH, EFFINGHAM HOUSE, ARUNDEL STREET, STRAND, LONDON, W.C.

THE "SURCHARGE."

To the Editor of the "London Philatelist."

SIR,—What is a surcharge? The word itself is compounded of "sur," derived, through the French, from the Latin "super," and retaining the original significance of *over, above, upon:* and "charge," which has a delightfully varied assortment of meanings. Putting aside a number of evidently inapplicable definitions, such as care, responsibility, office, &c., we have, in ordinary language :—

First: load, or burden. Surcharged—overloaded!

This would do nicely to describe such monstrosities as Mauritius, 2 c. on 38 c. on 9d.; or St. Vincent, 1d. on 2½d. on 1d.; and certain S. American productions; but hardly applies as a general rule. So we go on to:—

Second: Cost or Expense. Surcharged—Extra expense.

This is undoubtedly the sense in which the Post Office authorities understand the word; for we have actually Colonial stamps, lettered "Surcharged Postage," used for the purpose of collecting the sum due upon delivery of a wholly or partly unpaid letter. In fact, it is the technical Postal term equivalent to the French "Surtaxe," and the German "Nachporto." *Surcharge Stamps* is, therefore, the correct name for those which we now incorrectly term "Unpaid Letter Stamps."

This seems very clear, and should be decisive. For, since Philately deals solely with Postal affairs and productions, its language ought surely to be that of the Post Office, where there are different meanings for any word. However that may, or ought to be, it is certain that such is not the accepted Philatelic significance of the word.

Heraldry tells us that a charge is "any design or device placed upon a shield"; therefore a surcharge should be "one device placed upon another."

I may here remark that I have searched in vain for the word in this sense in every dictionary and work on Heraldry in my possession.

Supposing that the word exists in that sense, does it apply to stamps? A stamp is not a shield in any sense of the word; nor can a name or a new value be termed a *device* in the heraldic sense. (In another sense it is a device, and a very poor one). We might apply the term to such cases as that of the Arms of Chili on stamps of Peru, or even to those wonderful heads and arms (no pun intended) placed by Peru and others on their own issues; but not to mere words.

Thus it appears that the accepted meaning of surcharge is Postally wrong and heraldically wrong, which two wrongs make one Philatelic right!

This is not as it should be.

How does it sound to describe a letter, in Grenada for example, as franked with a stamp of 1d., surcharged on 8d., and further surcharged 1d. on delivery? The word is first used as a Philatelic term, and then in its Postal sense. Why should these two be different; and, again, why go out of our way to substitute another word for our good English "overprint"?

"Surcharge" is already appropriated by the Post Office to denote a sum to be paid on delivery; and the abbreviation "s" is generally used to denote the word "specimen" printed across the stamp; from both of which objections the term "overprint" is free.

I am aware that Mr. Hinton proposes to use this word as distinguishing stamps, like those of St. Helena, which were never intended for use without the overprint, but do not think he will find many adherents.

I also may share the same fate, in spite of which I shall always prefer Postal terms for Philately to those drawn more or less correctly from other sciences and arts.

Yours truly,

ERNEST A. ELLIOTT.

41, HOLLAND PARK, W.
4th January, 1897.

A SUBJECT INDEX OF STAMPS.

DEAR SIR,—Permit me to draw your attention to the fact that some years ago I compiled "An Index of English Stamp Magazines from 1862 to 1889," which appeared in *The Philatelic Journal of Great Britain* for October, 1891, and subsequent issues of that magazine, a fact which neither you, nor Mr. Bellamy, nor the Editor of the magazine in which the articles appeared, seem to be aware of.

The following table, showing the magazines indexed, may be of interest to your readers:

Titles of Magazines.	Volumes Indexed.	Dates.
Stamp Collectors' Review	I–II ...	1862–1864
Stamp Collectors' Magazine	I–XII ...	1863–1874
Philatelist	I–X ...	1866–1876
Philatelical Journal . .	I–II ...	1872–1875
Alfred Smith & Co.'s Monthly Circular	Nos. 1–180 ...	1875–1889
Philatelic Quarterly .	Nos. 1–11 ...	1877–1879
Philatelic Record . .	I–XI ...	1879–1889
Stamp Collectors' Annual .	I ...	1881
Foreign Stamp Collectors' Journal	I–VI ...	1878–1883
Afterwards Stamp Collectors' Journal .	VI–XI ...	1883–1889
Stamp News . . .	I–V ...	1882–1887

Yours truly,
T. MARTIN WEARS.

Craggan Mhôr, Wormit-on-Tay.
9th January, 1897.

THE NIGER COAST STAMPS.

DEAR SIR,—I am glad you inserted my letter in November number, as it has drawn such interesting remarks from Mr. Walter Morley. As a result, I have carefully examined a quantity of 1st Issue Niger Coast Stamps that strangely came in my way soon after I wrote you the note published in November. The result confirms what Mr. Morley writes on several points, but I think I can add thereto.

I have found one of the 1s., on medium thick yellow wove, perforated 14½ at top and bottom, 12 (not 12½), for 21 mm. down from the top, on both sides, and then a clear 14 for the remainder. I suppose this can justly be called a "compound perf"?

I have also seen some blocks of the 1d. with margins bearing the printer's reference numbers, and have noted—

1st. Very dark blue, perf. 15, sheet numbered 15.
2nd. Med. pale ,, ,, 14 ,, unnumbered.
3rd. Very ,, ,, ,, 14½ ,, numbered 195.

The two shades of 5d. are also well known to me, and, though now chronicled in Gibbons' Part I. of new Price List, have been noted by me for a list I prepared some months ago. Possibly three shades of this value might also be found, as I am informed the issue referred to was printed in three separate lots, each containing all the values, and they were sent out as printed. The small quantities were necessitated by the extremely damp climate, the gum being absorbed by the paper in the course of a short time.

I have three distinct papers for the 1s., the grey being the most common, so far as the specimens I have been fortunate enough to see are concerned.

As to the 2nd Issue, I have not had many copies for examination; but I have in my own collection two distinct shades of ½d., 2d., and 2½d.

I recently had presented to me a used copy of the surcharge "One Half Penny," in block type, on the 2½d., blue, with value and figures barred out; and, on examination, I find the letter N has partly missed printing, and the word reads OI E.

I trust this second note of mine may result in some further discoveries, for there is doubtless still much to be learned, especially about the vagaries of Messrs. Waterlow's perforating machine, which bids fair to soon leave the Barbados, Trinidad, and S. Vincent perfs. well behind in the race.

Yours faithfully,
CHARLES H. ROCK.

THE GREEK OLYMPIAN STAMPS.

DEAR SIR,—I wrote to Athens the other day respecting the Olympian Games Stamps, and my friend replied as follows:—

"The Olympian Stamps will be replaced on the 13th March next by a new regular issue of two types, if the new stamps are ready by that time. Your countrymen were unjust to consider the Olympian as speculative stamps. The Government issued them as a reminiscence of the Games, and in order to replace the old ones, the plates of which were worn."

As the stamps of Greece are now attracting well-deserved attention, I thought your readers would like to know how our opinion of this issue is received in Greece.

Yours faithfully,
W. H. EARL.

Jan. 16th, 1897.

The Market.

MESSRS. VENTOM, BULL, & COOPER

December 15th and 16th, 1896.

	£	s.	d.
Spain, 1851, 2 reales, red (fair)	18	0	0
Switzerland. *Basle*, 2½ rap.	3	15	0
Tuscany, 1853, 1 soldo, pale yellow, unused	5	0	0
Straits Settlements, first issue complete, unused	4	4	0
Nova Scotia, 6d., dark green, unused	4	6	0
United States, 1856, 90 c., blue, unused	3	7	6
P.S.N. Co., 1 real, blue, used, on piece of original	8	0	0
Barbados, 1d. on half 5s., rose, pair showing the two varieties of figure 1, surcharge running from right to left	15	0	0
Ditto, a single specimen, unused, left half of 5s., with surcharge running from left to right	14	0	0
British Guiana, 1850, 12 c., black on blue, unused, cut to shape	10	10	0
1851, 1 c., blk. on magenta, unused	4	17	6
1853, 1 c., vermilion, horizontal strip of four	5	10	0
1856, 4 c., black on crimson, measuring 43×48 mm.	8	10	0
Ditto, ditto, specimen measuring 43×37 mm.	6	0	0
1862, Provisional 1 c., black on rose, border of pearls	5	5	0
Ditto, ditto, 4 c., black on blue, trefoil border	7	0	0
British Honduras, CC, perf. 14, 6d., rose, unused	3	17	6
Ditto, CA, 6d., yellow, and 1s. grey, unused	4	12	6
Nevis, lithographed, 6d., grey	12	12	0
Trinidad, 1862–63, 1s., purple-blue, unused	5	10	0

MESSRS. PUTTICK & SIMPSON.

January 5th and 6th.

	£	s.	d.
Great Britain, 3d., Plate 4, spray, block of 8, unused	23	0	0
Naples, ½ tornese, "cross," on piece of original	3	17	6
Oldenburg, second issue, ½ gros., green, unused, no gum	5	10	0
Spain, 1853, 2 reales, red, unused	8	0	0
Switzerland, *Vaud*, 4 centimes (top margin repaired)	15	0	0
Ceylon, imperf., 8d., brown	14	0	0
Ditto, ditto, 1s. 9d., green	3	10	0
British East Africa, surcharged on Co.'s stamps, set of 15, unused	10	15	0
Mauritius, Britannia, 1s., green, block of 8, unused	12	0	0
Ditto, 12d., blk., laid paper, unused	67	0	0
Ditto, 6d., grey-violet, perf.	4	15	0
New Brunswick, 1s., mauve	19	15	0
Ditto, "Connell," 5 cts., unused	19	0	0
New Brunswick, 6½d., carmine-vermilion, unused (no gum)	10	0	0
Canada, 7½d., green, imperf.	3	0	0
Newfoundland, 6d., car.-vermilion	8	0	0
Ditto, 1s., ditto	20	0	0
Ditto, 1s., orange (fair)	7	0	0
Nova Scotia, 6d., yellow-green, unused, no gum	6	5	0
United States, periodicals, 1 c. to 860 (except 9 c.), unused	15	15	0
Bahamas, no wmk., perf. 16, 4d., rose, block of 6, unused	17	0	0
Ditto, ditto, 6d., grey-violet, a pair unused	8	0	0
Nevis, 6d., green	7	15	0
Trinidad, lithograph, 1d., dark blue, early impression	5	10	0
Ditto, ditto, 1d., bright blue, early impression	3	10	0
Ditto, pin perf., 1d., rose, corner block of 4, unused, with margins	7	0	0
Ditto, ditto, 4d., dull violet, block of 4, ditto	10	10	0
Ditto, ditto, 6d., green, block of 4 ditto	6	0	0
Ditto, clean cut perf. 15½, 1d., rose, block of 4, ditto	3	16	0
Virgin Islands, CC, perf. 14 (1st type), 1d., green, complete sheet	14	14	0
New Zealand, half of 1s., green, on blue paper, used as 6d., on original cover, dated August 31st, 1858	10	0	0

MESSRS. CHEVELEY & CO.

December 21st and 22nd, 1896.

	£	s.	d.
France, 1 franc, orange	5	0	0
Great Britain, 1870, 1½d., lilac-rose, block of 4, unused	5	5	0
Ditto, 8d., brown, unused	4	7	6
Hamburg, imperf., 9 sch.	3	6	0
Wurtemburg, 70 kr., dark lilac	3	4	0
Ceylon, imperf., 4d., rose	15	10	0
Ditto do. 8d., brown	24	0	0
Ditto do. 2s., blue	3	15	0
Johor, 2 c. on 24 c., green, *error* "CENST"	3	7	6
Buenos Ayres, 4 pesos, red (fair)	13	0	0
Ditto, 5 pesos, orange	17	10	0
Canada, 6d., perf., unused	7	0	0
Nevis, perf. 15, 1s., green	4	0	0
Ditto, lithograph, 6d., olive, unused (No. 8)	13	5	0
Nevis, CA, 6d., green, pair, unused	13	15	0
St. Christopher, CA, 4d., blue, unused	5	2	6
St. Vincent, wmk. star, 1d., drab, unused	4	0	0
Trinidad, CC, perf. 12½, 5s., lake, block of 4, unused	6	5	0
United States, "State," 20 dols., pen-cancelled	5	5	0

THE

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A Seebeck Census.



E are indebted to the columns of our esteemed contemporary the *Timbre-Poste* for the following enumeration of the stamps issued under the Seebeck *régime* during the past six years:—

	Stamps.	Official Stamps.	Envs.	Wrappers.	Cards.	Unpaid.	Telegraph Stamps.
Honduras .	55	22	24	16	20		
Nicaragua .	70	72	35	21	28	7	64
Salvador .	132	37	100	32	39	16	
Ecuador .	48	38	15	2	6	6	43
	305	169	174	71	93	29	107

Total (adding 20 letter cards, etc.) 968!

This averages no less than 161 fresh varieties per annum for these four South American Republics, and the figures bear their own condemnation. Our Belgian contemporary devotes a considerable amount of good honest satire anent the good intentions and paper assurances of Mr. Seebeck and the Republics in question, and shares with ourselves but the scantiest respect therefor in view of the actual figures.

The real opinion of the vast body of collectors throughout the whole world is dead against these stamps, and even with respect to the minority who still collect or esteem them, we consider it our duty to again emphasise the facts relating to them. On previous occasions we have called attention to the abuses of the Seebeck system (*inter alia*), and may have, in certain quarters, failed to please, as the accusation has been made that this journal is not in favour of New Issues. This hardly needs any refutation; the appearance of new stamps, especially when the circumstances are politically or geographically interesting, or where the design is handsome or the

execution good, they must be welcomed alike by the collector, the dealer, or the journalist. Such a fresh issue is consistent evidence of the growth of the Postal system, whose indices are the very things that we collect, and they appeal, by their obvious facility of acquisition, alike to the veteran who is otherwise complete, or the neophyte who has practically nothing. There can be no hostility towards New Issues prepared for public requirements, but only towards those that are produced to further private ends, and are made in order that collectors may be laid under contribution. These latter Postal contrabands should be decried by all who are desirous of the *permanency* of Philately, and nothing can better serve that end than the endeavour to point out to all and sundry the true value and merits of their purchases. It is better that the minority already referred to, who collect these Seebecks, should understand that, in expending money or time upon stamps produced by the million for ultra-Postal purposes, they are laying by no harvest for the future, and it is therefore in their real interests that Philatelic journals should fearlessly express their opinions. Confidence is the root and essence of Philately: there is nothing that so undermines stability of any pursuit as withholding true knowledge of its dangers, and it is better for all that the drawbacks as well as the advantages of Philately should be openly criticised in those journals who have its real interests at heart.

Notes on the First Locally-Printed Stamps of New Zealand.

A Paper communicated to the Philatelic Society, London, and Read at the Meeting of February 7th, 1896.

By CHARLES H. MOTTRAM.

IT will probably be remembered that in my first paper on the stamps of New Zealand, read before this Society in January, 1895, and subsequently published in the *London Philatelist*,* I noted a few historic facts concerning the establishment of British rule in the Colony in 1840.

I also traced the career of the Crown Colony down to the passing, by the Imperial Parliament, of the *Constitution Act*, 1852, granting representative government, and powers to subdivide New Zealand, which henceforward became, and remained for several years, a federation of six semi-independent Provinces, controlled to a certain extent only by the General Government seated at Auckland.

Proceeding onwards, and dealing throughout with the principal items of the *Colonial Postal Service and Early Rates*, I concluded with the event bearing on *the first issue of stamps, on July 13th*, 1855, and from official

* *The London Philatelist*, May and June, 1895.

information which I had collected, *I sought to show to what extent the three values*, namely, the *One Penny*, *Twopence*, and *One Shilling* (selected for currency in that year by the Colonial Government), *could be utilised by the public.* The evidence, however, according to *the rates in force, seemed to point to the almost exclusive use, during the first two years, of the Twopence value.*

I originally intended to include some suggestions on matters which require explanation, with regard to the stamps printed locally by Mr. J. Richardson, of Auckland, after the plates and "*star*" watermarked sheets printed therefrom, in London, had been received in the Colony, but I deemed it wiser to reserve the publication of that portion of my paper until the promised official information of Mr. A. T. Bate, of Wellington, New Zealand, relative to the early stamps, had been published in this Society's Journal.*

The discovery by Mr. Bate of recorded particulars, in the form of correspondence and accounts, relating to the *first* printing of postage stamps under the supervision of the Colonial Government (the major part of the records of the postal and other departments having, we hear, been lost in 1865, by the wreck of the *White Swan*), is, without doubt, of supreme importance and assistance in compiling a history of the issues, substituting, as it does, facts in place of speculation relative to the production of the *early New Zealand stamps.*

Mr. E. D. Bacon most carefully arranged Mr. Bate's extracts for publication, and also added some very useful notes to them.

I propose in this paper to offer some remarks on this valuable addition to our previous knowledge of these interesting stamps, and furthermore to give the result of a search I have been engaged upon, for the purpose of gleaning a few particulars of statistical interest.

Before doing so, I will refer shortly to the discoloration of the "*star*" paper, observable in some of the stamps of the first issue, in 1855, known as

The "Bleuté" Paper Variety.

It having been proved by Mr. Bacon that the three values of the first set of New Zealand were printed by Messrs. Perkins, Bacon & Co., on paper watermarked with a large six-rayed star,† and, moreover, that the colour of the *One Penny* was "*deep carmine-red*,"‡ and the *Twopence* "*greenish blue*"§ —while it is also known to Philatelists that the *One Shilling, yellow-green*, on paper of a *bluish tinge*, may safely be assigned to the supply sent out to the Colony in 1854 by the before-mentioned firm—*the London-printed stamps, therefore, can thus be readily distinguished by their several colours or shades from any of the local printings on "star" watermarked paper*, which, according

* *The London Philatelist*, August, 1895.
† *The London Philatelist*, October, 1892.
‡ *The London Philatelist*, August, 1893.
§ *Stanley Gibbons' Monthly Journal*, November, 1892.

to the statement made by the late Mr. John Davies, "*was used for the first time in Auckland, in February*, 1862."*

Mr. Bate's information fixes the time when the first printing of stamps took place in the Colony, and therefore it has removed all doubt as to whether impressions of the three values found printed in the above-mentioned colours, on "*bleuté*" and on *white "star" paper respectively, were, in both cases, printed in London, or in one instance only, as surmised by some writers.*

He gives November 5th, 1855, as the date when Mr. Richardson commenced printing for the Colonial Government. Consequently the copies of the *Twopence* in the "*Tapling*" *collection* at the British Museum, affixed to portions of their original letter-sheets, dated August 1st, 1855, and described by Mr. Bacon in *Stanley Gibbons' Monthly Journal* for November, 1892, as printed on *white "star" paper;* and the specimens of the same value on letters dated in August and October, 1855, in the collections of two New Zealand Philatelists, and stated by them to be printed on "*bleuté star*" *paper*,† all show, therefore, by their dates of use that they formed part of the *275 sheets* of the *Twopence* value *printed in London in* 1854 by Messrs. Perkins, Bacon & Co.

Mr. Bacon, in 1893, made known the fact that he had found a pair of the London-printed *One Penny*, "*deep carmine-red*," on "*star*" paper, still in the hands of Messrs. Perkins, Bacon & Co., but that these copies had no trace of *blueing* in the paper; and he is, moreover, of opinion that the *50 sheets* of this value printed by the above firm *were all of white paper*, and that the *ink* employed *closely resembled in shade the first Twopence, carmine-red, imperforate, of South Australia*, printed by them in the same year as the New Zealand stamps, namely 1854. *The former also, he says, has never been found in the "bleuté state."*

The 33 sheets and 80 stamps of the *One Shilling* (to make up a total face-value of £1000 derived from the London printing from the three plates) are, I believe, only known in the "*bleuté*" condition.

It will be, however, for specialists to determine whether *two sets* can be made up, of the *Twopence* and *One Shilling* values, representing both the "*bleuté*" and *white "star" paper varieties* respectively.‡

The foregoing facts, deduced from existing *dated copies* of the *Twopence* value, show that the London printing, from whatever cause, was responsible for the *presence* of a blue tinge in the paper of some of the sheets, and the *absence* of it in others. *In any case the issue and use in the Colony of both varieties were simultaneous, and prior to the first local printing of November*, 1855, *on paper the quality of which has yet to be discovered.*

* *The Philatelic Record*, September, 1889.

† *Stanley Gibbons' Monthly Journal*, October, 1892.

‡ Since writing the above notes, I have been informed (*June*, 1896) by Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Limited, that two or three copies of the *One Penny*, of the London printing, with a "*bleuté*" appearance in the paper, have recently passed through their hands. But I have not had the opportunity of inspecting these impressions. And Mr. Bacon tells me he did not see them either.—C. H. M.

The First Local Printing.

A perusal of Mr. Bate's interesting information, disclosing much that it is important to know with regard to the first stamps produced in the Colony, still leaves us with a desire to ascertain, if possible, *firstly*, why an exclusive printing of the *One Penny* value was decided upon, when the *Twopence only* was required, for single letters of half an ounce in weight, both for postage in the Colony and to places beyond seas; and, *secondly*, what kind of paper was employed for the earliest local printing.

In seeking for a solution of these two questions, the regrettable lack of official record on the subject compels me (as has frequently been the case with other writers in relation to early postal issues) to resort to the adoption of theory, a method which I feel bound to say I am much opposed to, it having been proved in many cases to be inconclusive and unsatisfactory.

Future discovery, however, in the form of old correspondence still bearing specimens of the early stamps which franked it, may be the means of endorsing some, or perhaps all, of the following propositions.

The decision of the New Zealand Government to have the plates and all necessary appliances for the printing of the stamps therefrom forwarded to the Colony in 1854, doubtless arose from a conviction that a due supply of labels could not, with any degree of regularity, be obtained from London in those early days, the passage by sailing-ship occupying at that time about five months each way, and the mail packet boats from England to Australia having been meanwhile withdrawn and requisitioned for service by the British Government during our contest with Russia in the Crimea.

Nevertheless, after a perusal of the published correspondence between the Colonial Secretary's Department and Mr. J. Richardson, revealing the details adopted at the first printing in the Colony, it appears to me that the Government did not find itself thoroughly prepared for such an undertaking.

There being no Government Printing Department at that period in Auckland, and the printers of *The General Government Gazette*, Messrs. Williamson and Wilson, apparently for some reason, were not selected to print the stamps, a stationer in the town was found more suitable to receive the contract.

The latter, oddly enough, had, on removal from other premises, inserted in one of the public journals, *The New Zealander*, a notice to that effect on July 14th, 1855, the day following the issue of the first stamps at Auckland.

As the name of that personage has by this time become somewhat famous, in connection with the printing of the early stamps for the New Zealand Government, it may not be out of place to quote *in extenso* the terms of his announcement.

The legend ran thus—

> "*J. RICHARDSON,*
> *Bookseller, Stationer, Engraver, and*
> *Copper-plate Printer,*
> *Shortland Crescent,*
> *Begs to inform the inhabitants of*
> *Auckland and its vicinity that*
> *he has removed from Queen-Street to*
> *the above address, where he continues*
> *to keep on hand an assortment of*
> *Music, Books, Stationery, etc. etc.*
> *Copper-plate Printing on the*
> *shortest notice.*"

The foregoing attractive and opportune notification was evidently not made without effect, and in due time attention was drawn to it in official quarters, Mr. G. Eliott Eliott going so far as to inform the Colonial Secretary that *there was but one person in the town competent to print the postage stamps.*

We may infer therefore, from this, that the authorities had no choice in the matter of selection.

The *copper-plate printing*, stated by Mr. Richardson as forming a branch of his business, would doubtless have reference to impressions from plates, whereon certain inscriptions had been graven, of a character with which we are familiar.

The plates which bore the engraved design of the New Zealand stamps (differing only in one respect, namely that they were of steel) would, without doubt, require no small amount of knowledge and practice to manipulate the printing of impressions therefrom successfully, through the roller-press, and especially so if the thin watermarked paper sent out to the Colony by Messrs. Perkins, Bacon & Co. was to be employed.

The first-named process would be, in fact, of a far simpler character in comparison with the latter, which is identical with *fine art* printing.

After several necessary stipulations had been agreed to between the Government and Mr. Richardson, a day was fixed for that which might be considered *a trial printing*, and the notable event occurred on Monday, November 5th, 1855.

The One Penny Value Selected.

Only three days previous to the above date, the Colonial Secretary had decided to have *a printing from each of the three plates, equal to the supply of the One Penny, Twopenny, and One Shilling stamps which had been received from London.*

In the following week, however, an alteration must have been made, and instructions given, of which we have no record, to print from the plate of the *One Penny* stamp *only*, and, as regards number, *far in excess of the 12,000 labels of that value obtained from England.*

On the showing of Mr. Eliott's memoranda, *Mr. Richardson printed, between November 5th and December 13th, 29,016* perfect labels of the *One Penny*, and his *account for 29,000* stamps, at 4s. per thousand, was *approved* by the Colonial Treasurer on *February 1st*, 1856.

We learn that at the commencement of the work "*the expense of production in printing the postage stamps*" was found to be "*greater than anticipated*," and the application by Mr. Richardson for permission to charge 4s. in place of 3s. per thousand stamps printed was agreed to. Mr. Eliott also, in recommending the additional charge, added that "*the labour of printing*" was "*heavy and tedious.*"

It is important to note that as *Mr. Richardson was evidently not supplied with the coloured printing-inks* which we understand, on Mr. Bacon's information,* were *sent out from London to the Colony with the first stamps*, he may have had some difficulty, *at first*, in obtaining in Auckland *all* the colours required. Hence, perhaps, the motive for a modification in the original order for printing from each of the three plates.

The Twopence and One Shilling deferred.

Ultramarine, in particular, being a most expensive pigment, *the printing of the Twopenny* stamps was probably on that account *postponed, and meanwhile pairs of the One Penny must have been utilisecl for the half-ounce scale of postage.*

The "*requisition for a further supply of One Penny and Twopenny stamps, received from New Plymouth on November 25th*, 1855" (mentioned by Mr. Bate), could only have been answered by despatching sheets of the lowest value, seeing that down to December 13th the *One Penny* was the only label issued from Mr. Richardson's press.

Judging from the date (February 1st, 1856) of the passing, by the Colonial Treasurer, of Mr. Richardson's charges for printing, and their reference solely to the *One Penny* stamps, it may, I think, be concluded that *the first issue of the locally-printed Twopence could not have taken place earlier than the beginning of* 1856. The Sub-Committee of this Society, when investigating, in 1893, the dates of the early imperforate issues, had before them a specimen of the *Twopenny* label, printed on the official blue wove "*foolscap*" paper, and dated *April 30th*, 1856,† and at the present time this is *the earliest known postal use of a locally-printed stamp of any of the three values.*

Lastly, referring to the postal rates which regulated the use of the first issue of stamps, the *One Shilling* value was, under them, practically not required, and though issued by the Colonial Treasurer in 1855, with the two lower values of the first set, would be likely to have remained on hand, to a large extent, at the various Post-offices till the introduction of the sixpenny rate per half-ounce to Great Britain, in 1857.

That this was so is proved by the fact that although *only 250 labels* of the London-printed *One Shilling* stamp were forwarded to the Province

* *The London Philatelist*, October, 1892.

† *The London Philatelist*, October, 1894.

of Otago, in July, 1855, this supply sufficed at the Chief Post-office, Dunedin, till February, 1858, as referred to in my "Notes on the First Issued Stamps," published in the *London Philatelist* for June, 1895.

All these considerations lead me to the belief that future discovery will probably show that *the first local printing from the plate of the One Shilling stamp did not occur until* 1857, *or perhaps* 1858, when *the issue* of this value *on blue wove paper* certainly *succeeded* the exhaustion of *the supply of the London-printed impressions, on "star" paper, at Dunedin*, early in 1858, as shown in a short list of dated copies of both varieties in my possession, and quoted in my "Remarks on the Early Postal Rates of New Zealand," published in the *London Philatelist* for May, 1895.

The Paper employed in November and December, 1855.

In considering the great problem, namely, *What quality of paper did the Colonial Government use for the first local printing?* it must be admitted that a very difficult question presents itself for solution, and the elucidation of it, I feel, might well be with those far more capable than myself in dealing with it.

The official correspondence found by Mr. Bate does not allude in any way to this doubtful point. It is still, therefore, a matter for discussion whether the watermarked paper sent from London, or the wove "*foolscap*" paper of the Colonial Secretary's Office, was used.

The New Zealand Government, at all events, agreed to supply Mr. Richardson with the paper required for printing the stamps, and as *six reams, watermarked with a "star," had been sent to the Colony with the first specimens* by Messrs. Perkins, Bacon & Co. (as stated by them to Mr. E. D. Bacon), it is highly probable that Mr. Eliott, who had been requested by the Colonial Secretary, at the desire of Mr. Richardson, to be present at the printing, took with him, not only the plate of the *One Penny* value, but a portion of the "*star*" paper, for the printer's use in *the first experiment.*

There was evidently *an unsuccessful printing, probably in the case of one sheet*, of whichever kind of paper, for as Mr. Bacon has pointed out, the figures *29,016* (being the number of *One Penny* labels printed) "*are not divisible by 240*," the number of stamps on the plate.

A *deficiency*, therefore, is shown *of 24 stamps* (*equal to two complete rows*), and "*it seems probable*," as Mr. Bacon says, *that they* "*were defective in some way, and were in consequence removed.*"

Mr. Eliott reported, on November 12th, the result of the first week's work, to the effect that "*16,776 penny stamps = £69 18s., had been printed.*" *The deficiency, then, happened in that interval*, for this printing, representing *70 sheets, should, by a division of 240, have yielded 16,800 perfect stamps.*

The mishap therefore, occurring as it did at the outset of Mr. Richardson's printing, was not improbably, I think, sustained by the first sheet struck off.

One month later (*December 13th*), Mr. Eliott reported that *a second instalment had "been printed,"* namely, "*12,240 penny stamps = £51.*"

This number, *being divisible by 240*, represents *51 complete sheets*, which,

together with the before-mentioned *70*, make a total of *121, equalling 5 quires of 24 sheets—plus one sheet.*

I have not been able to ascertain whether the *six reams* of "*star*" paper sent from London were *divided into quires of 24 sheets.* If they were so, and *if "star" paper had been used throughout, the total of Mr. Richardson's printing on both occasions would have shown a return of 120 sheets only* (that is to say, 5 quires), *producing 28,800 stamps, inclusive of the 24 defective specimens.* If, on the other hand, wove "*foolscap*" paper had been used from first to last, also to the extent of *5 quires* only, the same result as to number of sheets consumed and stamps printed must have ensued.

From the discovery (in a collection of high repute) of a faulty though most interesting *early* impression of the *One Penny* value, on "*star*" paper, which I will presently endeavour to describe, it seems to me (after an examination of this specimen) to be within the range of possibility that the following line of action, with regard to the local printing, may have been taken on the *first* day thereof; namely, *that after an unsuccessful trial with one sheet of "star" paper, Mr. Richardson obtained permission to use thick wove paper for the remainder of the printing;* hence the probable *addition*, or, as I suggest, *substitution* of 5 quires of "*foolscap*" paper from the Colonial Secretary's Office, according to the previous calculation: and that quantity would, with very little doubt, have consisted of 24 sheets to each quire, resulting in a total printing of 121 (inclusive of the misprinted sheet of "*star*" paper), which would not have been the case if 5 quires *only* of "*star*" paper had been employed in this printing.

Mr. Richardson would, moreover (as a stationer), undoubtedly have had much experience, and a possible preference, for printing purposes, of paper of ordinary manufacture.

Past information also strongly infers that "foolscap" *paper* was used for all the local printings, extending from 1855 to February, 1862. And as Mr. John Davies came to the Colony from London as far back as 1861 (*before the wove paper issues had ceased*) in order to superintend the printing of the postage stamps in the Postmaster-General's Office at Auckland, he in all probability would have had the opportunity of ascertaining, from *the officials contemporary with the first use of stamps in* 1855, what the practice of the Colonial Secretary's Department had been with regard to the early printings. Indeed, we learn as much from his paper on "The Postage Stamps of New Zealand," published in the *Philatelic Record*, which I have mentioned above, and also from the communication of Mr. H. J. Knowles, of Wellington, New Zealand, to the *Stamp News*.* Mr. Davies' statement was that in his interview with one of those officials, seemingly, from what we now know of the facts, to have been Mr. G. Eliott Eliott, he was informed that in the early days "*small numbers were only required*," and "*a few quires of foolscap*" (which together with the plates Mr. Eliott took with him from his office) were used by the printer, Mr. Richardson.

* *The Stamp News*, February, 1893, p. 22.

The Misprinted Impressions.

I will now refer to the *defective* stamp in question.

In looking through the New Zealand portion of the collection of the late Mr. T. K. Tapling, M.P., at the British Museum, I noticed a specimen of the *One Penny, first type, printed in vermilion (or, as some may deem it, orange-vermilion), on "star" paper, and imperforate. The stamp had also passed through the post to Australia, and bears the early lined oval (enclosing "N. S. W.") cancellation of New South Wales.*

It is a most remarkable stamp in appearance, being the overprinting of parts of two impressions upon one another, thereby duplicating the design.

Either the plate or the sheet may have shifted in passing *out* of the roller-press, and in so doing the upper and lower impressions, probably in the last two rows of the plate, seem to have collided.

A further extraordinary feature about the stamp is, that whereas *the width of the label is the same, the height is less by seven mm. than that of an ordinary specimen.* By what means the *shortening* was produced is not easy even to conjecture.

The effect of this accident to part of a sheet of *240* stamps would presumably cause *the damage of two complete rows of 12 labels in each, that is 24 specimens, which number, coinciding with those missing out of the first local printing, thus far corresponds with the possibility of this dual stamp having formed part of the odd sheet of the first week's printing.*

A discovery at this juncture of a number of specimens of the *One Penny* value *of the local printings of November and December*, 1855, on their original date-stamped covers, would be most interesting as showing whether "*star*" *watermarked* or "foolscap" *paper* was used wholly or in part only; and also of utility for the purpose of *comparing the shade of vermilion* of those stamps *with that of the defective specimen* now under consideration, and by such examination it might be possible to fix the year of its issue.

At present the latter cannot with certainty be assigned to the earliest printing in the Colony. But if it did not form part of Mr. Richardson's work, Mr. John Davies must be credited with its production on his assuming the office of Government Printer in 1862, when the issue of imperforate stamps on "star" paper was again current in the Postal Service of New Zealand.

Mr. Davies, however, had had a long experience with Messrs. Perkins, Bacon & Co., in London, and therefore would have been more unlikely to have produced this stamp.

Perhaps the most singular and interesting part of the history of this variety, if it could be revealed, would be a faithful recital of its career as a "*used*" stamp.

In the absence of certain information, and assuming for the moment that it *is* one of the rejected impressions of November, 1855, by what means could it have attained the above condition?

The correspondence between the Colonial Secretary and the Colonial

Treasurer shows that out of a possible 16,800 one penny stamps, only 16,776 were handed over to the latter official on November *13th* to be issued by him.

Therefore 24 stamps, or whatever might have represented that number in the printing, must have been *retained*, but apparently *not destroyed*, by the Colonial Secretary.

The inference, then, appears to be that this specimen *never* formed part of the stock of stamps at the Post-office, and consequently could *not* have been issued from thence.

This assumption seems, I think, justifiable by the absence of any New Zealand cancellation on the stamp.

The letter therefore, with this label affixed, could not have been "*made up*" in a mail, and enclosed in the mail-bag, by a Post-office official, by reason that the republished Proclamation of December 31st, 1850, in *The General Government Gazette* of July 13th, 1855, states that "*Postmasters are directed, on the receipt of stamped letters or packets in each Post-office, to cancel the stamps on such letters or packets previous to their despatch.*"

The only solution I can offer to account for its transit to Australia is that the letter it franked may have been handed to the shipmaster by a New Zealand Government official (not necessarily of the Post-office), in company, perhaps, with other "*loose*" letters (which latter were permitted to be so conveyed by the masters of vessels), and was delivered, according to regulation, with the mail-bags at the General Post-office, Sydney.

The stamp may have been used shortly or long after it had passed out of the printer's hands, and the fact that the New South Wales cancellation which it bears was, I believe, in use for a considerable period, will *not* be a guide to the age of the stamp. The colour *alone* must, I fear, be relied upon to identify it, at some future time, with its contemporaries of one of the local printings.

I hope it will be possible, at no distant date, to obtain a reproduction of this very odd New Zealand stamp for the purpose of illustration in the *London Philatelist*, as no "*word picture*" can convey an adequate idea of this rare and curious "*Error.*"

The New Zealand Postal Revenue in 1855–6.

Of the number of stamps printed from the three plates per annum *after* the first supply, consisting of the London-printed impressions issued by the Colonial Treasurer to the Six Provinces in July, 1855, and the subsequent printing at Auckland before the close of that year from the plate of the One Penny value, we unfortunately at present have received no further statistics from the Colony.

The face-value, therefore, of the postal labels required for the mail service at that time cannot accurately be estimated.

With the object, however, of judging, if possible, whether any considerable quantity of "*star*" watermarked paper could have been consumed at the early local printings in Mr. Richardson's time, I have investigated the New Zealand Parliamentary Debates for 1856 concerning the Post-office for that period, in order to throw some light on this obscure subject.

Mr. John Davies who, as previously stated, commenced printing for the Colonial Government in February, 1862, using "*star*" paper, further mentioned in his contribution to the *Philatelic Record*, "*that he brought out from England what was then considered to be twelve months' supply.*" This would doubtless be the *four reams* despatched by Messrs. Perkins, Bacon & Co., on October 5th, 1861, and which amount would probably represent *1920* sheets, capable of producing *460,000 labels.*

The number of letters requiring to be franked in the Colony with stamps must, at that date, have largely increased since 1855, and I will therefore submit for consideration the following points:—

The Colonial Government, we are told, had a stock of *six reams* of "*star*" paper with which to start the local printing of November, 1855.

An amount, scarcely exceeding *five quires*, of some sort of paper was then undeniably used, which, *if* out of the supply of "*star*" paper, would leave *115 quires* on hand.

That which militates against the supposition that this large supply of "*star*" paper *was* used at that period till exhausted, is the report of the Sub-Committee of this Society before referred to, showing the very early use in the Colony of the *blue wove* "foolscap" *paper;* namely, of a stamp of the *Twopence* value of that variety, *dated April 30th, 1856.*

As I have already indicated, there is no evidence of a renewal of the printing by Mr. Richardson down to *February 1st, 1856.* Therefore, as the process was found to be so "*heavy and tedious*" that no more than *70 sheets* were passed through the press during the first week, ending *November 12th*, and an additional *51* only being accomplished by *December 13th*, it scarcely seems probable that the balance, namely, *2760 sheets*, could have been disposed of during the few weeks of *February, March, and April, 1856.*

The *gross revenue* of the Postal Department was announced by the Colonial Treasurer in his Financial Statement for *1855–56* to have been, "*in round figures, £3000 os. od. a year.*"

A large deduction, probably half, must be made from this amount to represent the collection, in cash, of postages on all letters arriving in New Zealand at the rate of *Twopence per half-ounce*, according to the regulations then in force. Thus about *£1500 os. od.* may have been obtained, in the course of one year, by the sale of postage stamps in the Colony.

A continuous printing from the six reams of "*star*" paper, containing in the aggregate *2880 sheets*, if it had been employed for the *One Penny* and *Twopence* values in the same proportion as to number as the London supply of stamps had included, I find works out at *443 sheets* of *One Penny*, at £1 per sheet, and *2437 sheets* of *Twopenny* stamps, at £2 per sheet, making a total face-value derivable therefrom of *£5317*, represented by *691,200* stamps; which, taking into consideration the moderate postal revenue of the Colony at that time (and not overlooking the fact that *four reams per annum was found sufficient* as late as the year 1861), would presumably have sufficed for several years, and consequently would have rendered the use of the "foolscap" paper for printing *in April, 1856*, absolutely unnecessary.

Of course my argument carries with it the suggestion that *216 One*

Penny stamps (*out of a sheet of 240*), *printed on "star" paper*, were issued with the *first* locally-printed impressions.

In dealing with the history of the postal issues of New Zealand, as matters now stand, it is unfortunately inevitable that conjecture, to a certain extent, must enter into any discussion upon them.

I think, however, that I shall be expressing the wish of all Philatelists if I say that we hope to hear further from New Zealand and its collectors about these interesting stamps.

The O.S. Stamps of New South Wales.

By N.S.W. and CROWN.

(*Continued from page* 5.)



AT the time of issue I was residing in Tasmania, and was in a position to obtain large numbers of O.S. New South Wales stamps from official correspondence, and I distinctly remember obtaining quantities of the 3d. and 8d. (referred to later on) with the overprint in red. Of the 2d., however, but one or two copies came to hand.

The authorities at the Government Printing-office are at the present day positive that the 1s. was the only value at any time overprinted in *red*, in the proper official course. They are, however, prepared to admit that some few copies from supplies already issued in an unmarked state, might have been returned to the printing-office and overprinted in red; but no entry would be made in such case, as the face-value of the stamps had already been debited to the cashier, G.P.O.

There can be no doubt, however, that the first supplies of both 3d. and 8d. were overprinted in red, and in the ordinary official course. The number of specimens of unquestioned origin in existence, and the testimony of contemporary collectors of unimpeachable veracity, are quite sufficient to support the truth of this statement. With regard to the 2d. value, the facts seem to point either to a small trial-printing in red, issued simultaneously with those in black, or an "irregular" printing on sheets previously debited. In the latter case it must be distinctly understood that the subsequent "regular" use of such stamps for ordinary official correspondence would establish their claim to acceptance as genuine issues, even if the overprint was obtained in red from motives not wholly free from Philatelic suggestion. As there are several instances of this "irregular" overprinting to be subsequently referred to, most of which are absolutely free from such suggestion, the varieties mentioned must be accepted in all good faith as properly admissible.

To return to the issues. The first supply of the 3d. value was issued to public offices on the 7th December, 1879, and from that date to the

15th March, 1880, exactly 3,000 of that value were issued. On the 22nd March, 1880, a further supply of 6,000 was printed, 60 of which were issued to public offices on the 31st of that month. Without straining any point, we can accept these as bearing the overprint in *black*, a colour which remained unchanged during the existence of the O.S. stamps.

On the 22nd December, 1879, there is an entry of a requisition for 2,500 8d. "plain" (*i.e.*, without overprint) stamps; but during the same week an issue of 590 8d. stamps was made to public offices. As no further requisition for 8d. stamps was made until the 22nd February, 1880, when 5,000 with "O.S." were ordered, and as 2,380 were issued to public offices at various periods from the 22nd December, 1879, to the 22nd February, 1880, it may safely be asserted that the "plain" stamps ordered were surcharged "O.S." in *red*, either before being supplied to the cashier, on his verbal requisition, or in the "irregular" manner previously described, returned after having been debited and surcharged. The comparative rarity of the 8d. with red overprint, and the undoubted fact of its being used contemporaneously with the 3d. red overprint, is sufficient evidence to enable us to arrive at the conclusion that the 2,500 8d., of 22nd December, 1879, were overprinted "O.S." in red.

On the 15th December, 1879, a requisition was made for 1,250 5s. "plain" stamps. No requisition for O.S. 5s. stamps was made until 31st January, 1884, and yet 14 were issued to public offices on 15th February, 1880, and a large number at subsequent dates. In this case, also, there can be no doubt that the 1,250 were "irregularly" overprinted, the letters being in black.

The next value issued to public offices was the 5d., 96 being supplied on the 7th, and 24 on the 31st May, 1880. No requisition for O.S. stamps of that value was sent to the Government printer until the 15th August, *1890*, although additional supplies of the value were furnished to public offices as follows: 96 on 15th November, 1880; 100 on 15th January, 1881; 100 on 22nd March, 1881; and 200 on 31st March, 1885. Very few 5d. stamps appear to have been used at any time up to 1880, and the old supply, printed on paper watermarked with double-line figure 5, was sufficient to meet all demands. About 1882 the Crown N.S.W. Type I. paper was used, and shortly afterwards that with Type II. Therefore the first 5d. stamps issued to public offices were on "5" paper, and the surcharge probably was in *red*. This variety is catalogued by Collin and Calman, but I have never seen a satisfactory copy. Still there is so much doubtful about some of these "irregular" varieties, that it is impossible to definitely support or condemn any one of them; I can only give all the information available, and make what deductions are possible. Collectors must to a certain extent exercise their own judgment about them.

Next in order of date came the 9d. and 10d. values. These were issued to public offices "irregularly" (*i.e.*, without previous O.S. requisition) on the 31st May, 1880, the numbers being only 20 of the 9d., and 12 of the 10d. Subsequent "irregular" issues to public offices were made as follows:—120 of each value on the 15th January, 1881; 120 9d. and 360 10d. on the 22nd March, 1881; 72 10d. on the 15th October, 1881; 120 10d. on the

30th November, 1883; and 40 9d. and 48 10d. on the 15th July, 1885; and it was not until the 30th June, 1894, that these values were requisitioned for as O.S. stamps in the regular way—60 of each being furnished on that date. These, I *know*, bore the surcharge in *black*.

Now, with regard to the 9d. and 10d. issue up to 1885, the former was watermarked Crown N.S.W. (Type I.), and the latter 10, and there is ground for belief that the surcharge was in red on all supplies. I have seen undoubtedly genuine copies of the 10d. in used condition, and also the 9d. unused, but for which I could not equally vouch. It is, however, singular that the authorities at the printing-office assert that the red surcharge was *never* applied to these values, and that a supply printed for exchange purposes, in November, 1891, and surcharged "Specimen," bore the "O.S." in *black*. As, however, no catalogue of earlier date than 1895 mentions these values with *black* surcharge, other than those with "*Specimen*" in addition; and further, as I had never seen or heard of a copy with black surcharge prior to 1891, we must accept the red surcharge as that of the early "irregular" printings, 1881–5.

A minute for the Executive Council, dated 17th April, 1882, submitting regulations regarding the use of the O.S. stamps for approval, contains the words "printing thereon in *black* of the letters 'O.S.,'" &c.

On the 18th November, 1885, the long rectangular fiscal stamp of 5s., surcharged "POSTAGE," in "erased" capitals, was issued for postal and telegraphic purposes, although it was not gazetted until the 22nd December following. The first supply of O.S. 5s. stamps requisitioned for subsequently to that date consisted of 300, on the 15th December, 1885. It appears doubtful whether the long type was immediately used for O.S. purposes, as the Inspector of Stamps generally kept a stock in hand to supply requisitions, and he probably had some of the circular stamps already overprinted. However, the long stamp is catalogued without reservation, and exists in the set surcharged "SPECIMEN" sold by the G.P.O. about 1891. I have never seen a copy without "SPECIMEN," either used or unused, but in default of any more definite information, the 15th December, 1885, must be accepted as the date of issue. The "O.S." was in black, but the letters were of an entirely new type, being large ornamental capitals. Further supplies of 5s. stamps were issued to public offices as follows: 300 on 26th April, 1886; 250 on 22nd December, 1886; 300 on 7th October, 1887; 400 on 15th December, 1887; 500 on 30th April, 1888; and 300 on 7th November, 1888; a total of 2,050. The great rarity of this variety points to one of two conclusions. Either the issue of 300 on 15th December, 1885, was the only supply of the type issued, and the circular stamps were reverted to, or else a large supply of the circular type was on hand, and only upon exhaustion was a small supply of the long type issued prior to the issue of the centennial 5s. Of course the existence of dated used copies would tend to settle this point.

On the 7th January, 1887, *five* £1 O.S. stamps were requisitioned for. The long £1 fiscal, surcharged "POSTAGE," was issued to the public on the 23rd November, 1885, and this being the only type of that value in existence at the date of the requisition, it must have been the one surcharged. No

further requisition for the £1 value with "O.S." was made until some six months after the issue of the centennial stamp. The long £1 stamp with "O.S." in ornamental capitals in black, is found amongst the "Specimen" set of 1891, so there can be little doubt that the five issued for postal use in January, 1887, bore a similar overprint. This *should* be one of the rarest stamps known—if any of the five are still in existence.

On the 1st May, 1888, the 1d. and £1 of the centennial type were issued to the public. As printings of the 1d. value for official purposes were made about every fortnight, we may take the week ending 7th May, 1888, during which 60,000 O.S. 1d. were issued, as the date of issue of the centennial 1d.

The centennial 2d. was issued to the public on the 1st September, 1888, and with "O.S." during the week ending 7th September.

The 4d. followed on the 8th October, 1888, and with "O.S." during the week ending 15th October.

During the week ending 22nd November, 1888, 20 of the £1 value with "O.S." were issued. These were of the centennial type on the old 5/- paper, and I believe the overprint was in *black*.

The centennial 6d. was issued on the 26th November, 1888, but no O.S. of that value were issued until the week ending 21st December.

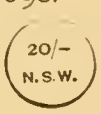
The 8d. was issued on the 17th January, 1889, and with "O.S." during the week ending 15th March.

The centennial 1s. was issued to the public on the 21st February, 1889, and with "O.S." during the week ending 15th March. This stamp has been chronicled with the "O.S." in red, but it was never issued in any other colour than black.

The last of the centennial series, the 5s., was issued to the public on the 13th March, 1889, being printed on the old 5/- paper. 100 copies with "O.S." were issued during the week ending 30th April. The overprint was in red, if the evidence of several apparently genuine copies I have seen can be accepted. The colour of the stamp is a greyish purple; the printing is spotty, and the letters "O.S." are lightly printed, and have a thin appearance. The perforation is 10. This stamp has been catalogued with the surcharge in black, but if it is to be accepted as genuine, the red surcharge must be rejected, for there was but the one printing with "O.S." on the old paper, and then only two sheets of 50 were surcharged. It is quite out of the question to suppose that the two sheets were overprinted in different colours.

The 10s. long fiscal, surcharged "POSTAGE," was also issued with the "O.S." in ornamental capitals in black during the week ending 30th April, 1889. Ten were issued on this occasion, 20 on the 31st July, and 40 on the 30th November, 1889. During the period 1890–4, 191 additional copies of the 10s. value were issued, making 261 in all.

The new paper for the centennial 5s. and 20s. stamps was brought into use in January, 1890. That for the 5s. bore the watermark 

and that for the 20s. 

The 5s. was first issued on this paper with the "O.S." overprint in black, in small type, during the week ending 15th February, 1890. 200 were then printed, 300 for the week ending 22nd August, and 100 for the week ending 15th December, 1890. 1450 were issued during the period 1891–4, or 2050 in all.

Ten of the 20s. were issued during the week ending 15th March, 1890, and 10 in 1894, or only 20 in all. The overprint was in black, and in the ordinary small type.

The "Postal Union" series of ½d., 2½d., 7½d., and 12½d., was issued to the public in 1891–2. The ½d. grey, with value surcharged in black, was overprinted "O.S." in black, on the 21st January, 1891, 6,000 being issued. With the exception of 345 for exchange purposes, and further overprinted "Specimen," no others were printed.

The 2½d. received the "O.S." overprint in black on the 10th January, 1891; 6,000 being then printed, and 24,000 additional were printed and issued up to 31st December, 1894.

The 7½d. and 12½d. were overprinted "O.S." in black on the 21st January, 1891; 6,000 of each value being printed. No other printings were made, and this supply was issued at various periods up to December, 1894. The ½d., grey, altered type, was overprinted "O.S." in black on the 10th May, 1892, and 322,000 were issued between that date and the 31st December, 1894.

So much for the dates of issue of the adhesive stamps. No official cognizance is taken of the varieties of paper, watermark, perforation, or colour of overprint, so the subdivision of each type under these headings must be carried out partly by conjecture and partly by observation of the stamps themselves. For convenience of arrangement I will divide the O.S. stamps into five classes, termed: (1) The De La Rue series, including 1d., red; 2d., blue; 4d., brown; 6d., lilac; 9d., black on brown; 10d., lilac; and 1s., black. (2) The Perkins and Bacon series, including 3d., green; 5d., dark green; 8d., yellow; and 5s., purple. (3) The "Postage" surcharged series, including 5s., lilac and green; 10s., lilac and carmine; and £1, lilac and carmine. (4) The Centennial series, including 1d., purple; 2d., blue; 4d., brown; 6d., rosine; 8d., plum; 1s., brown-violet; 5s., purple; and 20s., blue. (5) The Postal Union series, including ½d., grey and black; ½d., grey; 2½d., ultramarine; 7½d., brown and black; and 12½d., vermilion and black.

Class 1 were all, with the exception of the 10d., printed on N.S.W. and Crown paper of both types; the 1d. and 2d. on Stamp Duty paper with watermark N.S.W. only (once to each two stamps); and the 10d. on "*10*" paper alone. The perforations were numerous, and can only be given in the tabulated list at the end of this article.

Of Class 2, the 3d. was printed on N.S.W. and Crown paper, both types, and the "*10*" paper. This stamp has also been catalogued on paper watermarked with double-lined figure 6. As this watermark had been obsolete for many years before the introduction of the "O.S." overprint, the variety appears to be of somewhat doubtful authenticity. Still it is *possible* that a sheet or two of remainders were unearthed and overprinted.

The 5d. was printed on the paper watermarked with double-lined figure 5 up to about 1880, and subsequently on N.S.W. and Crown paper, both types. The 8d. was only printed on the latter papers, and the 5s. only on that watermarked 5s.

Class 3 were only on the Stamp Duty paper specially prepared for the long series of fiscal stamps watermarked with the letters N.S.W. The paper of the 10s. is distinctly bluish, that of the 5s. and 20s. less markedly so, and it is also quite white in some instances. The word "POSTAGE" is in blue on the 10s., and in black on the other two values.

Of class 4 the values up to 1s. were all on N.S.W. and Crown paper, Type II. only. The 1d. and 2d. were also on Stamp Duty paper, and the 5s. and 20s. were at first on the old 5s. watermarked paper, and subsequently on the new papers specially prepared for each value respectively.

Class 5 were all on the N.S.W. and Crown paper, Type II. only.

In 1894 it was decided to abolish the system of franking correspondence by means of O.S. stamps, and to substitute a cover marked "O.H.M.S.," and the name of the department using it. The new system came into force on the 1st January, 1895, and the *Gazette* notice was as follows :—

[9893] "POSTAL AND ELECTRIC TELEGRAPH DEPARTMENT,
"GENERAL POST OFFICE, SYDNEY,
"19*th December*, 1894.

"It is hereby notified, for public information, that His Excellency the Governor, with the advice of the Executive Council, has been pleased to approve of the adoption, from the 1st January, 1895, of the following Regulations, in lieu of those now in force, relative to the prepayment of postage on official correspondence by means of O.S. Stamps, which practice will be discontinued from the date mentioned:—

"1. All official correspondence despatched from Public Officers shall be allowed to pass through the Post as duly prepaid, provided that the envelopes or covers bear the endorsement 'O.H.M.S.,' with the name of the Department, or branch thereof, from which they emanate, in the lower left-hand corner.

"2. Postmasters and others will consider Official letters, &c., marked in the manner above-described, as prepaid.

"3. The cover of any letter, &c., purporting to be an Official one, that may be posted and found not to conform with the above regulations, will be specially obtained from the addressee, and the circumstances reported to the Department concerned.

"4. Any Official found guilty of improperly using an Official envelope or cover for private correspondence, or any other private purpose whatsoever, will be dismissed the Service.

"5. Any Postmaster having reason to believe that these regulations are being availed of by Officials or others for private correspondence, shall make a special report of the circumstances to the Deputy Postmaster-General.

"JOSEPH COOK."

At the time the O.S. stamps system was abolished, large quantities of the stamps were in the various Government Departments. As these had been obtained on requisition, and their face-value debited to the votes of the respective departments, it was necessary, in order to avoid confusion of accounts, to recall and destroy them. This was done; the stamps being

treated as "spoiled and repurchased," and burnt in the presence of an audit official.

In addition to these stamps there were a number in the hands of the Distributor of Stamps (G.P.O.), in readiness to meet requisitions. Some collectors and dealers having expressed a desire to purchase these remainders, authority was obtained to sell them in the ordinary way over the stamp sales counter at face-value, on the distinct understanding that they were not to be available for postage.

The *Gazette* notice relating to the sale of these remainders is here given :—

"POSTAL AND ELECTRIC TELEGRAPH DEPARTMENT,
"GENERAL POST OFFICE, SYDNEY,
"*22nd July*, 1895.

"His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor, with the advice of the Executive Council, has approved of the balance of O.S. (On Service) stamps in the hands of this Department, remaining unissued on the substitution of the 'Frank' System for that of prepayment of official postage by means of O.S. stamps, being sold to stamp collectors and others at face-value, on the understanding that they cannot be used for postage.

"The stamps available for the purpose are: Adhesive stamps (of the same type as the current postage stamps), ½d., 1d., 2d., 2½d., 3d., 4d., 6d., 7½d., 8d., 1s., 12½d., and 5s.; post cards, 1d.

"JOSEPH COOK."

These stamps were genuine original remainders, and were (and are still) sold at face value in an uncancelled condition. There was but a small supply of the 5s. value, which soon was sold out; but all the others are still on sale.

However, this supply did not contain sufficient varieties to meet the demands of collectors, who clamoured for the obsolete types, and especially the red surcharges. With a desire to meet this demand the Department determined to reprint such varieties as were not then in stock, and furnish them to collectors. The face-value of a complete series was nearly £6, and as this price would be beyond the reach of most collectors, and as the audit regulations forbade the sale of uncancelled stamps at less than face-value, it was decided to obliterate the stamps with an undated cancelling mark, consisting of the letters "N.S.W." in three concentric ovals, and to sell the sets at £2 each. One thousand sets were printed, and *all* were cancelled without a single exception. 900 sets bore the above-described obliteration, and 100 were cancelled with "G.P.O." in three concentric ovals for gratis distribution to other postal administrations. The following is the *Gazette* notice :—

"POSTAL AND ELECTRIC TELEGRAPH DEPARTMENT,
"GENERAL POST OFFICE, SYDNEY,
"*15th August*, 1895.

"His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor, with the advice of the Executive Council, has approved of the sale, to stamp collectors and others, of complete sets of obliterated O.S. stamps, at the price of £2 per set.

"JOSEPH COOK."

It is unnecessary for me to advert at any length to the storm of indignation which was raised by the Philatelic journals at this action of the New South Wales Department. Suffice it to say that after about 250 of the 900 sets were sold, and 50 of the 100 official sets were distributed, it was decided to cease the sale of stamps which had been provided to meet a very real demand, as was evidenced by the expenditure of £500 on them by collectors who were fully aware of their character. However much, as Philatelists, we may deplore the reprinting of these stamps, we have only our own fellow-hobbyists to blame, for had it not been for the demands of certain collectors, and their *suggestions*, the series would never have been prepared.

The withdrawal was announced in the following terms:—

"POSTAL AND ELECTRIC TELEGRAPH DEPARTMENT,
"GENERAL POST OFFICE, SYDNEY,
"18*th March*, 1896.

"With reference to the authority for the sale, to stamp collectors and others, of complete sets of obliterated O.S. postage stamps, at £2 per set, advertised in the *Government Gazette* under date of the 15th August last, it is hereby notified that His Excellency the Governor, with the advice of the Executive Council, has approved of the sale of these stamps being discontinued.

"JOSEPH COOK."

The remaining 650 £2 sets were burnt, and the balance of the gratis sets were surcharged "Specimen" in addition to the "G.P.O." obliteration.

Hence it will be seen:—

1. There were *no reprints* of the values mentioned in the *Gazette* notice of the 22nd July, 1895.

2. Not more than 300 of each of the reprinted stamps have got into the hands of collectors and others.

3. *Every* reprint is cancelled.

4. Uncancelled O.S. stamps are necessarily originals.

5. Many of the varieties of the reprints are infinitely rarer than original stamps of the same type, and

6. *Pace* fraudulent manipulation, the reprints bear the obliteration of a portion of the cancellation described in one of the four corners; the stamps having been cancelled in blocks of four, the impression being placed in the centre of each block; and the stamps are gummed.

If these facts are committed to memory no collector need be afraid of taking a reprint for an original.

I will, in the near future, supplement this paper with a reference list of adhesive O.S. stamps, and later on give full particulars with regard to the O.S. post cards, stamped envelopes, and wrappers.

Occasional Notes.

THE TAPLING COLLECTION.

THE Duke of York, attended by the Honorary Secretary of the Philatelic Society, London, visited the British Museum on Monday, 15th February, for the purpose of inspecting the collection of stamps bequeathed to the nation by the late Mr. T. K. Tapling, M.P. H.R.H. was received by Sir Edward Thompson, the Secretary, and Chief Librarian of the Museum, and proceeded to the Cracherode room, where the collection was shown and explained by Mr. E. D. Bacon. The stamps which H.R.H. examined with the greatest interest were those of Great Britain and the British Colonies.

LONDON PHILATELIC EXHIBITION.

SINCE the issue of the prospectus the following further medals have been offered to the Committee, and will be awarded according to the decision of the judges:—

By the City of London Philatelic Club.—One Gold, one Silver, and one Bronze medal, for the three best collections of *used* postage stamps of the British Colonies, shown in any sort of album.

By Messrs. Whitfield King & Co.—One Silver, and one Bronze medal, for the two best collections of postage stamps in use on 1st January, 1890, or issued since that date, shown in any kind of album.

By Messrs. W. Brown and S. C. Skipton.—A Silver medal for the best collection of the surcharged postage stamps of the Straits Settlements (Bangkok, Johore, Pahang, Perak, Selangor, Sungei Ujong, and Negri Sembilan).

By Mr. Gordon Smith.—A Silver medal for the best collection of the departmental surcharged stamps of South Australia (not including the O.S. surcharge.

THE PHILATELIC CLUB AND EXCHANGE, LIMITED.

WE have received the following communication with a request for its publication in the columns of the *London Philatelist*:—

"*Philatelic Club and Exchange, Limited*, 40, *Jermyn Street.*

"DEAR SIR,—As our names have been extensively advertised in connection with the above Club, we, having been elected by the members as the Committee of Management, desire to make known to Philatelists generally that we have resigned our membership. We therefore are no longer responsible in any way whatever for the management of the Club, and our connection with it has entirely ceased.

"H. HOUSTON BALL,
"BRUCE CORNFORD,
"W. R. UMFREVILLE RIDOUT,
W. G. HAWKINS,
SAMUEL RAWSON,
W. T. WILLETT.

"*26th January*, 1897."

New Issues.

NOTES OF NEW, AND VARIATIONS OF CURRENT, ISSUES.

(Varieties of Obsolete Stamps, and Discoveries, will be found under "Philatelic Notes.")

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.

Members of the London Philatelic Society, and other readers generally, are invited to co-operate with us in making the columns as interesting as possible. Our foreign readers can especially help us in this direction, by sending copies of any official documents relative to changes in the current issues, or early intimation of any new issue, accompanied, when possible, by a specimen; such information will be duly credited to the correspondent, and, if desired, the specimen promptly returned. Address: EDITOR "LONDON PHILATELIST," EFFINGHAM HOUSE, ARUNDEL STREET, STRAND, LONDON, W.C.

BRITISH EMPIRE.

BRITISH CENTRAL AFRICA.—We hear of various changes here. The *I. B. J.* states that adhesives of 2s., 4s., and 10s. have been issued, also that the colours of the 2s. 6d., 3s., 5s., and £1 stamps have been changed, and from *Le C. de T.-P.* the news comes that a 1s. provisional has been made by printing the £1 stamp in blue, and surcharging the new value in red. We give the above on the authority of our contemporaries, and presume all the varieties are on the new Crown & CC paper?

The following colours are taken from the *A. J. of Ph.*:—

Adhesives.
2s, black and green on *rose*.
2s. 6d., brown and violet on *yellow*.
3s., green and lilac on *blue*.
4s., red and blue on *green*.
5s., red and green.
10s., green and carmine on *rose*.
£1, black and blue.
1s. on £1, blue; red surcharge.

BRITISH EAST AFRICA.—We illustrate the stamp on the Registration envelope, chronicled in December last.



Just as we are going to press Messrs. Whitfield King and Co. send us a batch of fresh provisionals, consisting of the new Zanzibar stamps, with the usual "British" "East" "Africa" surcharge in three lines. We have the ½ anna, 2, 4½, 5, and 7½ annas so decorated, and the 1 anna and 3 annas stamps with the additional "2½" surcharge, the former having two varieties of 2—one with a curly tail, the other a straight tail; and our correspondents inform us that there is at least one more variety of the "2½" surcharge. It is time that the business was investigated; and now that the two Post-offices have each a complete series of adhesives, it would appear that either there is gross negligence in allowing the stock of stamps to become so low as to necessitate such wholesale overprinting, or else the matter is one for the careful attention of the S.S.S.S. We incline to the belief that the latter is the correct treatment these stamps require.

Adhesives.
½ anna, green and red; black surcharge.
2 annas, brown and red ,, ,,
4½ ,, orange and red ,, ,,
5 ,, bistre and red ,, ,,
7½ ,, purple and red ,, ,,
"2½" (*in brown*) on 1 anna, deep blue and red; black surcharge.
"2½" (*in brown*) on 3 annas, grey and red; black surcharge; *straight tail to* 2.
"2½" (*in brown*) on 3 annas, grey and red; black surcharge; *curly tail to* 2.

BRITISH SOUTH AFRICA.—Through the kindness of Mr. J. F. Jones, of the British South Africa Company, we are enabled to give reliable information as to the stamps at present in use.

The new stamps, chronicled in the early part of 1896 (vol. v., p. 82), were, as reported, not considered satisfactory, and Messrs. Waterlow and Sons were called upon to re-engrave the design. We have been shown a specimen of this. The dots in the four corners have been omitted, and the stamp has a somewhat more finished appearance, but we are not surprised to learn that a new design altogether will

shortly be issued. The re-engraved issue consists of ½d., 1d., 2d., 3d., 4d., 6d., and 8d. stamps, in the same colours as the previous issue of 1895, with an additional new £1 stamp, of similar design, but larger, the value repeated in all corners thus—£1. These stamps, with the exception of the £1, have not as yet been forwarded to Rhodesia, but are now in the hands of the Company. As soon as these are sent out no more of this design will be issued; but to meet the demand for a smaller stamp, to correspond with the uniform colours now being adopted by the various South African countries, an entirely new design, of a handsome, but not striking appearance, has been engraved, and although we have been favoured by the sight of this design, we are not at present at liberty to give any further details. We hope, however, at an early date to be in a position to illustrate and chronicle this permanent issue.

The sheets of the new £1 value are printed in one pane of 60 stamps (6 rows of 10) and perforated 16. No watermark.

Adhesives.

½d., olive-black and violet; *re-engraved.*
1d., scarlet and emerald ,,
2d., grey-brown and mauve ,,
3d., brown-red and ultramarine ,,
4d., ultramarine and mauve ,,
6d., purple and pink ,,
8d., olive-green and violet on buff ,,
£1, black and red-brown on *pale green.*

CANADA.—For some time past the issue of a series of adhesives, bearing a portrait of Her Majesty similar to that on the large 20 c. and 50 c. has been heralded, and we learn from an American contemporary that a new contract for printing stamps for a term of five and a quarter years has been awarded to the American Bank Note Co. of New York. Whether this will be made a means of introducing these stamps has yet to be seen, but we are told that the commemorations of this year are to figure in the wherefore of the change, in which case we express a hope that a more appropriate design, in keeping with the auspicious event, may be decided upon.

CEYLON.—The *M. J.* announces an apparent retouch of the die employed for stamping the 5 c. envelopes. The lines of shading about the face are heavier, and either some fresh ones have been added, or some worn ones restored; the most noticeable difference, however, is in the corners of the single-line frames, which have been reset.

Envelope. 5 c., dark blue on *white*, 134×109 mm.

FIJI.—A correspondent of the *M. J.* furnishes a list of the current stamps, with their perforations, as follows:—

½d., grey; perf. 10.
1d., lilac-rose; perf. 11.
2d., light green; perf. 11.
2½d., brown; perf. 11.
4d., lilac; perf. 11×10.
5d., blue; perf. 11×10.
6d., rose; perf. 11×10.

INDIAN NATIVE STATES.—*Cochin.*—A 1 puttan stamp of similar design to the 1892 issue, but larger, has been issued; the perforation is 12.

Adhesive. 1 puttan, mauve.

Travancore.—The *M. J.* informs us that the ½ chuckram wrapper measures 128×305 mm., also that the 3 ch. envelope is now of *laid* paper, and both this and the 4 ch. have "Travancore Govt." embossed on the left flap.

Envelopes. 3 ch., violet on *white*, 137×79 mm.
4 ch., green on *cream*, 120×94 mm.

NEW SOUTH WALES.—From the same source we learn that there are the following varieties to be had:—

Adhesives. 3d., green; perf. 12.
,, ,, 11.
,, ,, 12×11.
5d. ,, ,, ,,
9d. on 10d.; perf. 11.

ST. HELENA.—*Le T.-P.* announces the issue of the ½d. value in the usual colonial type. *Adhesive.* ½d., green.

ZANZIBAR.—Herewith we give illustrations of the new set, as also an illustration of the watermark. A contemporary announces the perforation 13½, but the two copies before us gauge 14 exactly, as stated in January.







The *Philatelic Record* tells us of a parting surcharge on the 1½ annas Indian adhesive, this stamp being overprinted with the 2½ used for the 2 annas surcharge, which distinguishes it from the 2½ on 1½ annas provisional used previous to this. We are

not told if the two sizes of the "2" are to be met with as on the 2 a. These were issued for the mails of Nov. 15th, 17th, and 25th.

Adhesives. 2½ *on* 1½ *annas sepia*, ? colour, variety.
½ anna, green and red.
1 ,, dark blue and red.
2 ,, red-brown ,,
3 ,, grey ,,
4 ,, green-black ,,
4½ ,, orange ,,
5 ,, bistre ,,
7½ ,, purple ,,
8 ,, bronze ,,
1 rupee, ultramarine ,,
2 rupees, deep green and red.

EUROPE.

AUSTRIAN LEVANT.—*Le T.-P.* announces the 10 and 20 paras stamps with the perforation 13½ in place of 10.

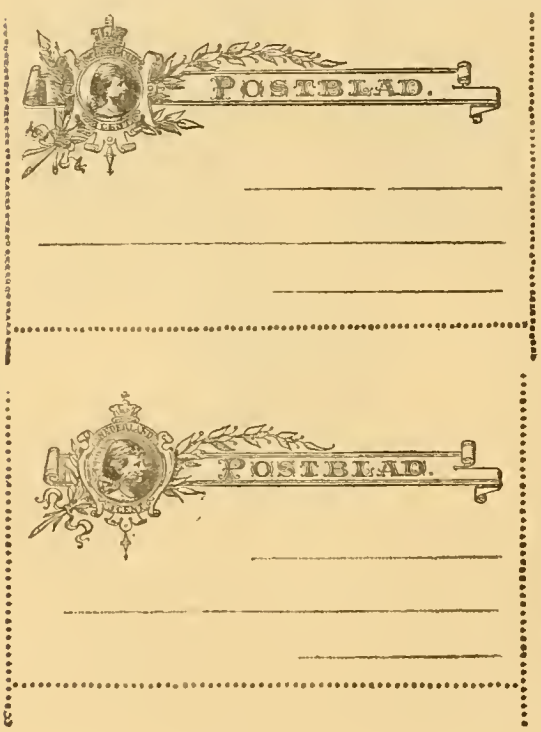
Adhesives. 10 paras on 3 kr., green, black surch.
20 ,, 5 ,, rose ,, ,,

BELGIUM.—The 10 c. Exhibition stamp has a change of colour.

Adhesive. 10 c., dull lilac.

FRANCE.—The *M. J.* gives some interesting information regarding the small figures which have lately appeared in the left lower corner of the post cards. These figures indicate the date of printing, the first figure being the date of the year, and the two other figures the *week* of the year; hence "449" would indicate that the card was produced during the forty-ninth week of 1894. Thus the 10 c. card referred to last month, being numbered "636," the date of issue would be approximately August or September, 1896.

HOLLAND.—We illustrate the new letter cards chronicled in December last. The second illustration is that of the cards for enclosure, which it will be seen differs slightly from the large size ones.



MONACO.—The *A. J. of Ph.* announces the 1 c. changed in colour from olive-green to pale green.

Adhesive. 1 c., pale green.

ROUMANIA.—*Le T.-P.* announces the 25 bani Delivery stamp in vermilion, and perforated 13½; but we see other papers mention the perforation as being 13.

Delivery Stamp. 25 bani, vermilion.

AMERICA.

MEXICO.—Mr. R. C. F. Schomberg has sent us the 2 c. postal Union Card, with the inscription "PARA LOS ESTADOS UNIDOS Y CANADA" added on either side in two vertical lines of sans-serif capitals, the addition being in green. The card is reported as available to the countries named *only*, but with an extra 1 c. stamp the copy before us reached London (*viâ* New York).

Post Card. 2 c., carmine and green on *buff*.

PANAMA.—We have received from Messrs. Whitfield King and Co. the 50 c. stamp described in our December number. The perforation of this stamp should be 12, and not 11½ as stated.

OTHER COUNTRIES.

CURAÇAO.—We have omitted to chronicle the 20 c. Unpaid Letter stamp of the current type, perf. 12.

Unpaid Letter Stamp. 20 c., black and green.

FERNANDO PO.—A somewhat extraordinary fiscal-postal has been created by the addition of the accompanying microscopic surcharge to the 10 c. fiscal-stamp.



This surcharge is to our mind on a par with the rumoured speculative condition of the postal arrangements in this colony.

Fiscal-Postal. 5 c. on 10 c., carmine, blue surch., *imperf.*

HAYTI.—Three more values are to be added to the list of those stamps which have been re-engraved, all perf. 13½.

Adhesives. 1 c., light blue.
7 c., slate.
20 c., orange.

LIBERIA. — We are indebted to the *Philatelic Record* for the accompanying illustrations of the stamps described last month :—













ORANGE FREE STATE.—The *A. J. of Ph.* has received a new setting of the "HALVE PENNY" provisional. The error "PEUNY" has been corrected, and the position of the bar cancelling the original value has been altered, and as a result on most of the sheets the top row is without the bar, while the other rows have the bar at the top of the stamp instead of through the value.

Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. send us the permanent ½d. value printed in orange also a new provisional "2½" on 3d., distinguished from the previous surcharge by the omission of the "d."

Adhesives. ½d., orange.
2½ on 3d., blue; black surcharge.

PORTUGUESE COLONIES.—We annex an illustration of the new stamps for Angra, Funchal, Horta, and Ponta Delgada, described last month.



SURINAM.—The issue of the 40 Unpaid Letter stamp in Type I. is announced, perf. 12½.

Unpaid Letter Stamp. 40 c., lilac and black, Type I.

TRANSVAAL. — With reference to the remarks in our November and December numbers, Mr. Jeppe writes us, enclosing a letter from the Postmaster-General of Pretoria, to the effect that the 5s. and 10s. values in two colours are not yet required, and hence are not even ordered, the stock of one colour stamps now in use being sufficient. Mr. Jeppe further points out that when issued the colour of the 10s. stamp will be *light grey* and green, as being the colours adopted by agreement with Cape Colony. (Vol. v., p. 142.)

The 5s. adhesive has also the value in the singular—thus "5 SHILLING."

Philatelic Societies' Meetings.

THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY, LONDON.

Honorary President—H.R.H. THE DUKE OF SAXE-COBURG AND GOTHA, K.G., &c.

Council for the Year 1895-96:

President—H.R.H. THE DUKE OF YORK, K.G.

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. | T. WICKHAM JONES.
R. EHRENBACH. | D. GARTH. | H. R. OLDFIELD.

THE twelfth meeting of the season 1896–7 was held at Effingham House on Friday the 22nd January, 1897, at 7.45 p.m., the following members being present, viz.: Messrs. R. Ehrenbach, Gordon Smith, A. R. Barrett, R. Meyer, T. W. Hall, G. B. Routledge, H. Hetley, H. P. Hudleston, R. Pearce, T. Maycock, and J. A. Tilleard.

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

The business of the evening consisted of a discussion on "The Position of Reprints available for Postage," opened by Mr. Meyer. The subject proved to be one of considerable interest, and a vote of thanks was accorded to Mr. Meyer for introducing the discussion, the resolution being proposed by Mr. Gordon Smith and seconded by Mr. Pearce.

THE thirteenth meeting of the season was held at Effingham House on Friday the 29th January, 1897, at 7.45 p.m. The members in attendance were: Messrs. E. D. Bacon, R. Ehrenbach, R. Tyeth Stevens, A. R. Barrett, R. Meyer, W. Silk, G. B. Routledge, E. J. Nankivell, R. Pearce, T. W. Hall, J. A. Tilleard, Gordon Smith, C. McNaughtan, and B. D. Knox.

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

Mr. E. H. Selby, proposed by Mr. B. Crowder, and seconded by the Secretary, was elected a member of the Society.

Amongst other stamps produced for inspection, Mr. Hall showed a used copy of the Pacific Steam Navigation Company's stamp, in red on blue paper, and a 1 c. (black on white) Antioquia stamp of the 1876 issue, on *laid* paper, a variety hitherto unchronicled.

Mr. Ehrenbach then gave a display of his unused collection of the stamps of Brazil, which was exceptionally strong in the early stamps, and read a series of interesting notes on the various issues. A discussion ensued, in the course of which Mr. Bacon called attention to the question of the different types to be found in the first three issues, and invited an investigation by Mr. Ehrenbach into the subject, on which very little is at present known.

On the motion of Mr. Nankivell, seconded by Mr. Hall, the hearty thanks of the meeting were voted to Mr. Ehrenbach for showing and explaining his stamps.

THE fourteenth meeting of the season was held at Effingham House on Friday the 5th February, 1897, at 7.45 p.m., and was attended by the following members, viz.: Messrs. E. D. Bacon, R. Ehrenbach, G. B. Routledge, R. Meyer, R. Frentzel, H. Hetley, G. J. Nankivell, R. Pearce, Gordon Smith, C. N. Biggs, J. A. Tilleard, T. Wickham Jones, A. R. Barrett, T. Maycock, and B. D. Knox.

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

The Secretary reported the receipt of information of the death of Mr. H. W. Bolland, an announcement which was received with great regret.

The request of the Committee of the Exhibition that the Council should undertake the duty of deciding upon applications for special positions for advertisements in the Exhibition Catalogue, in the case of the number of applications exceeding the number of special positions available, was referred to the Council.

Mr. Routledge then opened a discussion on the early stamps of the Dutch Colonies, reading a series of notes on the issues of Curaçoa, Surinam, and the Dutch Indies, dealing chiefly with the questions of the paper and perforations, and explaining the plates employed, and the types and varieties to be found in these interesting stamps. His remarks were illustrated by his own collection of the stamps of the countries referred to, in which nearly all the varieties to be found are represented, and on the motion of Mr. Gordon Smith, seconded by Mr. Meyer, the hearty thanks of the meeting were voted to Mr. Routledge for introducing the subject for discussion, and for affording the members present an opportunity of inspecting his collection.

THE fifteenth meeting of the season was held at Effingham House on Friday, the 12th February, 1897, at 7.45 p.m., when the following members were present, viz.: Messrs. E. D. Bacon, R. Ehrenbach, H. R. Oldfield, R. Meyer, G. B. Routledge, W. Silk, A. A. Davis, L. S. Wells, T. Maycock, A. R. Barrett, C. McNaughtan, T. W. Hall, T. S. Rance, R. Pearce, J. A. Tilleard, and B. D. Knox.

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

The business of the evening consisted of a discussion on the best method of arranging a collection, opened by Mr. W. Silk, who read notes and suggestions on the subject. In these Mr. Silk considered in detail the questions of the size and make of albums, the nature of the paper to be employed, movable leaves, quadrillé ruling, the manner of mounting, the arrangement of the countries, and most of the other points which require consideration in the arrangement of a general collection. A large number of the members present joined in the discussion, and explained their views on many of the matters of detail referred to by Mr. Silk, and great interest was shown in the subject, which is one that has occupied the attention of collectors since the commencement of the study of Philately.

On the motion of Mr. Ehrenbach, seconded by Mr. Hall, a hearty vote of thanks was accorded to Mr. Silk for introducing the discussion, and for the carefully-prepared notes which he had read.

BIRMINGHAM PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

President—W. T. WILSON, ESQ.
Hon. Sec. and Treas.—MR. G. JOHNSON, B.A.,
208, *Birchfield Road, Birmingham.*

THE January meeting was held on the 12th of that month, the President, Mr. Oliver Firth, occupying the chair, a large number of members being present. The Hon. Secretary reported that the President had presented to the Society a copy of his new work on *Postage Stamps and their Collection*, as had also Mr. H. L'Estrange Ewen of his new English Catalogue and Album, and Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Limited, of Part I. of their new Catalogue. Resolutions were duly passed, voting the best thanks of the Society to the donors for their kind presents. After the election of three new members, the President gave a paper on the largest size "Registered Envelope of Great Britain." The paper was extremely interesting and instructive, showing great research and labour. On the termination of the paper, a display of English took place. The next meeting will be held on the 2nd February, 1897.

MANCHESTER PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

President—W. DORNING BECKTON.

Hon. Secretary—A. H. HARRISON.

THE fifth meeting of the session was held at the Grand Hotel on Friday, November 20th. The President in the chair, supported by seventeen members and three visitors.

Mr. N. Wanstall (Netherwood, Whitefield) was elected a member, Mr. C. Taylor (Liverpool) a corresponding member.

Mr. Beckton read the first part of his paper on the "Stamps of Greece," giving interesting details from the Postal Decrees, and describing fully the printings of the first issue.

Messrs. Beckton and Abbott exhibited their collections.

THE sixth meeting was held on Friday, December 4th. The President in the chair, supported by fourteen members.

Mr. Duerst announced that the *London Philatelist* would in future be forwarded direct to members by post.

Mr. Beckton continued his paper. He gave the later printings in detail, and explained, by means of his collection (which was displayed in the frames belonging to the society), the differences by which they could be distinguished.

At the conclusion of the paper a hearty vote of thanks was accorded to Mr. Beckton.

THE fourth Annual Dinner took place at the Grand Hotel on Friday, December 18th, twenty-six being present.

Mr. Beckton, in a short speech, made special reference to the coming exhibition in London.

The latter part of a most enjoyable evening was devoted to music and song.

THE seventh meeting of the session was held on Friday, January 8th. The President in the chair, and sixteen other members present.

Mr. W. Brown (Salisbury) was elected a corresponding member.

Mr. F. A. Prout (Stockport) tendered his resignation, which was accepted with regret.

The Hon. Secretary read the first part of his paper, dealing with the skilling issues of Norway, and pointed out the varieties, the types, and the mode of printing of the various issues.

Messrs. Harrison's and Beckton's collections illustrated the paper.

THE eighth meeting of the session was held at the Grand Hotel on January 22nd. The President in the chair, supported by eleven members.

The resignation of Mr. T. L. Marsden was accepted with regret. Mr. E. W. Bramwell (Chorlton-cum-Hardy) was elected a corresponding member.

The Hon. Secretary read the continuation of his paper upon the "Stamps of Norway." He pointed out the means by which the printings might be distinguished in the 1877 and later issues, and gave an account of the modes of printing adopted in Norway for the later issues.

Mr. Harrison received a hearty vote of thanks upon the conclusion of the paper.

ARTHUR H. HARRISON, *Hon. Sec.*

GRASMERE, WHITEFIELD, MANCHESTER.

Correspondence.

We have to defer the publication of the letters we have received for want of space until next month.—ED.

THE

London Philatelist:

THE MONTHLY JOURNAL OF

THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY, LONDON.

VOL. VI. MARCH, 1897. No. 63.

The Philatelic Society of India.

THE seeds of Philately are indigenous to every soil, and so sturdy is the plant that it seems to flourish in all climates and under all conditions. Stamp collecting to-day seems almost as universal as stamp issuing; and those whose good fortune has enabled them to visit the various portions of the earth have found adherents to the cult in the remotest corners. In Europe and America, where the great centres of life are mostly within reasonable distance of each other, the formation of Philatelic Clubs and Societies has been an outcome as natural in conception as easy of execution. In the other Continents, where the European contingents are scattered at wide intervals, the collector has generally been compelled to pursue his amusement uncheered or unaided by his brother collectors. Until a quite recent period these conditions obtained in that vast portion of the globe entitled the Empire of India, where the total population of Europeans was but a few hundred thousand, hardly discernible among the millions of the native races. Although in many cases divided by huge tracts of country, the railway and telegraph have now done much to lessen the distance; and the idea of Philatelic co-operation—as betokened by our title—is no longer an impossibility, but shows good promise of fruition.

From the official organ of the new Society—the *Philatelic Journal of India*—we gather that some fifty influential collectors from all parts of the empire have already been enrolled as members, and that the following have signified their willingness to serve on the Council: Lady Collin, for the ladies (gallant Anglo-Indians!); Messrs. Lyall and Norman, for Bengal; Major Du Moulin and Mr. Cornwall, for the N.-W. Provinces; Major Hopkinson and Mr. G. A. Anderson, for the Punjaub; Professor O. V. Müller, for

Bombay; Surgeon-Major Harris, for the Central Provinces; and Lieut. T. E. Madden, for Assam. Mr. Stewart-Wilson, Mr. Corfield, and Mr. C. F. Larmour have agreed, provisionally, to act as President, Treasurer, and Secretary respectively. It is at once evident that the Philatelic Society of India will be comprehensive in every sense of the word, and will probably ere long include in its ranks all the best names in India. The three latter gentlemen have all high qualifications for the posts provisionally assigned to them, and we hope they may be confirmed in their holdings. A more courteous, able, or indefatigable Hon. Secretary than Mr. C. F. Larmour would be difficult to find—in India or England.

It is wisely stated in the preliminary announcements that it is not intended to supersede in any manner the already flourishing Philatelic Societies at Calcutta, Bombay, and other cities. Each of these local societies, where firmly established and possessed of a respectable number of members, should be practically autonomous, and, except on questions affecting the whole body of Indian collectors, a perfectly free hand should be given. Subject to this, there are many ways in which co-operation will be found most useful—notably in the ventilation of some of the grievances that now unduly oppress the soul of the Anglo-Indian collector.

One of the advantages of the new movement is already apparent in the guise of our new contemporary, previously referred to—the *Philatelic Journal of India*. We take the liberty of heartily congratulating its editors on their first appearance. Excellently printed, and in size and style closely resembling the organ of the London Philatelic Society, this initial number is smartly written throughout, and reflects the greatest credit on all concerned. Mr. Stewart-Wilson commences an article on the "Surcharged Stamps of British India," which is full of interest and information, and should tend to make these legitimately-issued stamps far more popular than they have been hitherto. We can but heartily congratulate the Philatelic Society of India on the first appearance of their official Journal; and, in thanking them for the compliment they have paid to their *confrères* in London in avowing their intention to follow the lines of this Journal, we wish all success to the new Society and its excellent official Organ.

The New Zealand "Local Posts, 1856";

ALSO

Notes on the Early Bisection of the One Shilling Value.

A Paper communicated to the Philatelic Society, London, and Read at the Meeting of March 5th, 1897.

By CHARLES H. MOTTRAM.

A SENSE of surprise was experienced, I believe, among those specially interested in the past history of the stamps of New Zealand, on reading the information contained in my "Remarks on the Early Postal Rates"* relative to the very limited use of the *One Penny* on the first issue of that value in July, 1855; the natural expectation being, that this stamp would have been employed for half-ounce letters for "*Town Delivery*" and, perhaps, for newspapers.

The Regulations at that time, however, show that its primary, and apparently only *bonâ fide* use was for the purpose of franking the private correspondence of the non-commissioned officers and men of Her Majesty's regiments and warships stationed in and around the Colony, and whose "*letters*" were never to exceed "*half an ounce in weight*," at a charge of "*One Penny each.*"

Therefore a comparatively small supply of these labels (12,000 in number) had been sent from London with the plate.

As far as I am aware, the paper by Messrs. A. T. Bate and E. D. Bacon on the "Early New Zealand Stamps,"† read before the Philatelic Society, London, March 22nd, 1895, and my own "Notes" appearing in this Journal, have not been supplemented during the past two years in any other publication except one, which included a contribution on the subject of the stamps of this Colony.

I refer to "A Note on the First Issues of New Zealand," in the *Philatelic Record* for March, 1895, under the signature "G. de F."

The author reviews an abbreviated report, given by the *Australian Philatelist*,‡ of Mr. Bate's communication to a meeting at Wellington of the Philatelic Society of New Zealand, after the latter's discovery of the record of the first locally-printed stamps at Auckland in 1855.

Unfortunately the Australasian journal above mentioned, after noting *nearly all* the items recited by Mr. Bate, stopped at a very important point, and omitted to state that the Colonial Government modified the original

* *The London Philatelist*, June, 1895. † *Ibid.*, August, 1895.
‡ *The Australian Philatelist*, January, 1895.

order to print 86,000 labels from the plates of the three values, and ultimately printed 29,016 *One Penny* stamps only.

The writer in the *Record*, therefore, was unwittingly led to a misquotation of the *actual* number of stamps printed, and consequently of the quantity of paper consumed out of the reported stock of six reams.

At this stage of the paper the author turns to the summary * of my first contribution (before its appearance in full in this Journal †), and urges that "*the natural inference is that*" Mr. Richardson "*would continue to use the six reams*" of "*star*" paper sent from London, "*so long as it lasted, before he had recourse to the paper supplied in the Colony*"; my argument to the contrary being based upon the Postal Revenue Statistics, 1855–6, of the New Zealand Government.

The writer further suggests *the year 1858* as the date when the supply of "*star*" paper may have been exhausted and the issue on blue wove paper substituted, and computes that *six reams* of the former would represent "*a quantity sufficient to print seven millions of stamps*" (?)

My paper, entitled "The First Locally-printed Stamps of New Zealand," read before this Society in February of last year, and appearing in the *London Philatelist* of February, 1897, refers on page 40 to the likelihood of the London supply of paper lasting for several years, presuming that it was put into use in 1855. Thus far the author in the *Record* and myself are in agreement, and I would gladly add the *seven millions* of impressions in further support of the case, but, as shown in last month's Journal, I cannot place to the credit of six reams more than, roughly, *seven hundred thousand* (691,200) labels.

I fear that by a slip of the pen the additional cipher was added to the calculation by the writer. However, the large deduction necessary to set matters right can probably be afforded, without being prejudicial to my view of the question, especially when it is remembered that the blue wove paper was in use in the Colony as early as April, 1856, two years before the time supposed by "G. de F.," who must have overlooked the Report of 1893‡ of the Sub-Committee of this Society, giving that date.

The editorial note at the termination of the contribution to the *Record* recognizes this by the observation: "*What do the dated specimens of the 2d. on blue paper say? Let these speak, and we shall all know something.*"

"THE LOCAL POSTS, 1856."

"*Posts and Postal Communications within the several Provinces of New Zealand*," *during the first eighteen months after the introduction of the system of prepayment of postage by means of stamps*, were, undeniably, restricted to the smallest possible compass.

The condition of the whole Department, in this respect, appears to have reached an acute stage in the year 1856, and the meeting of the General Assembly in April was made the occasion of important changes in the Postal Service of the Colony.

* *The London Philatelist*, January, 1895.

† *Ibid.*, May and June, 1895. ‡ *Ibid.*, October 1894.

In the first place *the Post Office* itself, *in Auckland*, was found to be totally "*inadequate to the requirements of the public.*" And to remedy this condition of affairs the Chamber of Commerce, by Committee, reported to the General Government upon "the state of the Post Office building," which it was proposed should either be altered or rebuilt.

"The want of necessary space and accommodation" considerably delayed "the delivery and despatch of letters," and was referred to in the House as "an intolerable evil. The public could not obtain their letters or newspapers for many hours—in some cases days—after the arrival of an English mail. The mercantile public especially suffered by such a delay, and people from the country experienced both loss and disappointment, as many of them came from a distance solely to obtain letters, but could not get them until after hours of dreary waiting. The arrival of a large mail created quite a confusion."

It was eventually decided that the Post Office should occupy the offices vacated by two of the General Government Departments, and after the necessary alterations to them had been made, intimation was given by the following

"*Notice.*

"The removal of the Post Office from the old building in High Street to the premises in Princes Street, lately the Treasury and Office of the Colonial Secretary, was effected yesterday. The new office will be open this day, Friday, at noon.

"W. CORBETT,
"*Postmaster.*

"31*st October*, 1856."

With regard also to the non-"Town Delivery" question at this period, the following is, I think, conclusive :—

"POST OFFICE, AUCKLAND,
"15*th December*, 1856.

"*Private-Box Delivery.*

"Subscribers of two guineas per annum will henceforth be entitled to have Private Boxes in this Office, and to obtain their letters at a separate delivery window.

"W. CORBETT,
"*Postmaster.*"

This, of course, was especially intended for the convenience of the commercial section of the public, when calling for their correspondence.

I have included in this series of papers some details concerning the "Local Posts," solely on account of the influence which they exercised over the use of stamps, namely, those represented by the two lower values.

I submit, for instance, that it would be interesting to ascertain when the *One Penny* was first issued to the general public for the purpose of franking Inland Letters of half an ounce weight.

That *this latter event was one of the results of the legislation of the General Assembly of 1856*, I hope to be able to show in the course of the following remarks. And further, having recently met with several early copies of

this value thus used singly, and on their original envelopes, dated in 1857 and 1858, I deemed the discovery of sufficient importance to bring under the notice of this Society.

The Local Posts Act, 1856, which received the assent of His Excellency the Governor in August, stated in the preamble and five following clauses, that:—

"Whereas it is expedient that increased facilities should be afforded for the establishment of Posts and Postal Communications within the several Provinces of New Zealand:

"Be it therefore enacted by the General Assembly of New Zealand as follows:

"1. It shall be lawful for the Postmaster of the Principal Post Office of any Province in New Zealand from time to time to establish any local Post or Postal Communication within such Province whenever he shall have been requested by the Superintendent, acting upon an address of the Provincial Council, to establish the same; and every Post or Postal Communication so established shall be deemed to be a part of the Postal Service of New Zealand, established under the authority of the laws in force in that behalf.

"2. It shall be lawful for the Superintendent of any Province, by Proclamation in the Government *Gazette* thereof, to fix the rates of postage payable for the transmission by any such Post or Postal Communication of letters, newspapers, and other papers and parcels; and from time to time, by such Proclamation, to alter, repeal, or abolish any postage so fixed as aforesaid, and to fix any other rate of postage in lieu thereof. And all postage from time to time to become payable by virtue of any such Proclamation shall be charged and be payable accordingly, provided always that no such rate of postage shall exceed the sum which may have been specified for any such Service by the Provincial Council of such Province.

"3. The said Postmaster shall cause a separate account to be kept of all the Postal Revenues accruing under this Act. And all such Revenues shall be expended in defraying the cost of the various Postal Services established under this Act in the Province in which such Revenue shall have arisen, and in no other object whatsoever.

"4. If the Revenues arising in respect of any Postal Service established under the provisions of this Act shall be insufficient to defray the cost of such Postal Service, any such deficiency shall be made up out of the Provincial Revenues of the Province within which such Service is established. And it shall not be lawful for any such Postmaster to establish any such Service, or incur any expense thereon, until the Superintendent thereof shall have guaranteed the payment of any sums which may be necessary to make up any such deficiency as aforesaid.

"5. This Act may be cited for all purposes as the 'Local Posts Act, 1856.'"

Christmas, 1856, had been fixed as the date beyond which the General Government did not propose to maintain any Local Posts; consequently they had to be re-established under the new Act.

Immediate action having become necessary in the six Provinces, their Superintendents convened the Councils for debate upon several measures passed by the General Assembly which affected the various Local Governments.

I propose to give a short account of the proceedings in *two* of the Provinces only, as these were interesting in their details with regard to the use of postage stamps of the respective values of *One Penny* and *Twopence.*

Auckland.

In December the Council met here, and Mr. J. O'Neill, one of the Executive, and mover of the resolution for the "establishment of regular postal communication within the Province," suggested that "the rate of postage payable for letters be a uniform rate of *two pence* for each letter of half an ounce or under, and *two pence* for each half ounce additional."

"Mr. Graham suggested *one penny in lieu of two pence* for each *additional* half ounce."

"Mr. J. O'Neill said that even *two pence* per letter would amount to a mere trifle. *Stamps for two pence being in existence should also be a consideration.*"

"In Committee—Mr. Graham, *considering the difficulty of getting penny stamps, withdrew his objection.*"

"Mr. J. O'Neill asked where, if the lesser amount were to be carried, the coppers would be found to pay the pennies?"

"On the question being put:—

"*The postage of two pence, in both instances, was then agreed to.*"

I may here say that at that period there was no bronze coinage in the Colony.

One point in the above debate implies, I think, that the Government had ceased, in 1856, to print from the plate of the *One Penny* value.

There is, doubtless, *one instance* known of the use of the *One Penny;* namely, on blue paper, imperforate, and dated at Wellington, August 26, 1856, submitted by Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Limited, to the Sub-Committee of this Society in 1893;* but may not this have been a portion, or remainder of stock in hand, of the large number of *One Penny* stamps printed at Auckland, as we have seen, in November and December, 1855; since the *Twopence* on blue paper had been current from the early part of 1856, and was the value mostly required?

Canterbury.

At the session of the Provincial Council, opened at Christchurch in October, "Mr. Brittan moved" (in the following month) "that an address be presented to His Honour the Superintendent, praying that he would direct the Postmaster at Lyttelton to organize a daily mail between Lyttelton and Christchurch, both ways, and *a daily delivery at both places.* Also a mail twice a week from Christchurch to Kaiapoi and back. A uniform rate to be

* *The London Philatelist*, October, 1894.

charged of *one penny* each for newspapers, and one-half the present rate of postage (or *one penny* per half ounce) for letters; the Council guaranteeing the difference of expense, if any, of working the new arrangement."

"A debate ensued on an amendment of Mr. Hall's, for charging *twopence* on each letter, which ended in the amendment being negatived, and the motion agreed to."

The Postmaster at Lyttelton thereupon announced that he would receive tenders at his office, "for either service separately or both together," for the conveyance of these mails "for fifteen months" (in each case) "from the 1st January, 1857."

Then followed a

"*Public Notice.*

"*Lyttelton and Christchurch Local Posts.*

"On and after Thursday, the 1st January, 1857, letters posted in Christchurch before half-past 8 a.m. will be delivered to residents along the line of route of the mail-cart and in the town of Lyttelton by one o'clock.

"Letters posted in Lyttelton before half-past 2 p.m. will be delivered to residents along the line of route of the mail-cart and in the town of Christchurch the same evening.

"Letters directed to houses situated in the towns of Lyttelton and Christchurch will be delivered at the houses to which they are directed. All other letters will be left at the respective post offices till called for.

"The post office in Christchurch will be opened for the receipt of letters at 8 a.m. Will close at half-past 8 for making up and despatching the mail at 9 a.m. Will reopen at 11 a.m., and be closed for the day at 4 p.m."

In the call for tenders it was stated that the delivery to individual houses was to be done by means of "an open bag, containing letters and newspapers," apart from the mail-bags for the post offices at Lyttelton and Christchurch.

"*Kaiapoi and Christchurch Local Posts.*

"Letters addressed to Kaiapoi and places northward must be posted in Lyttelton before half-past 2 p.m. on Wednesdays and Saturdays.

"In Christchurch, before half-past 11 a.m. on Mondays and Thursdays.

"Letters for Lyttelton or Christchurch from Kaiapoi must be posted before half-past 8 a.m. on Tuesdays and Fridays, for despatch from Kaiapoi by the 9 o'clock mail on those days.

"Letters arriving from sea at Lyttelton will be forwarded and delivered by the Local Posts in the same manner as letters posted in Lyttelton.

"Letters posted at Kaiapoi and Christchurch for places beyond Lyttelton will be forwarded by the Local Posts—

"To places within the Colony of New Zealand, on prepayment of the Local Postage;

"To places beyond the Colony of New Zealand, on prepayment of the Local Postage, with the postage payable on such letters.

"These regulations apply to newspapers, as well as letters.

'It is requested that, where practicable, all letters and papers be prepaid.

"*Rates of Postage by the Local Posts.*

"On every letter not exceeding half an ounce in weight, *One Penny*.

"On every letter exceeding half an ounce in weight, then the sum of *One Penny* for every half ounce, or fractional part of half an ounce, according to the weight of such letter.

"*Newspapers.*

"Printed newspapers shall be conveyed for a charge of *One Penny* each.

"Printed prices current and commercial lists, not exceeding two ounces in weight, shall be forwarded through the post under the same regulations and privileges as newspapers.

"W. L. HOWARD,

"LYTTELTON, *December 30, 1856.*" "*Postmaster.*

The system by which letters conveyed by these mails were "delivered to residents along the line of route of the mail-cart, and to houses situated in the towns of Lyttelton and Christchurch," is curious, and appears to be the first approach to a "Town Delivery" in New Zealand.

Judging by the promptitude with which the Postmaster, Mr. Howard, carried into effect the instructions of the Superintendent of Canterbury, by calling for tenders on "November 26th," to be returnable on "December 13th," and the complete organization of the "Local Posts" for that Province by the 30th of the latter month, it is very probable that a requisition for a fresh supply of *One Penny* stamps left Lyttelton, perhaps, in November, and that a printing of this value took place at Auckland in December, in readiness for use at Canterbury in January, 1857.

Messrs. Puttick and Simpson, of Leicester Square, offered at four of their Auction Sales, in September, October, and November last, several specimens of the New Zealand *One Penny* value on blue paper, and in each case represented by a *unit* on the "entire original," the envelopes having passed in sundry mails from Lyttelton to Christchurch by means of the "Local Posts."

These letters were all addressed to—

"*Thomas S. Duncan, Esq.,*
Solicitor,
Madras Street,
Christchurch."

I append a

REFERENCE LIST.

One Penny, vermilion.

1.	Blue wove paper;	imperf.	"	"	"	"Port Victoria, New Zealand, Aug 21, 1857."
2.	"	"	"	"	"	"Aug. 25, 1857."
3.	"	"	"	"	"	"Aug 25, 1857."
4.	"	"	"	"	"	"Aug. 31, 1857."

5.	Blue wove paper;	imperf.	" Port Victoria,	New Zealand,	Sept.	2, 1857."
6.	,,	,,	,,	,,	,,	"Oct. 14, 1857."
7.	,,	,,	,,	,,	,,	"Nov. 3, 1857."
8.	,,	,,	,,	,,	,,	"April 26, 1858."

The original date-stamp of the post office at Lyttelton was inscribed "Port Victoria, New Zealand."

Two specimens of the next higher value were also among these stamps, as follows:—

Twopence, blue.

1.	Blue wove paper;	imperf.	"Wellington,	New Zealand,	Aug.	25, 1857."
			"Port Victoria	,,	Sept.	1, 1857."
2.	,,	,,	"Wellington	,,	Feb.	3, 1858."
			"Port Victoria	,,	Feb.	8, 1858."

These latter were, of course, of the class described as "sea letters" in the previously-quoted official notice. They bore no indication of any extra charge for conveyance by the "Local Post."

I understood Messrs. Puttick and Simpson to say that these stamps had been forwarded to them for sale from New Zealand. They do not, however, appear to have been seen by Philatelists in the Colony, if we may judge by the fact that no mention is made of them in the *Australian Philatelist.*

They will, doubtless, prove most interesting to specialists (historically), and I hope they will be seen again in July next at THE LONDON PHILATELIC EXHIBITION, 1897.

But more than all, I sincerely trust that their present owners have retained them on their "*entire originals*," otherwise the interest they possessed when I saw them would be lost, and their condition reduced to mediocrity!

(*To be continued.*)

Occasional Notes.

THE TAPLING COLLECTION.

WE are informed by Mr. E. D. Bacon that the stamps on view at the British Museum have again been changed, and that the issues of the Australian Colonies of South Australia and Tasmania are now to be seen.

LONDON PHILATELIC EXHIBITION.

WE are informed that the following further medals have been placed at the disposal of the Committee:—

Messrs. Buhl and Co., Limited, offer a Gold Medal for the best collection of the stamps of Peru.

Messrs. Callf and Co., a Silver Medal for the best collection of Sydney Views.

Messrs. Butler Bros., one Silver and one Bronze Medal for the two best collections, not exceeding 2000 varieties, to be shown in any album of English manufacture, by exhibitors under the age of 16 years.

NEW CONTRACT FOR THE CANADIAN STAMPS.

WE are enabled to quote the following paragraph from the *Montreal Herald* of January 11th, which confirms the rumours previously given in this Journal, and will probably result in fresh varieties of the current Canadian issues. These have mostly been in use for over a quarter of a century; hence Philatelists will not be loth to see a change in the design, excellent as it is.

"The contract for the Government engraving, of which tenders were called two months ago, has been awarded to the American Bank Note Company, of New York, for a period of five and a quarter years. The contract is worth $600,000, and may be renewed for a similar period. The work consists of engraving Dominion bank notes, revenue and postage stamps, postal cards, etc. At present the British-American Bank Note Company, better known as Burland and Company, formerly of Montreal, have the contract. They tendered this time, but the New York Company was the lowest. The New York Company is one of the largest and best known in the world. The firm engraves notes for some of the banks in Canada, including the Canadian Bank of Commerce. Under the terms of the new contract the Company will require to establish a place in Ottawa to do the work, where the Government can have supervision of it. As compared with the prices paid under the Burland contract, the Government will effect a saving of $120,000 by the new contract."

THE MIGHTY FALLEN.

It is with great regret that we learn from the columns of the *Deutsche Briefmarken Zeitung* of the sudden termination of the Philatelic career of one of the most noted German experts. The dealer in question has long been known as one of the very finest judges of stamps on the Continent, and has expertised stamps for many years past, until the appearance of his initial on the reverse of a stamp had come to be implicitly relied on. *Crede experto.* We regret deeply to learn that the subject of this note has been guilty of the meanest form of stealing—in the substitution of inferior or worthless stamps for those submitted to his judgment as an expert. The offences seem to have been fully brought home to him, by means of previous and subsequent photographs of the stamps submitted and returned; and having a presentiment of his downfall, he has fled from his country. The loss that Philately has sustained is distinct, and painful indeed are the circumstances connected therewith.

STAMP FRAUDS IN VICTORIA.

We are indebted to Messrs. W. Brettschneider and H. H. Manghirmalani for a cutting from the Melbourne *Argus* of January 7th, from which we learn that a long series of frauds upon the Postal department have just been brought to light, the perpetrater being the editor of the *Australian Stamp Collector*, a Mr. Thomas Webb. It appears that collectors in Melbourne have been surprised lately to find that the more valuable specimens of the Victoria stamps have been turning up very frequently, especially in an unused condition, and an application to the Postal authorities has resulted in an investigation which shows that Webb has been in the habit of obtaining the pen-cancelled stamps from receipts and other documents, and by the application of salts of lemon removing the cancellations. The stamps so treated have been in some cases returned over the Post Office counter at a discount of 5%, and in others sold in an unused condition to collectors. When it is known that stamps of £10 and £2 value have been treated in this way, and returned to the Post Office for exchange, the grave nature of the fraud will be evident. Commenting upon the case, the *Argus* says:—

"The illegal trafficking in stamps, which has been boldly brought into prominence by the arrest of Webb, has caused considerable anxiety to the Postal authorities, and, doubtless, grave loss to the Revenue. The valuable stamps in Webb's possession, but for the discovery made, might have all been bought back at the Post Office window as a matter of ordinary business, at their face value, less 5%. Thus the Revenue would have lost £500. How far this trafficking has extended, and how long it has been practised, cannot, of course, be decided off-hand. Webb says other stamp collectors use the same means to restore stamps, and probably he knows what he says to be true. One thing is certain. In the Stamp Department, the door of fraud is wide open, and the interior is so invitingly profitable that many ingenious people are bound to enter. The means by which old stamps are obtained to furnish the fraudulent dealers with materials for their solution processes are many, and some

of them are curious. In the first place there are countless collectors of stamps who gather from their friends, and from everyone, old stamps of all values. These they do up into bundles and sell. If they are smudged with the Post Office marks they are of little value to the fraudulent dealer who wants to cleanse and circulate them again. But if they have been taken from receipts, bills of exchange, &c., and are merely cancelled with the pen—'A.' 'B.' '1—1—97,' they are easily dealt with as described, and may be sent through the Post again. When the banks went into liquidation several years ago, large heaps of stamped documents they held in their strong rooms were sold for waste paper. These documents bore valuable stamps, some being worth many shillings, while a few ran into pounds. It has been suggested that these stamps, at first treated as curiosities, have passed from hand to hand till they have finally reached some dishonest dealer, who has made them the basis of an irregular but profitable trade by selling them back again to the Post Office, or putting them into ordinary circulation for the convenience of lawyers and others, who often require high-priced stamps.

"The Telegraph Department formerly sold their telegraph forms, with the stamps attached, for waste paper. That practice has been stopped in view of recent discoveries, and the forms and defaced stamps are now destroyed in the office itself. The whole subject is so important that the Postmaster-General has asked Mr. Blackett to suggest some improved stamp which will not lend itself to fraud. What is most desired is some ink which will change colour when subjected to any acid or other chemical processes. Meanwhile the greatest care is being observed in the department in the conduct of stamp business."

It is to the efforts of the Philatelic Society of Victoria that the Postal Department of that Colony, as well as Philatelists in general, must be grateful for so prompt an *exposé* of a fraud, the continuance of which would on both sides have been most serious.

PHILATELY ON THE RIVIERA.

THE sunny South seems more prolific of palms than Philately, and the larger towns, such as Nice, Cannes, or Mentone, are not represented by any Philatelic Societies. There are, however, many birds of passage who are collectors, and we are credibly informed by dealers in Nice and elsewhere that there is the keenest demand by visitors for fine stamps of all kinds—a demand, as may be imagined, far in excess of the local supply. The visitors to the South are of the most cosmopolitan order, and among the Philatelists are collectors from Russia and South-East Europe, who would seem to be more eager purchasers than those from Central Europe. One collector from Roumania brought with him his collection (which the writer was privileged to inspect), embracing many stamps of great rarity, and being in the aggregate of a very substantial value. The set of Reunions, the first issue of Roumania, and the 1869 United States inverted centres, are only samples of the value concealed in a couple of large and unpretentious-looking volumes. Among the Philatelists who have been sojourning on the Riviera may be noted: Messrs. W. Hausburg, Middleton, W. B. Avery, Hillman, and M. P. Castle.

TREASURY GRANT FOR ARRANGEMENT OF THE COLLECTION.

A PARAGRAPH to the following effect has appeared in a number of Provincial newspapers :—

"Philatelists will hear with satisfaction that the Treasury has consented to the insertion of a sum of money in the Estimates of the British Museum for the arrangement of the famous Tapling Collection of postage stamps, to be continued until the task is finished. Mr. Tapling left £2000 to be expended in mounting and arranging the collection so as to make it available for reference, but all this money has been used, and there is still a great deal to be done before the work can be said to be accomplished. Mr. E. D. Bacon, who was associated with Mr. Tapling in the formation of the collection, and who has been entrusted by the Trustees with the duty of placing the specimens in order, calculates that it will take over two years before his work in this respect is completed. The collection fills three large wooden cases, deposited in an immense iron safe, and its present market value is estimated at not less than £80,000."

After making due enquiries we are at a loss to gather from whom this report emanated, which is obviously incorrect in several of its statements. The amount left for the arrangement of the collection by the late Mr. T. K. Tapling was not two thousand, but one thousand pounds—which sum, we believe, has been expended. The grant now made by the Treasury will cover the expenses of mounting the adhesive portion of the collection; but the final and difficult matter of the proper classification of the envelopes and post cards will remain a question for the future. The grant made by the Treasury in the present instance is but a modest one, but is none the less to be welcomed, as showing that the Trustees of the British Museum are now imbued with a fuller appreciation of the importance of Mr. Tapling's bequest to the nation. It is, however, much to be deplored that no arrangements have been made for the continuation of the collection. The acquisition of all new issues without cost, and the patriotism of British Philatelists, would require but a very small annual grant in order to keep the collection literally up to date. We sincerely trust that some such step will be taken, and would suggest that the present is an especially favourable time to approach the Government hereon.

A WARNING.

WE have received from Mr. Hugo Krötzsch, the President of the Leipsic Section of the Deutsche Philatelische Verband, a timely warning against the "goods" submitted to collectors by Mr. A. Batifort, of Manilla. It would appear that in a selection (?) of the surcharged French Colonial issues, submitted to a member of that Society, amounting to 2806 marks, there was not a single genuine specimen, as regards the surcharge. Mr. Batifort must be a gentleman of slight Philatelic pretensions, but endowed with marked predatory instincts!

THE ERROR ISSUE OF TOBAGO STAMPS.

THE following excerpts from local newspapers are quoted in the *American Journal of Philately*, and will afford welcome news to all who wish to see Philately kept within its due and proper limits :—

"We understand that there has been considerable excitement among stamp collectors both here and at home over the recent error issue of Tobago Shilling stamps. It is rumoured that a stamp collector has laid a complaint in the matter before His Excellency the Acting Governor, and that correspondence is now proceeding. It appears that the old stamps went out on September 30th, and the error issue came in on the 1st October. After the stamps were sent out from home it was discovered that they were wrong in colour, and an order was issued by the Secretary of State, it is said, stopping their circulation. This was received in Tobago on or about the 8th October, and there were then only a few hundred stamps out. This issue was stopped, and applications that were made for stamps were refused on the 23rd and 24th October. However, for some reason or other, the stamps were reissued, and His Honour Commissioner Low, Magistrate Walker, and other officials, bought up a large number of the stamps. These are the allegations brought to the notice of the Acting Governor. If Commissioner Low contravened orders in order to indulge in a good piece of speculation for himself and friends, he did wrong. If, however, the orders from the Secretary of State were not peremptory, but left it to his own discretion as to when to withdraw the issue, he may not have been irregular."

Mr. H. Clarence Bourne has left Trinidad for Tobago under a Commission issued by the Acting Governor, appointing him for certain purposes which are set out.

The Royal Gazette further states that—

"And whereas circulars have from time to time been issued by the Right Honourable the Secretary of State calling attention among other things to the difficulties sometimes experienced in obtaining supplies of Colonial stamps, and to certain irregularities which exist in the practice of selling stamps to dealers and collectors;

"And whereas complaints have been made to me with regard to the sale, in the Island of Tobago in the month of October now last past, of certain postage stamps which had then been recently withdrawn from circulation;

"And whereas an enquiry into the matters hereinafter specified would in my opinion be for the public welfare;

"Now therefore I, Clement Courtenay Knollys, Acting Governor as aforesaid, do hereby, in pursuance of the powers vested in me in this behalf by the 'Commissions of Enquiry Ordinance, 1892,' aforesaid, and of any and every other power enabling me in this behalf, issue this my Commission to you the said Hugh Clarence Bourne, appointing you to be a Commissioner to enquire into

(*a*) "The practice which has hitherto prevailed in the Island of Tobago with regard to the sale of postage stamps to dealers and collectors of stamps.

(*b*) "The circumstances connected with the sale in the said Island of certain postage stamps which had been withdrawn from circulation on the 8th day of October now last past; and

(*c*) "The desirability or otherwise of providing for the manner in which and the person by whom requisition for stamps from dealers in and collectors of stamps should in future be dealt with;

(*d*) "And such other matters connected with Postage, Revenue, or Fee Stamps as may seem to you expedient."

Reviews.

THE SCOTT CATALOGUE, 1897.*



E have received a copy of this—one of the generally-accepted triumvirate of price arbiters—which in its main features of general excellence is a worthy continuation of its past career. In view of the present large number of catalogues, and the fact that they are "hardy annuals," we do not deem it advisible to give more than a brief outline thereof. The prices of these catalogues are, as a rule, so reasonable that almost every reader of Philatelic journals acquires them. In the present instance, as in subsequent cases, a somewhat cursory review must not be held to denote any feeling of inappreciation of the work under review, but rather be taken as an indication that its known excellency renders any especial comment unnecessary.

In the case of the 1897 Scott there do not seem to be any striking innovations. The all-important portion relating to the prices will be found to contain many notable alterations, and a rapid glance through the pages shows an expected general advance in Europe and the British Colonies, especially in an unused condition. We are glad to see a fuller description of France, more especially as to colours, although this is a country which still leaves a wide field for Philatelic research. The advance in the older issues of United States is somewhat startling, especially in many of the quotations for used, while the Revenue stamps of this interesting country have risen to prices quite beyond our understanding. The descriptions of the secret marks, however, and the exhaustive treatment of the "U.S." portion of the 1897 Scott render the book invaluable.

We are not sorry to find the quotations for Post Office Mauritius and similar stamps omitted, but are surprised at the entire omission of any description of the lately-discovered die varieties of the De La Rue British Colonial issues. The "Hints for Collectors" again found at the beginning of the volume will be a decided boon to the young collector, and altogether the Scott Catalogue will be found to be an indispensable factor in British Philately.

* *Standard Postage Stamp Catalogue.* Fifty-seventh edition, 1897. New York: Scott Stamp and Coin Co., Limited, 18, East 23rd Street.

New Issues.

NOTES OF NEW, AND VARIATIONS OF CURRENT, ISSUES.

(Varieties of Obsolete Stamps, and Discoveries, will be found under "Philatelic Notes.")

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.

Members of the London Philatelic Society, and other readers generally, are invited to co-operate with us in making the columns as interesting as possible. Our foreign readers can especially help us in this direction, by sending copies of any official documents relative to changes in the current issues, or early intimation of any new issue, accompanied, when possible, by a specimen; such information will be duly credited to the correspondent, and, if desired, the specimen promptly returned. Address: EDITOR "LONDON PHILATELIST," EFFINGHAM HOUSE, ARUNDEL STREET, STRAND, LONDON, W.C.

BRITISH EMPIRE.

BERMUDA.—The *A. J. of Ph.* is informed that a new series of adhesives in the current Colonial type will be supplied to this Colony in June next.

GAMBIA.—The *Ph. Record* announces similar news for this Colony, except that the new issue was expected from London at the time of writing.

JAMAICA.—Several of our contemporaries chronicle the 1, 2, and 5 shilling stamps as having been issued with the Crown CA watermark, the colours being of a slightly different shade from the C C stamps. We understand that the remainders of these latter were overprinted "Judicial," the same being used to denote payment of the Government fees to the Judicial Court.

Adhesives. 1 shilling, brown; perf. 14.
2 ,, claret ,,
5 ,, mauve ,,

LABUAN.—The remarks under "North Borneo" apply here, with the additional surcharge "LABUAN" in the usual type. The colours are—

Adhesives.
1 c., lilac and black, black surcharge; *redrawn type.*
2 c., blue ,, ,, ,,
3 c., ochre ,, ,, ,,
5 c., green ,, ,, ,,
6 c., brick-red ,, ,, ,,
8 c., rose ,, ,, ,,
12 c., vermilion ,, ,, ,,
18 c., olive-brown ,, ,, ,,
24 c., lilac and blue, blue surcharge ,,

NIGER COAST PROTECTORATE.—Mr. A. G. Griffith has kindly forwarded for our inspection specimens of three Registered Envelopes, which arrived in the Protectorate on the 10th January. The sizes are G, H², and K, and they are of the old pattern, with flap at the back, underneath which is "Thos. De La Rue & Co. Patent." The stamp on the flap is enclosed in an ornamental rectangular frame, similar to that illustrated on page 50.

Registered Letter Envelopes. 2d., blue (3 sizes).

NORTH BORNEO.—From information received from the British North Borneo Co. by the Philatelic Society, London, we learn that the Governor at Sandakan, writing on 28th June, 1896, advises the addition of Chinese and Malay characters to the inscriptions on the stamps of North Borneo and Labuan. Hence the designs have been altered to include these, and the new stamps will be in use about the middle of April.

Adhesives. 1 c., ochre and black; *redrawn type.*
2 c., lake ,, ,,
3 c., lilac and olive-green ,,
5 c., vermilion and black ,,
6 c., olive-brown and ,, ,,
8 c., dull lilac ,, ,,
12 c., blue ,, ,,
18 c., green ,, ,,
24 c., dull lake-blue ,,

ST. HELENA.—A correspondent writing to the *Ph. Record* gives two items of interest: one, that the 6d., grey, adhesive, of the old type, is still in use in the Colony; and the other, that the bi-colour 1½d. adhesive has become obsolete.

ST. VINCENT.—At the beginning of the year a new post card, value ½d., was supplied to this Colony; it is of small size (121×75 mm.), and bears the usual stamp and inscriptions.

Post Card. ½ penny, green on *buff.*

TOBAGO.—Under another heading we have referred to the enquiry being made into the recent irregularities on the part of Post Office and other officials, as to the one shilling stamps printed in the colour of the 6d. stamp. We now quote part of a letter received by the *A. J. of Ph.* from a correspondent on the island, having regard to the ½d. on 4d. provisional, which speaks for itself.

"On the 21st of Dec., '96, there was a surcharge in the Post Office, ½d. on 4d. Revenue. 114 sheets of 60 each sheet were surcharged, and only a few were sold to the public across the counter, 12 to each person, then there was a rush to buy. The Postmaster stopped the sale of them unless cards were brought to post; in that way I could not get any to send to you. About 1000 went through the post on cards, and about eight hundred were sold to the public. *The whole of the balance were bought up by the public officers here from the Commissioner down, as the officers are all in one building, and the Commissioner is the head; for since the* 1s. *error came in in Sept. last year—and was withdrawn a few weeks after, and a few days after they were sold out almost privately by the Commissioner, who has bought up with the other officials the greater part of them —very few were sold to the public.* They have all become stamp speculators. It is believed that the ½d. were run out purposely so as to have this surcharge to speculate on." The italics are ours.

ZANZIBAR.—Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. write to point out that we omitted the higher values in our chronicle of the permanent (?) issue last month; these we give below. The same correspondents also inform us that the 4 annas stamp of the new type has received the "2½" surcharge, in red. There is also some legitimate stationery to be obtained, as follows :—

Adhesives.

3 rupees, lilac and red.
4 ,, purple-brown and red.
5 ,, dark brown and red.
"2½" on 4 annas, green, black and red, red surcharge.

Envelope.

2½ annas, ultramarine, on *white laid*, 118×66 mm.

Registered Letter Envelope.

2 annas, brown-carmine, 134×83 mm.

Wrappers.

½ anna, green on *buff*, 126×300 mm.
1 ,, carmine on *buff* ,,

Post Cards.

½ anna, green on *buff*, 121×75 mm.
½+½ ,, ,, ,, ,,
1 ,, carmine ,, 140×89 mm.
1+1 ,, ,, ,, ,,

EUROPE.

DENMARK.—The *Philatelic Record* adds the following to the list of adhesives given on p. 360, vol. v., *perf.* 12½ :—

Adhesives. 3 öre, grey and blue.
4 ,, blue and grey.
8 ,, rose and grey.
100 ,, orange and grey.

FINLAND.—*Le T.-P.* announces a change in the 10 penni post card. The inscriptions are set in new type, the shield has undergone certain modifications, and the crown and lion are larger.

Post Card. 10 penni, carmine.

ITALY.—We are indebted to Mr. Joseph Cortese for pointing out a change which has taken place in the 5 c. adhesive; the figures of value are now in the lower angles only. We will illustrate this stamp shortly. The paper, wmk., and perforation remain as usual. *Adhesive.* 5 c., green.

LUXEMBURG.—In our March, 1896, issue, we chronicled some values of the current adhesives, perf. 11½; the *M.J.* now announces a further change in the same values to perforation 11. These are :—

Adhesives. 12½ c., 20 c., 30 c., 37½ c.
Official Stamps. 20 c., 30 c., 37½ c., 50 c.

MONACO.—A correspondent writes that the colours of the current set vary somewhat, the 1 c. being notably paler—while the 75 c. is no longer on sale in the Principality.

TURKEY.—*Le T.-P.* reports the emission of a 5 paras stamp to take place next month; pending this the 10 paras has been surcharged with the figure 5 in Turkish, and English "5" in the corners. There is also a new Letter Card of 1 piastre with the current stamp of that value printed in green and black, on *buff* card.

Adhesive. 5 paras, green, red surcharge.
Letter Card. 1 piastre, green and black, on *buff*.

AMERICA.

ARGENTINE REPUBLIC.—The following are to be added to the list of adhesives printed on the new watermarked paper (vol. v. p. 55) :—

Adhesives. 16 c., grey.
2 pesos, dark green.
5 ,, dark blue.

ECUADOR.—We hear of numerous additional provisionals, including Fiscal Postals and resurrected Seebecks. The *M. J.* gives us the following list :—

Adhesives. (*Fiscal Postals.*)
1 c. on 1 c., vermilion, of 1893-94.
2 c. ,, 2 c. ,, ,,
10 c. ,, 4 c. ,, 1887-88.

Le T.-P. adds the following, which consists of the 1894 issue surcharged :—

1. "1897-1898," *surcharge reading upwards from lower left-hand corner.*

Adhesives. 1 c., blue, black surcharge.
10 c., vermilion, black ,,
20 c., black, ,, ,,

2. "1897-1898," *surcharge reading downwards from top left-hand corner.*

Adhesives.

2 c., brown, black surcharge.
5 c., green ,, ,,
50 c., orange ,, ,, (stamps of 1895).
1 sucre, carmine, black surcharge (stamps of 1895).
5 ,, deep blue ,, ,, ,, ,,

MEXICO.—The *M. J.* adds the following four values to the stamps watermarked R.M., and all these are to be shortly superseded for a new paper ordered from England. The same journal adds a new Letter Card, with a folded sheet inside for writing the letter upon.

Adhesives. 10 c., rose-lilac ; wmk. R.M.
15 c., blue-green ,, ,,
20 c., brown-lilac ,, ,,
50 c., mauve ,, ,,
Letter Card. 5 c., blue on *white.*

NICARAGUA.—The Seebeck crop is ready, the yield is a good one, and only differs from the 1896 growth by a change in colour and date. The issues of 1869-71 and 1878-80 have also been reprinted.—*Mekeel's Weekly.*

SALVADOR.—The same remarks apply here.

OTHER COUNTRIES.

AUSTRIAN LEVANT.—The 10 and 20 paras are now perforated 13½, in place of 10 (?).

Adhesives. 10 paras on 3 kr., green, black surcharge.
20 ,, ,, 3 kr., rose ,, ,,

CHINA.—Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. send us welcome news regarding the Local Posts, and the Imperial Chinese Post specially. The former, with the exception of Shanghai, were closed by order of the Imperial Government on February 2nd; and as it is made an offence punishable by a fine of 500 taels for steamers trading between Chinese ports to carry mails, we may hope to see a final extirpation of the badly-printed and unnecessary rubbish which has too long been represented as legitimate Philately. The Shanghai Local Post has also been ordered to operate only within the boundaries of the city itself, instead of, as previously, to the various treaty ports of China, which places these stamps on the "Locals" list.

Pending the arrival of a new Imperial issue, which is being prepared in Japan, there has been put on sale a set of provisionals, consisting of the 1894 issue surcharged with new values in "cents" and "1 dollar," the surcharge reading in both Chinese and English characters. The permanent values of postage stamps adopted by the Imperial Post are of the following denominations : ½ c., 1, 2, 4, 5, 10, 20, 30, 50 cents ; 1, 2, and 5 dollars ; and an internal post card of 1 cent. The rates of postage are :—

Letters.—2 cents for each ¼ oz. or fraction thereof.

Newspapers.—Posted singly, Chinese, ½ cent each ; foreign, 1 cent each ; in packets, 1 cent per 2 oz. or fraction thereof.

Books, Circulars, Samples.—2 cents per 2 oz. ; Patterson samples not to exceed 8 oz. in weight.

Parcels.—10 cents for first lb., and 5 cents for each succeeding lb.

Registration.—4 cents, return receipt, 4 cents.

The set of provisionals mentioned above is as follows :—

Adhesives.

½ cent on 3 cand., pale yellow, black surcharge.
1 ,, ,, 1 ,, red ,, ,,
2 cents ,, 2 ,, pale green ,, ,,
4 ,, ,, 4 ,, rose ,, ,,
5 ,, ,, 5 ,, brown-yellow ,, ,,
8 ,, ,, 6 ,, brown ,, ,,
10 ,, ,, 6 ,, brown ,, ,,
10 ,, ,, 9 ,, green ,, ,,
30 ,, ,, 24 ,, carmine ,, ,,
1 dollar on 3 cents (Revenue), red, black surcharge.

GERMAN COLONIES.—For use in the various Colonies mentioned below, the current German adhesives and post cards have been overprinted as follows :—

German South-West Africa.—"Deutsch" —"Süd West-Afrika," surcharge in two lines, reading upwards from lower left-hand corner.

Adhesives. 3 pf., brown, black surcharge.
5 ,, green ,, ,,
10 ,, carmine ,, ,,
20 ,, ultramarine ,, ,,
25 ,, orange ,, ,,
50 ,, red-brown ,, ,,
Post Cards. 5 pf., green, black surcharge.
5+5 ,, ,, ,, ,, (reply).
10 ,, carmine ,, ,,
10+10 ,, ,, ,, ,, (reply).

Cameroon, on the West Coast of Africa. The same stamps, etc., surcharged "Kamerun."

Marshall Islands, in the Pacific Ocean. The same series surcharged "Marschall-Inseln."

New Guinea.—For use in the German possessions (Kaiser Wilhelm Land), the same series with surcharge "Deutsch"—"Neu-Guinea," in two lines.

Togo.—German Colony on the West Coast of Africa. The same series with surcharge "Togo."

HAWAIIAN ISLANDS.—A set of adhesives has been issued for the use of the Department of Foreign Affairs. The stamps are perforated 12, and the values are :—

Adhesives. 2 c., yellow-green.
5 c., dark brown.
6 c., blue.
10 c., rose.
12 c., orange.
25 c., purple.

PORTUGUESE COLONIES.—*Angra, Funchal, Horta, Ponta Delgada.*—Stationery has been supplied to all these Colonies, consisting of :—

Envelopes. 25 reis, green.
50 ,, blue.
Post Cards. 10 ,, green on *buff.*
20 ,, violet ,,
Post Cards. 30 reis, brown on *buff.*
10+10 ,, green ,, (reply).
20+30 ,, violet ,, ,,
30+20 ,, brown ,, ,,
Letter Cards. 25 ,, dark green on *buff.*
50 ,, blue on *blue.*

MADAGASCAR.—Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. send us a set of Unpaid Letter stamps, being the current French stamps, surcharged "Madagascar et Dépendances," in three lines.

Unpaid Letter Stamps.
5 c., blue, red surcharge.
10 c., brown, red ,,
20 c., yellow, blue ,,
30 c., rose, blue ,,
40 c., lilac, red ,,
50 c., violet, blue ,,
1 fr., green, red ,,

TUNIS.—The post card of 5 centimes is reported printed in green, in place of black, the change taking place in January last.

Post Card. 5 c., green.

Philatelic Societies' Meetings.

THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY, LONDON.

Honorary President—H.R.H. THE DUKE OF SAXE-COBURG AND GOTHA, K.G., &c.

Council for the Year 1895 96:

President—H.R.H. THE DUKE OF YORK, K.G.
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. | T. WICKHAM JONES.
R. EHRENBACH. | D. GARTH. | H. R. OLDFIELD.

THE sixteenth meeting of the season 1896–97 was held at Effingham House on Friday, the 19th February, 1897, at 7.45 p.m. The following members were present, viz.: Messrs. E. D. Bacon, T. W. Hall, H. R. Oldfield, R. Meyer, G. B. Routledge, C. J. Daun, H. Hetley, A. R. Barrett, T. Maycock, R. Pearce, Gordon Smith, T. H. R. Crowle, B. D. Knox, C. McNaughtan, and J. A. Tilleard.

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

The Secretary reported that Mr. A. W. Chambers would be unavoidably absent from the next meeting, and that Mr. Oldfield had kindly undertaken to read a paper, which would take the place of the discussion to be opened by Mr. Chambers, of which notice had been given.

Mr. Bacon announced the receipt from Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Limited, of two dies of the first essay for the ½ a. stamps of India as a gift to the Society, and also produced proofs of this essay and impressions in various colours of the essay for the 1 a. stamp numbered IV. in India and Ceylon. The dies and proofs were examined with much interest, and the gift of the dies was directed to be acknowledged with the thanks of the Society.

The Secretary showed a number of designs and proposals for stamps submitted in and prior to 1840, kindly sent by H.R.H. the Duke of York for inspection by members attending the meeting. Amongst others there were an original sheet of "Whiting" essays; an original "Sievier" circular and design; a design for stamped covers, with the letter of the proposer; and a sketch of the designs adopted for the first 1d. and 2d. adhesive stamps, coloured in black and blue respectively. All of these were originally in the possession of the Chancellor of the Exchequer at the date of the introduction of Postage Stamps.

Mr. W. R. Palmer, proposed by Mr. Nankivell, and seconded by the Secretary; and Mr. H. J. White, proposed by Mr. Gordon Smith, and seconded by the Secretary, were elected members of the Society.

Mr. Hall then gave a display of the stamps of Venezuela, and read a series of notes on the earlier issues; and on the motion of Mr. Bacon, seconded by Mr. Oldfield, a hearty vote of thanks was accorded to Mr. Hall for affording the members present an opportunity of examining his fine collection, and for the explanatory notes which he had prepared.

THE seventeenth meeting of the season was held at Effingham House on Friday, the 26th February, 1897, at 7.45 p.m. The members in attendance were: Messrs. E. D. Bacon, H. R. Oldfield, T. W. Hall, G. B. Routledge, R. Meyer, R. Frentzel, T. H. R. Crowle, A. R. Barrett, H. Hetley, T. Maycock, T. A. Rance, R. Pearce, G. Smith, J. A. Tilleard, B. D. Knox, and C. N. Biggs.

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

The business of which notice had been given consisted of a discussion on the early stamps of Trinidad, which was to have been opened by Mr. A. W. Chambers. In his unavoidable absence Mr. Oldfield read a short paper on "The Advantages of Stamp Collecting." This paper, as he explained, had been originally intended for a less advanced audience, with the object of showing the many advantages and pleasures to be derived from, the objects to be attained by, and the dangers and difficulties attending the pursuit of stamp collecting. The whole subject was carefully and fully dealt with in the paper, which was listened to with much interest; and on the motion of Mr. Crowle, seconded by the Secretary, the hearty thanks of the meeting were voted to Mr. Oldfield for his kindness in reading the paper at short notice.

THE eighteenth meeting of the season was held at Effingham House on Friday, the 5th March, 1897, at 7.45 p.m., the following members being present, viz.: Messrs. E. D. Bacon, R. Meyer, H. G. White, C. J. Daun, A. R. Barrett, R. Frentzel, T. Maycock, C. McNaughtan, R. Pearce, Gordon Smith, J. A. Tilleard, and B. D. Knox. There was also one visitor present.

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

Mr. Bacon then read a paper, communicated by Mr. C. H. Mottram, on "The New Zealand Local Posts of 1856." In commencing, Mr. Mottram corrected a mistake which had been made in an article in the *Philatelic Record* for 1895, under the signature "G. de F.," in reference to the date of the appearance of the 1d. stamp on blue paper, which should be 1856. He then explained that prior to that year the Colony was divided into six provinces, each having local government, with power to arrange for the local posts, and that the lowest rate for letters at that time was twopence. In 1855 a convention was held for deciding upon postal rates, but only one province, viz., Canterbury, adopted the rate of 1d. for half-ounce letters. The paper further contained full particulars of the printings which were ordered and made, with much valuable information, elucidating the vexed question of the date at which the second printing of the 1d. stamp probably took place.

On the motion of Mr. Gordon Smith, seconded by the Secretary, a hearty vote of thanks was accorded to Mr. Mottram for kindly communicating his valuable and interesting paper to the Society, and for consenting to its publication in the *London Philatelist.*

SUBURBAN STAMP EXCHANGE.

ESTABLISHED IN 1892.

THE number of members enrolled on Feb. 1, 1897, was 279. Two A packets (composed exclusively of sheets valued at not less than £5 gross each) and two B packets (sheets under £5 gross) are made up and circulated on the 20th of each month. Aggregate value of the four packets, £1500–£1850.

The ordinary rules of Exchange Clubs apply, but the following may be especially noted :—

(1) Stamps may be priced at members' discretion.
(2) Cash settlements are monthly.
(3) All members see packets first in turn.
(4) Members can see or contribute to as many packets as they like by giving due notice.
(5) Satisfactory references are indispensable.

NOTICE FOR JANUARY.

Two A and two B packets were despatched on January 25th, and though fewer sheets were received (several contributors being indisposed), the quality of the stamps offered for sale and exchange was quite up to the average. October packets are expected back next week from supplementary round, when accounts will be submitted in due course. Sales were as follows :—

Oct. A 1. . .	£117	19	4
Oct. A 2. . .	88	14	9
Oct. B 1. . .	37	3	9
Oct. B 2. . .	24	1	8
Supply rounds of A 1 and A 2 not to hand.	£50?		

There will be a Supply round of Nov. A packets in about a fortnight ; members wishing to be included on lists, to give me due notice. A fresh supply of stationery ready for distribution. Collectors desirous of full information as to membership, etc., are invited to apply to Secretary, H. A. Slade, Tudor House, St. Albans.

ARTHUR H. HARRISON, *Hon. Sec.*
GRASMERE, WHITEFIELD, NEAR MANCHESTER.

BIRMINGHAM PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

President—W. T. WILSON, ESQ.
Hon. Sec. and Treas.—MR. G. JOHNSON, B.A.,
208, *Birchfield Road, Birmingham.*

January 21.—The following were unanimously elected members :—Messrs. G. F. Hughes (Transvaal), F. C. Krichauff (South Australia), J. Debray (Belguim), E. Lintelo (Belgium), A. Mattana (Gibraltar).

Mr. M. Z. Kuttner (London) then exhibited his collection of the stamps of South Australia, which was extremely interesting and instructive to the members present.

February 4.—Lieut.-Colonel Ely (Devonport) and R. W. M. Corbett, Esq. (Oswestry), were elected members. Then followed the display of the stamps of Trinidad.

The packets for January totalled £3360 9s. 5½d., and included some very fine selections from some of the foreign and colonial members.

February 18th.—Paper : "Mexico," Mr. W. T. Wilson.

Messrs. P. M. Bright (Bournemouth), J. R. Dammann (Norway), and Major G. H. W. Stockdale (Plymouth), were unanimously elected members.

Mr. Wilson then gave his paper on "Mexico." Omitting most of the information that can be readily obtained from catalogues, he almost entirely confined his remarks to subjects that are at the present time being investigated, such as the relative position of the stamps on the sheets in the early issues, the various plates used in printing them, the chronological sequence of the plates, the Habilitados, etc. etc. The paper, which was illustrated throughout by his collection, was ample evidence of the immense amount of work that has been done and is being done here and in Mexico, under great difficulties, to elucidate the knotty problems connected with these most interesting issues.

[*In paging up the Societies' Reports in our last month's number, the heading of the Birmingham Society was by mistake inserted instead of that of the Bradford Philatelic Society. Readers will please therefore make the necessary alteration in their February numbers.*—EDITOR.]

THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY, NEW YORK.

THE regular monthly meeting of the Society was held in its room in The Collector's Club, on November 16th. The following members were present: President Herrick in the chair, and Messrs. Scott, Jones, Leavy, Brevoort, Quigley, Andreini, Lynde, Deats, Hobby, Holland, and Nast.

The minutes of the preceding meeting were read and approved. Messrs. Angel M. Trajillo, 413, E. 87th Street, New York City, and F. E. P. Lynde, 325, W. 87th Street, New York City, were elected members of the Society. The resignation of Mr. E. H. Osborne was accepted with regret.

Mr. Gilbert E. Jones presented the Society with a framed broadside advertising the establishment of the City Post in New York, with rates of postage, territory covered, etc. Unfortunately no date is given in the advertisement, but from internal evidence 1842 or 1843 is inferred. This unique broadside is of great interest to all American philatelists, and a vote of thanks was tendered to Mr. Jones for his gift. The Bogert and Durbin Co. kindly continued sending priced catalogues of their sales. Accepted with thanks.

The Librarian reported the library in good order, and all books in the case, with the exception of one volume of the *Metropolitan Philatelist* and the second edition of *Mount Brown's Catalogue.*

On motion the Librarian was authorized to procure slips, etc., for the better preservation of the unbound literature in the library.

The Committee on furnishing the rooms reported progress. The meeting-room is very comfortably and cosily furnished.

The anniversary of the Society was spoken of, and a committee, consisting of Messrs. Jones, Clotz, and Scott, appointed to make arrangements for a dinner at Delmonico's, the Waldorf, or some other suitable place.

Mr. Jos. B. Leavy exhibited his magnificent collection of U.S. for the edification of the members, and certainly earned their thanks. His stamps are arranged in chronological order of printing, and show all the minor varieties of papers, shifts of dies, and more minute varieties. The carrier stamps were represented by reconstructed sheets, and of grilles he has the finest known collection, having every variety except two chronicled in the *Metropolitan* list. There may be collections which would catalogue higher, but as an example of painstaking research it is certainly entitled to first place.

Meeting adjourned at 10.45 p.m.

PLYMOUTH PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

President—CAPTAIN G. H. W. STOCKDALE, R.E.
Treasurer and Hon. Secretary—W. J. W. MILLER.

THE sixth ordinary meeting of the Society was held at 9A, Princess Square, on December 16th, 1896, at 7.30 p.m. The Vice-President (Mr. R. T. Stevens) in the chair, supported by nine members and two visitors.

The Hon. Sec. reported receipt from Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Limited, of an autotype plate, showing the difference between dies 1 and 2 of the De La Rue issues of British Colonial Stamps, and was instructed to acknowledge the gift with best thanks of the Society. Volumes II. and VI. of the *Monthly Journal* were also presented to the Society by one of the members, and were accepted with thanks.

On the proposition of Mr. Mayne, seconded by the Hon. Sec., it was resolved that a Question Book be provided for the use of members.

Dr. Pooley, Plymouth, was elected an ordinary member of the Society.

On the proposition of Mr. Mayne, seconded by the Hon. Sec., it was resolved that a display of stamps be held upon the date fixed upon for the second ordinary meeting of the Society in the month of February, several members present promising to send exhibits.

The subject of study, "The Stamps of Norway," was introduced by the Hon. Sec. (Mr. Miller), who illustrated his remarks by the exhibition of his collection.

He considered it an ideal country for the collector with only moderate means at his disposal. There were a few errors, which were not at all generally known, and he had found a number of varieties which he had not seen chronicled. He considered nearly all the unused stamps of the early issues were much under-valued at present catalogue prices, and was of opinion that on the publication of the new catalogues they would be found to have at least trebled their value. The first issue, 1854, was composed of the 4 sk., blue, and was lithographed and imperf. A very rare error of this stamp, which was well worth looking for, was an impression which showed a double foot on the lion's right hind leg. The stamps of the second, or 1856 issue, were engraved and perf. 13. He had specimens of the 3 sk. in grey as well as lilac, and the 4 sk. in light and dark blue. The third, or 1863 issue, was lithographed and perf. $14\frac{1}{2} \times 13\frac{1}{2}$. Both the 4 and 8 sk. were to be found in two distinct colours. Of the 1867 issue, which was also lithographed, he had the 1 sk. in lilac and grey-black, the 2 sk. in orange and yellow, the 4 sk. in light and dark blue, and the 8 sk. in carmine and dark carmine. In 1872 a new design was introduced, and of these there were also numerous shades. He showed an error of the 1 sk. green, which consisted of a full stop between the two E's in the word "EEN" of the inscription. Some of this issue were known imperf., and also sometimes with two rows of perforations across the top. In 1877 Norway changed its currency, and consequently a new issue, consisting of the 1, 3, 5, 10, 12, 20, 25, 35, 50, and 60 öre values, was introduced. Two years later three high values, viz., the 1, $1\frac{1}{2}$, and 2 krona were added. There was a variety of the 5 öre with no stop after "POSTFRIM," and he also possessed the 10 öre with the same characteristic, which he had not seen chronicled. Of the 60 öre he had found several varieties in the size of the figures "60," and the distance of the stop from "POSTFRIM" in the lower part of the inscription. He had the small "60" with the stop apart from, and also close to, the "M" of "POSTFRIM," and also both these varieties in the large "60." The 1, $1\frac{1}{2}$, and 2 krona also showed distinct differences in their figures of value. The design of the 1883 was nearly the same as that of the previous one, the only difference being that the body of the posthorn, forming the centre of the design, was no longer shaded as formerly. The issue consisted of the 3, 5, 10, 20, and 25 öre. The colours of the 10 and 20 were afterwards changed to brown and blue respectively. Some of the values were known imperf. The most curious thing respecting this issue was that there were three sizes of the design, one being 20 mm., another $20\frac{1}{2}$ mm., and a third 21 mm. high. He found that in the stamps of the small design the numerals of value in the inscription were small; in the medium design they were rather larger; and in the large design they were about twice the size of the small ones. In the case of certain Canadian stamps a somewhat similar difference was found, but that had now, he believed, been attributed to the stretching of the paper. That reason for the difference could not, however, be assigned to the Norwegians, as the inequality in the size of the numerals had here to be considered. In most cases, for instance, if you examined two copies of a stamp—one the small design, the other the large—you would find that the figures in the small design were *smaller* than the rest of the inscription, whereas if you examined the large design you would find that not only had the inscription itself increased in size, but the numerals had increased in greater proportion, and were now *larger* than the remainder of the inscription. He had found the 10 öre red, and the 20 öre blue, without any stop after "POSTFRIM," and this he had not seen chronicled. In 1888 the 12 öre was surcharged "2 öre," and was to be found in both bistre and yellow-brown. In 1890 a 1 öre stamp was issued in black-brown, and later on its colour was changed to bistre-grey, and a 2 öre stamp in yellow-brown was introduced. He possessed the 1 öre with a stop between the "N" and the "O" of "NORGE," and both the 1 and the 2 öre with the stop close to, and apart from, the "M" of "POSTFRIM." In 1894 a new series of stamps, with the inscription in ornamental capitals, was issued, which were perforated both $14\frac{1}{2} \times 13\frac{1}{2}$ and $13\frac{1}{2} \times 12\frac{1}{2}$. There were also a set of unpaid letter stamps, which were perforated $14\frac{1}{2} \times 13\frac{1}{2}$ and also $13\frac{1}{2} \times 12\frac{1}{2}$.

On the proposition of the Vice-President, seconded by Mr. Mayne, a hearty vote of thanks was accorded Mr. Miller for his very interesting paper.

The "Stamps of Great Britain" was fixed upon as the subject of study for the next meeting, to be introduced by Mr. Mayne.

Towards the close of the meeting the Hon. Sec. passed round what appeared to be two varieties of the current 1d. Great Britain. In the older variety the line of colour in front of the throat extended the whole way down the neck, whilst in the later variety this line of colour extended only to the seventh line of shading on the neck, and the eye-ball also appeared to be smaller. He also passed round the Straits Settlements 1 c. on 8 c., yellow, with four very distinct varieties of surcharge.

W. J. W. MILLER, *Hon. Sec.*
5, ATHENAEUM TERRACE, PLYMOUTH.

Correspondence.

A SUBJECT INDEX OF STAMPS.

To the Editor of the "London Philatelist."

DEAR SIR,—I am glad to see in the *London Philatelist*, vol. vi. p. 27, a letter from Mr. T. M. Wears. First, because I thought he was dead, having failed to ascertain any recent information concerning him; and in the second place, because it gives me an opportunity of making some apology or explanation to him for having so very briefly referred to his "Index," published in the *Philatelic Journal of Great Britain.*

I was on a visit to Durham when I wrote my short article on Indexing, and only had a few papers and notes with me. Unfortunately I had not the actual references to articles on this subject published by Mr Wears; so rather than give doubtful references, I thought it best to make a general statement concerning his works, and amplify it by sending you, on my return to Oxford, a further note. But I did not do it then; and I have just been acquainted of my neglect by reading, only two hours ago, Mr. Wear's letter.

The paper which you kindly published in vol. v. p. 303 was written in great haste for a meeting of the Oxford Philatelic Society, and I had no time or opportunity for inquiries, being 250 miles from my books. In fact, nearly the whole of the paper was written whilst in bed, late at night and early next morning. I should have been less brief had I had more time.

My actual object in sending you the paper for publication was to ask for the loan of books, which you, Mr. E. D. Bacon, Mr. W. A. S. Westoby, Mr. P. J. Anderson, and His Honour Judge Suppantschitsch, have most generously placed at my disposal when required, and to ascertain whether I had overlooked or omitted to mention any work that had been done towards the formation of a general index relating to stamps.

I had *not* entirely forgotten Mr. Wears' articles, but was unable to do them adequate justice for the reasons just stated. I sincerely hope it will not be thought that I wished to ignore or slight his work; on the contrary, it is by far the best and completest relating to British stamp journals published. But, to my mind, it does not go far enough.

It must have been noticed that my paper, relating as it did to such a comprehensive subject, was extremely brief. I hope to write, some time during the summer—for then the mornings are light at 4 o'clock, and I can give more time to the work—a more explanatory article, stating the aims, views, and course I am adopting in the formation of this Index. I shall be pleased to communicate it should it be desired.

Yours very faithfully,

F. A. BELLAMY.

4, ST. JOHN'S ROAD, OXFORD,
February 12th, 1897.

WHEN ARE STAMPS NOT STAMPS?

DEAR SIR,—May I request you to insert this letter relative to a brief statement which appeared in the review of Mr. Ewen's excellent album in the *London Philatelist*, vol. v. p. 358?

In the fourteenth line of your paragraph these words are printed: "Private stamps—which are not stamps at all." To these words I wish to object.

May I ask for what reason the reviewer says that private stamps are not stamps? Would he give his explanation as to what constitutes a stamp? And what constitutes a private—well, I must write it, though he objects to the combination—stamp? Does he wish one to understand that the answer to the question at the top of this letter is, "When it is a private stamp"?

It seems to me no matter what adjective you choose to use before the word "stamp," whether it be Government, private, postage, telegraph companies', receipt, or what not, it still remains what it was when manufactured, the adjective merely specifying or giving greater distinctiveness as to the purpose for which it was issued. I think all must admit that the purpose of any stamp is to facilitate the collection and keeping of accounts for actual cost incurred, or charge made or levied, and to make it apparent to the eye that an amount, either definitely expressed on the stamps (whether printed from engraved plates, types, woodblocks, or embossed), or tacitly understood, has been paid. Authorized to be paid by whom? and to whom? To the Government, if Government stamps; to telegraph companies, if private telegraph stamps; to local bodies, if local stamps, and

so on. The Government of a nation has no more exclusive right to a word than they have to the water in the middle of the Atlantic Ocean. They may make laws claiming certain words for their use exclusively; but Government laws resemble the sands on a seashore, ever changing, much as time.

About three years ago I was searching the Bodleian Library for books referring to stamps in general, and found a good number having titles relating to stamps of various kinds. May I ask whether the authors had no right to use the word *stamp?* Again I ask, What is a stamp? Is that word to be considered as if "coined" exclusively for Government purposes in 1840, because the Government of this country at that time chose to print and issue for sale bits of paper for the greater convenience in collecting the tax—for tax it is—from the sender for conveying the letter, or whatever it thought fit to allow to be sent by post, to the addressee? Surely no one would dare assert this. The books I referred to were published much more than 100 years before 1840.

I presume the reviewer had in his mind the postage stamps peculiar to the Universities of Oxford and Cambridge. Though of far greater interest to me than the "Government" postage stamps of any nation, I do not hold any brief for their protection, they not needing it. I further presume that the reviewer does not desire to obtain copies of these; it is well for him, as he would have an immensely greater difficulty in obtaining them than in procuring "Sydney Views" and many other so-called *scarce* stamps, which are only scarce because the fashion dictates to collectors and quasi-collectors to "lay in a stock."

It is an old and true saying that there is nothing new under the sun. In perusing some old stamp journals some time ago, I came across a discussion upon the collection of private stamps. As it seems to me so very applicable to every collector to consider, I will finish this letter with two brief extracts from *The Philatelist*, vol. i. 1867: "A Postage Stamp Collector" writes: "I think that postage stamp collectors ought only to collect legitimate postage stamps"; then he gives a biassed explanation of the term. To this illiberal explanation the editor used a more courteous advice to that in the letter: "We think this much-mooted point may with propriety be left to individual taste. The line may be drawn at arbitration. Some amateurs are stamp, some postage stamp collectors." (Vol. i. p. 64.) "As to collecting them (see p. 64), I quite agree that each collector had better judge for himself.—A Stamp Collector." (Vol. i. p. 79.) The latter writer seems to conclude that ladies did not collect!

In conclusion I would strongly urge that this generous sympathy among collectors be practised more generally at the present time than it is. It is very fortunate that we do not all like collecting the same things. Why should a man be branded as a fool because he likes to form a collection of policemen's truncheons—there is at least one man who has a very fine series of these —whilst another is lauded to the skies because he collects rags and bones and—"makes money"? There is a hidden analogy here for readers to find and apply.

Yours very faithfully,

F. A. BELLAMY.

4, ST. JOHN'S ROAD, OXFORD,
February 12th, 1897.

THE ARMY OFFICIAL STAMPS.

To the Editor of the "London Philatelist."

DEAR SIR,—I do not know whether it has been brought to your notice that in the latest printings of the halfpenny "Army Official" stamps the error "OFFICIAI" has been corrected, a tail having been added to the "I" to make it into an "L." No doubt the penny error will also be corrected when the necessity for printing more arises, if this has not already been done.

Yours faithfully,

M. CONNOLLY.

THE BARRACKS, PONTEFRACT.

LOURENZO MARQUES.

PROVISIONAL, 50 REIS ON 300 REIS.

DEAR SIR,—A correspondent at Johannesburg writes as follows:—

"On my writing to a friend at Lourenzo Marques for a supply, he informed me that he was unable to obtain any, as only 4000 of them were printed and very few were issued, the Governor's Secretary having taken up the lot. This gentleman now demands £1 per piece for them. Consequently, very few even of the people of Lourenzo Marques have seen this stamp, and it is very evident they could not have been printed for genuine purposes."

Yours faithfully, GORDON SMITH.

THE SOCIETY FOR THE SUPPRESSION
OF SPECULATIVE STAMPS,
391, STRAND, LONDON, W.C.
15th March, 1897.

The Market.

MESSRS VENTOM, BULL, AND COOPER.

January 13th and 14th.

	£	s.	d.
Gambia, CC, 6d., blue, strip of 5, *imperf.*	5	10	0
Nevis, CC, 2½d., red-brown, block of 4, unused	5	5	0
Ditto, CA, ditto, block of 6, unused	4	15	0
Ditto, ditto, 1/-, purple, block of 4, unused	7	0	0
St. Christopher, CA, 6d., olive-brown, block of 4, unused	7	0	0

MESSRS. PUTTICK AND SIMPSON.

January 19th and 20th.

	£	s.	d.
Great Britain, 1d., black, block of 18, unused	13	10	0
Afghanistan, 1873-74, shahi, purple, unused, pair	8	10	0
Ditto, 1875-76, abasi, vertical strip of 3, one stamp ½ rupee, and two 1 rupee, purple, unused	11	10	0
British Guiana, 4 c., magenta, copy measuring 29 × 37 mm.	20	0	0
Ditto, 1860, 1 cent, pink, pair, unused	7	0	0
Buenos Ayres, 1858, 5 pesos, orange, fair	11	10	0
St. Vincent, no wmk., 1d., rose, a pair, *imperf.*, unused	9	0	0
Ditto, ditto, 6d., blue-green, large perf., block of 10, unused	8	5	0

MESSRS. CHEVELEY & CO.

January 27th.

	£	s.	d.
Heligoland, 5 marks, original sheet of 25 stamps	12	10	0
Portuguese Indies, 1872, wove paper, 20 reis, strip of 4, on entire cover	5	5	0

MESSRS. VENTOM, BULL, AND COOPER.

January 28th and 29th.

	£	s.	d.
Great Britain, 2/-, red-brown, unused	4	0	0
Ditto, "VR," horizontal pair, with side margins, and Maltese Cross, trial obliterations (one in red and the other in black)	20	0	0
Oldenburg, second issue, ⅓ gros., black on green, with Bremen postmark	4	0	0
Ditto, third issue, ⅓ gros., moss-green, unused	4	10	0
France, Presidency, 1852, 10 c., buff, horizontal strip of 3, unused	4	17	6
Ditto, ditto, ditto, a pair	3	7	6
Portugal, first issue, 50 reis, green, unused	6	0	0
Switzerland, Zurich, 4 rappen, black, cut close	13	0	0
Spain, 1852, 2 reales, red	7	7	0
Ceylon, perf. 14 × 12½, 2 r. 50 c., red-brown, vertical pair, unused	8	0	0
Oil Rivers, 1/-, in violet, on 2d., horizontal pair, one stamp having the surcharge inverted	9	5	0
Ditto, 10/-, in red, on 5d., unused.	8	0	0
Reunion, first issue, 30 c., black on bluish, uncancelled copy on entire letter	50	0	0
Ditto, ditto, a penstroked copy on letter	50	0	0
Newfoundland, 2d., carmine-red, unused	38	0	0
Ditto, 4d., carmine-red, unused	13	10	0
Ditto, 6½d., ditto, ditto	11	0	0
Ditto, 1/-, ditto, ditto	10	0	0
Ditto, 6d., orange, unused	12	10	0
Ditto, 1/-, orange	17	0	0
Barbados, 1d., on half 5/-, pair, showing the two types (perfs. clipped at top)	16	0	0
Tasmania, 1d., blue, unused, vertical strip of 3	20	0	0
Victoria, 1850, 2d., red-brown, engraved, horizontal strip of 4, unused	7	10	0
Ditto, "Too Late," unused	5	10	0

MESSRS. PUTTICK AND SIMPSON.

February 2nd and 3rd.

	£	s.	d.
Switzerland, *Basle*, 2½ rappen	5	10	0
India, first issue, ½ anna, red, *error*, unused pair with bottom margin	11	0	0
Natal, first issue, 6d., green, copy measuring 33 × 46 mm.	5	5	0
Zanzibar, surcharged on Indian, ½ anna to 5 rupees, unused (14)	1	18	0
British Columbia, perf. 12½, $1 green, pair, unused	7	10	0
Canada, imperf., 7½, green, unused	11	10	0
Ditto, 6d., purple-black, unused	16	0	0
Nova Scotia, 6d., yellow-green, unused (no gum)	5	10	0
Barbados, wmk. Star, 5/-, rose, pair, unused	14	14	0
Nevis, CA, 6d., green, unused	7	12	6
St. Christopher, CA, 6d., grey, block of 4, unused	6	15	0
St. Vincent, no wmk., 4d., blue, block of 4, unused	4	4	0
St. Lucia, CA, 1/-, black and orange, unused	6	0	0
St. Vincent, 1/-, blue, unused	4	0	0
Ditto, 1/-, vermilion, large perf., unused (no gum)	4	0	0

	£	s.	d.
St. Vincent, CA, perf. 12, 4d., ultramarine, unused	4	15	0
Ditto, ditto, 6d., grn., pair, unused	3	12	6
Tobago, CC, 6d., ochre	3	12	0
British Guiana, 1862, 4 cents, blue (No. 10 on plate), unused, roulettes on all sides	13	0	0

MESSRS. VENTOM, BULL, & COOPER.

Sale on February 10th and 11th.

Gibraltar, first issue, complete, unused	4	8	0
Moldavia, 81 paras, cut square (slightly skinned)	95	0	0
Tuscany, 3 lire, yellow	60	0	0
Ceylon, first issue, 1s. 9d., green, unused	4	0	0
Labuan, wmk. Cr. CA sideways, 12 c., carmine	4	10	0
Ditto, 1883, Provisional, 16 c. blue, surcharged "One dollar," with Postmaster's initials in pen and ink, in red, unused	10	10	0
Philippines, first issue, 5 cuartos, orange-red, engraved, unused	5	10	0
Mauritius, large fillet, 2d., blue, cut close	10	10	0
New Brunswick, 6d., yellow, unused	13	0	0
United States, 1869 issue, unused, complete	11	15	0
St. Lucia, 1864, 1s., black and deep orange, unused	5	5	0
St. Vincent, first issue, 1d., rose-red, imperf., horizontal pair, unused, showing margin	7	0	0
Ditto, clean cut, perf. 15½, 6d., yellow-green, unused	18	0	0
New South Wales, 1855, 6d., brown, *error*, wmk. "8," unused	6	0	0
Queensland, first issue, 2d., blue, imperforate, unused, horizontal strip of 3	78	0	0
Ditto, ditto, 2d., blue, imperforate, horizontal pair and a single specm., used on piece of origal.	24	0	0
Ditto, ditto, 6d., green, imperforate, unused	12	0	0
Tasmania, 1d., blue, vertical strip of 4, used, on original	8	10	0

Sale on February 25th and 26th.

Mecklenburg-Schwerin, ¼ sch., red, rouletted	5	0	0
Gambia, 1s., green, entire, unused sheet of 15	30	0	0
United States, "Justice," 90 c.	5	10	0

MESSRS. CHEVELEY & CO.

Sale on February 15th.

Saxony, 3 pf., red	6	0	0
Wurtemburg, 70 kr., lilac	4	0	0
Nevis, 1s., yellow-grn. on laid paper	50	0	0
St. Christopher, 6d., sepia	4	5	0

MESSRS. PUTTICK & SIMPSON.

Sale on February 16th and 17th.

	£	s.	d.
Great Britain, "V R," unused	11	10	0
Ditto, 3d., Plate 4, spray, unused pair.	6	15	0
Switzerland, *Vaud*, 4 cents	19	0	0
Japan, first issue, 500 mons, pale yellow-green, on laid paper, unused, block of 8	7	15	0
Mauritius, post paid, late state of plate, block of 4, on bluish paper (Nos. 7, 8, 10, and 11 on plate)	11	0	0
Ditto, large fillet, 2d., dark blue (No. 6 on plate), no margins	10	0	0
United States, Justice, 90 cents, unused	7	0	0
Nevis, lithographed, 4d., orange, unused	10	0	0
Ditto, lithographed, 6d., grey	11	17	6

MESSRS. CHEVELEY & CO.

Sale on March 11th.

Greece, 1862-65, 40 l., bistre on bluish, block of 120, unused	6	10	0
Saxony, 3 pf., red	6	0	0
Mauritius, 1856, 4d., blk. on green	3	0	0
Ditto, envelope, 1s., yellow, cut square, unused	5	5	0
Victoria, beaded oval, 6d., orange	3	15	0
Canada, 6d., perforated, unused	6	5	0
Nevis, lithograph, 6d., green, unused	7	15	0
Tobago, CC., 6d., ochre	4	2	6

MR. P. M. WOLSIEFFER,
Chicago, U.S.A.

We have received a priced catalogue of a sale held in Chicago, from which one or two interesting quotations are given below, neatly printed in black and red. The catalogue is made the more desirable by the addition of the latest *catalogue* quotation inserted to the right-hand of each lot.

United States, 1867, 3 c., rose, grilled all over, a pair and strip of 3 on original	10	0	0
Baltimore, 1846, 5 c., on blue paper, on original envelope	50	0	0
St. Louis, 5 c., Die A, Plate 1, greenish, on piece of original	50	0	0
Ditto, 10 c., Die C, Plate 2, grey-lilac	50	0	0
United States, 1869, 30 c., not embossed	2	16	0
Ditto, 90 c., not embossed	5	12	0
Ditto, 1872 issue, reissued in 1875, on very white wove paper, complete set of 13 values	86	0	0
Ditto, 1861, 5 c., *chocolate* or red-brown (*August Variety!*)	23	0	0
Ditto, Justice, 90 c.,	6	0	0
Antioquia, 10 c., blue, *error*, unused	6	4	0

THE

London Philatelist:

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The London Philatelic Exhibition.

THE rewards of Philatelic virtue at the Exhibition in July next will be on so liberal a scale that in every class of collectors those who have devoted themselves to a conscientious study of their stamps may hope for the distinction of a medal in one of the three grades. In the earlier stages of the arrangements the idea obtained—and not unreasonably—that by the necessarily early publication of the initial list of prizes other donors would be deterred from coming forward. The reverse has happily proved to be the case, the liberality of the early givers having acted as a stimulus to those who have come after. It will be seen that the additional list of medals given in the present issue includes a gold and silver medal to be presented by H.R.H. the Duke of York, the President of the London Philatelic Society, and we hasten to acknowledge, on behalf of all connected with the forthcoming Exhibition, our liveliest sense of gratitude and satisfaction at the honour conferred by the gracious act of His Royal Highness. The members of the reigning family of England have always been prone to associate themselves with the institutions of the people, and it is difficult to think of any scheme that leads to the benefit or happiness of the British subject that has not, at one time or another, had kindly and invaluable aid from some member of our Royal Family. The Duke of York has royally won his spurs in the career of general benevolence, and has shown that the illustrious examples of Her Gracious Majesty and of his Royal father have not been lost on him. Amid the many and varied calls upon his time, it is most gratifying to Philatelists to think that His Royal Highness can still spare some portion of his time and energy for us, with the happiest possible augury for the success of the Exhibition in particular and Philately in general.

There is every reason to believe that the exhibits will be commensurate with the rewards, and the visitors with both. We gather from personal experience on the Continent that the interest is widespread, and that a very large number of leading collectors and dealers may be expected in Piccadilly from all parts of Europe. It is, therefore, to be hoped that such information as is likely to aid our foreign visitors during their stay in the Metropolis may be distributed at an early date. Not only this, but many other departments connected with the arrangements will entail a colossal amount of work, and only by the proper division of labour amongst all the members of the several committees will success be achieved. There is still nearly three months before the inauguration, and if everyone works with a will from now, the London Exhibition of 1897 will be the greatest feature hitherto connected with our pursuit.

The Dies of the Stamps of Naples, 1858, and Parma, 1852-57, and Journal Tax, 1853-57.

By DR. E. DIENA.



I HAVE to tender to the Editor of this paper my warm acknowledgments for the friendly remarks that have accompanied the announcements with regard to the somewhat tardy reorganization of the Postal Museum of Italy. I have now the pleasure to communicate a piece of news that I feel sure will be received with due interest by the readers of the *London Philatelist*. The Museum has just obtained possession of the steel dies of the postage stamps of the kingdom of Naples (1858), except the 2 grana, which latter has not been found. At the same time the plates, likewise in steel, of the 10 and 50 grana have been received by the Museum: they are constituted in two groups of 100 stamps, each composed of ten rows of ten specimens, with a space between the two groups of 7 mm. on the 10 grana, and 9 mm. on the 50 grana. The plates measure 452 × 256 mm. without counting the margins, and are 15 mm. in thickness. They show in several places hollows formed by rust, or projections caused by friction with some kind of metal. The plate of the 10 grana is more worn than that of the 50, which latter presents a very interesting particular: the reproduced die situate at the right lower angle shows that the Bourbon Arms had been partially effaced and the cross of Savoy substituted in a rough manner, without alteration of the value or legend. This clearly indicates that the well-known modification that had been effected on the plate of the ½ grano had been temporarily considered practicable as regards another denomination. The interesting fact has remained unknown until the present day.

It is much to be deplored that the plate of the ½ tornese (cross) has not also been discovered. Everything seems to indicate that it has been

destroyed a long time since, and we have therefore to fear that the relative order and arrangement of the varieties on the plate will long remain an unsolved problem. I believe, nevertheless, in conformity with the opinion I have expressed in the *Timbre-Poste* (September, October, and December, 1893) that the two ½ tornese, blue, of 1860 existed in 200 varieties, although it has been asserted that the plate contained 120 or 150 types. It is hardly to be suggested that only one half or group of 100 stamps should have been re-engraved, as horizontal pairs of the Savoy cross are known showing the spacing existing (8½ mm.) between the two values or groups.*

The Museum has also at the same time been fortunate enough to recover from the same source the steel die of the Parma stamps of the 1852 and 1854 type (bearing the value 25 centes.); the matrix (without value indicated) of the same type, in very bad state; and the steel die of the Newspaper Tax stamps of 1853–57, utilized in 1859 during the Provisional Government of the Parmense Province.

These several objects had all been sold in 1875, with other articles of an obsolete nature, by the Bureau of the Mint at Turin as old metal, to a private person who had, it is said, vainly endeavoured to dispose of them. Persuaded of their interest, he could not, however, bring himself to destroy them, and he has hence had them for a number of years in his possession. It was only recently that, having endeavoured to dispose of them to a stamp dealer, he at length disposed of them to an amateur at Turin, from whom the Posts and Telegraphs Department has been enabled to procure them.

It was at first supposed that these plates had been stolen, and the Director of Posts at Turin caused an inquiry to be instituted, the result of which has been to establish the fact that their sale took place in 1875, and was legally and properly carried out—a discovery which only shows what depth of folly officials are capable of.

It has been reported to me that the well-known Turin dealer, M. O., had been able to obtain the *loan* of two of these dies, and that he had profited thereby in making some reprints of the ½ and 50 grana on the original paper, this latter being obtained by discharging the colour of some of the stamps of the lower values. The shade of colour being, however, quite different, and certain defects on the die of the 50 grana, easily enable one to discover the fraud—which is not punishable in Italy!

It is indeed a veritable stroke of fortune, that after the various perambulations of these precious objects they have been reacquired by the Government, as otherwise there would doubtless have ensued a series of reprints on the largest possible scale.

[All Philatelists will rejoice at the interesting news afforded by Dr. Diena and will wish him and his Government all possible energy and success in the wresting from the hands of unscrupulous holders every die or reproduction thereof of any Italian State, that has hitherto served to degrade the Government of Italy in the eyes of the Philatelic world.—ED.]

* We can endorse this statement of Dr. Diena's, having acquired a year or so since a pair with the intervening space, which we had considered as strong evidence of the 200 varieties.—ED.

Philatelic Notes.

NOTE.—*The co-operation of Philatelists is invited in order to make this column of a varied and interesting nature.*

THE FIRST ISSUE OF SERVIA.

THESE two primitive-looking stamps have always been enshrouded in mystery, the veil of which has at last been lifted by an excellent article in the *Austria Philatelist* of the 15th of March. It appears that the stamps of the values of 1, 2, 10, 20, and 40 paras of the well-known design of the issue following were delayed in their delivery from Vienna on May 1st, 1866, as ordered, and the need for the two lower values being pressing, a provisional issue thereof was made from a "wood-cut—with leaden *clichés*," in the Belgrade State Printing Office. There were two printings, *i.e.*,

18th APRIL, 1866.

1 para.	2 para.
2040	1944

20th MAY, 1866.

18,360	18,300

This accounts, says the writer, for the two well-defined colours of both values, and he states that the error is probably a proof of the second printing. The later statement seems open to question, and it is also desirable to have fuller information as to the colours of the respective printings. It appears further that these stamps were used for paying an additional postage for foreign journals entering Servia, and that they were affixed by the Post Office officials, whose instructions were to fasten the stamps so that on opening the wrapper containing the paper they would be destroyed by tearing, and *not to obliterate them* in the ordinary way. Thus is accounted for the mystery of these stamps being practically unknown obliterated. The other values (with head of Prince) ordered from Vienna were delivered in June, 1866, and consisted of

10 para	12,000
20 „	200,000
40 „	20,000

These figures fully bear out the modern estimates of relative value, and show that the 10 and 40 paras should really be held—as they are—rare stamps, and worth many 18 kr. Wurtemburgs. The article throughout is full of interest, and being evidently written with local knowledge and opportunities, is a valuable contribution to a very little known page of Philatelic history.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

WE have received two curiosities from Mr. George Blockey, consisting of the 2d. in a *deep* orange-red colour, perf. 10, with surcharge "O.S." in the thin capitals. Mr. Blockey has only seen three copies of this stamp, which bore postmarks Nov. '93, Dec. '93, Jan. '94. Also a pair of the 1s., brown, 1874, first star watermark, with *double* surcharge "O.S." in the block capitals. The stamps have every appearance of being genuine, the surcharges agreeing in every respect.

THE AUSTRIAN MERCURY FORGERIES.

REFERENCE has frequently been made in this Journal to the question of the authenticity of the recent "finds" of red, yellow, and rose Mercuries emanating from Mr. S. Friedl, and the conclusion must have been fully borne in upon all Philatelists who have followed the question that the "stamps" in question were remarkably clever, but worthless reproductions. The matter would now appear to be finally settled according to a communication sent to us by the Austrian Philatelic Club, which includes a lengthy report upon these stamps emanating from the Imperial Court and State Printing Offices, wherein it is stated categorically that these Mercuries are simply photolithographic reproductions and worthless imitations. *La parole est à M. Friedl!*

Occasional Notes.

LONDON PHILATELIC EXHIBITION, 1897.

MEDALS PRESENTED BY H.R.H. THE DUKE OF YORK.

WE have great pleasure in making the following important announcement forwarded to us by the Secretary :—

H.R.H. the Duke of York has placed at the disposal of the Committee one gold and one silver medal for the two best collections shown in Class IV., formed and owned by ladies.

Mr. W. S. Lincoln offers one gold and one silver medal for the two best collections of the postage stamps of the Transvaal.

PHILATELIC EXHIBITIONS.

WE are desired to call the attention of exhibitors to the extreme desirability of giving early notice as to the nature of their exhibits. The final date for sending in these was originally fixed for May 1st, but we understand that although this will not be rigidly adhered to, the Committee are very anxious to have the earliest possible intimations.

THE NEW CATALOGUES.

WE are informed that the work of the second portion of Messrs. Stanley Gibbons' Catalogues is well in hand, and that its appearance may be confidently expected next month. The European countries will be—for the first time—reasonably and seriously catalogued. As an instance of this we may state that—after collaboration in this country with all the leading authorities—the lists of the Italian and German States have been thoroughly revised respectively by Dr. E. Diena, of Modena, and Dr. R. Franz, of Leipsic, experts whose praises need no sounding. The appearance of Volume II. will be awaited with very keen interest.

We hear that Messrs. Bright & Sons' Catalogue has already been nearly set up, and that it should also hence very shortly appear—thus making a race with its competitor.

A GRAVE SCANDAL.

WE commented in our January issues upon the sudden influx in the market of complete sets of the United States Periodical stamps in an unused condition. Since that time Philatelic interest in America has been centred in the examination, and subsequent indictment, of Hamilton F. Colman on the charges of having in his possession £1000 worth of the above stamps, alleged to have been stolen from the Third Assistant Postmaster's office, and, further, having the same fraudulently perforated for sale to stamp collectors.

Briefly the case stands thus. About three years back the American Bank Note Company printed some sheets of stamps of all kinds, which were sent as guide sheets to the present Government printers, the Bureau of Engraving and Printing. These sheets were returned to the Third Assistant Postmaster's office, where they have remained locked up.

It is alleged that Captain Munce, the chief clerk in the Third Assistant Postmaster's office, took a quantity of these stamps, and gave them to his wife, who subsequently sold them to the firm of dealers in Washington of which Colman was a partner. Captain Munce has since been suspended from office. It appears that after receiving the stamps in an imperforate condition from Mrs. Munce, Colman had them perforated, and hence the surfeit of sets at $75—$125 a set already spoken of. For the above details we are indebted to the *Weekly Stamp News*. The Post Office are still investigating how and where the stamps were perforated, as Colman refuses to divulge this information; and more will, no doubt, be heard of the case, which presents a grievous scandal to the Philatelic public, and constitutes a most serious charge against the dealers connected therewith.

A LARGE COLLECTION.

THE sale of large collections during the last few years has aroused no small amount of Philatelic interest; and sceptics have opened their eyes in mute astonishment at portions only of certain collectors' treasures, which have changed hands for such sums as £6000 and £10,000. Further food for reflection is, however, now afforded by the healthy announcement that there has been acquired by Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Limited, a part of the magnificent collection of Mr. F. W. Ayer, a member of the London Philatelic Society, the value of which is announced at no less a figure than £50,000. The portion of this gentleman's collection, which consists practically of the rarities only, acquired by the above firm contains such "plums" as the following: Hawaiian Isles, thirteen copies of the first issue; Ceylon, imperf., 4d., 8d., 9d., and 2s., in absolutely mint condition; Cape of Good Hope, *pairs* of the 4d., red, and 1d., blue, errors; Western Australia, 4d., blue, inverted frame, and a *pair* of the 6d., bronze, rouletted (probably *the* pair); Moldavia, 108 paras, unused; India, four annas, red and blue, with inverted frame; while all countries, including such as British North America and United States, are represented by singles, pairs, and blocks of the rarer specimens in the pink of perfection.

The sale of this collection will undoubtedly establish some records in big prices; and, if we hear rightly, some of these are already forthcoming.

THE C. H. MEKEEL STAMP COMPANY.

WE are exceedingly sorry to read in the *Chicago Daily News* and many other journals various accounts of the financial troubles of this well-known firm. We had hoped that, as stated in the columns of an American Philatelic contemporary, the troubles of the firm were simply due to over-stocking, and that it might, as Mr. G. D. Mekeel estimated, be one that time would enable this well-known firm to overcome.

"St. Louis, Mo., March 26.—Two chattel mortgages given by the Mekeel Stamp and Publishing Company to creditors have been filed for record. The first is for $13,282 to W. B. Becktold as trustee for the Becktold Printing and Publishing Company and others, for whom he acts as trustee. These are made preferred creditors. The second mortgage is for $27,050. W. Becktold and W. A. Frank are chosen as trustees for the creditors, who number eighty-two. Both mortgages cover the Mekeel Company's stock of stamps and other property. George D. Mekeel, Vice-President of the Company, states that 'the assests of the Company represent more than $200,000. We have no debts but those mentioned in the mortgages.'"

It seems, however, to be "the end," for Mr. C. H. Mekeel announces in his journal of April 8th that "the affairs of the C. H. Mekeel Stamp and Publishing Company having become involved, the Directors have placed the property in the hands of Trustees for the benefit of the creditors. The

assets are ample, and there is no doubt but that all the creditors will be paid in full. *All* the creditors are protected. I am at present assisting the Trustees in getting matters settled up. The corporation will no doubt go into liquidation and wind up its affairs. After I have done all that I can to assist in this matter, I shall start in the stamp business individually on my own account."

THE DEMAND FOR RARE STAMPS.

WE hear from the United States that the disposal by auction of Mr. J. B. Leavy's splendid collection of the stamps of that country was what Society journals term a brilliant function. The stamp world turned up in force, and without exception, says the *A. J. P.*, "the stamps were sold at magnificent prices, proving again that where a collection is properly handled and properly catalogued the buyers will turn out in full force." This last point has been the text of many sermons on our part. London auctioneers or Continental dealers can more than supply the demand for medium stamps, and can and do overload the market with specimens more or less undesirable as to condition.

The ordinary shades of the first issue of Schleswig-Holstein can, *e.g.*, be purchased everywhere, medium Swiss Cantonals are overpriced, and late issues of Leeward Islands are as "leaves in Vallombrosa"; but let any collector, whether in faint-hearted Berlin, temporarily inactive Paris, or sanguine London, step outside the area before alluded to, and he will discover that for stamps which *are really rare and fine* the demand is enormously in advance of the supply. The German metropolis is the centre of pessimism, but in our experience the prices demanded for rarities sent from Berlin, Leipsic, Frankfort, Cologne, Baden, Vienna, Bohemia, and many other centres, far transcend in magnitude those dreamt of in this country, where everything is supposed to be overpriced. We have seen £100 asked for a stamp that —though rare—would not command £40 in London, and we have seen stamps of the German States for which—in brilliant condition—many times the prices of the Grey Senf are demanded. We feel convinced that if a small travelling committee, sent from our friends in Berlin, were to personally inspect the auctions and the stocks of a few leading Continental dealers during a course of a few weeks, the scales would fall from their eyes. We sincerely hope that the forthcoming Philatelic Exhibition may form some such pretext, and we shall then be able to assure our *confrères* in Berlin, or elsewhere, that our only differences are those of opinion, and that one and all will be delighted to have the opportunity of repaying in some degree the great courtesy and kindness we have all experienced at their hands.

JUBILEE HOSPITAL "STAMPS."

THE announcement following has been generally communicated to the Press, and it will be seen from the minutes of the London Philatelic Society that the "Secretary reported that he had received a communication from the President in reference to the proposed issue of Hospital 'stamps,' of which notice had appeared in the papers. His Royal Highness, in explaining exactly what was proposed to be done, had expressed the hope that as the stamps in question would not be available for postage, and were not intended to be issued in connection with the postal service, Philatelists of all classes would see their way to give their hearty support to the scheme, which had been proposed for the sole object of benefiting the Prince of Wales' Hospital Fund." The meeting thoroughly endorsed the Hon. Sec.'s statement of the case.

The *raison d'être* of these labels is thus clearly set forth as being benevolent and not postal, and it therefore behoves all Philatelists, as loyal subjects, to do all they can in furtherance of the good purpose for which these "receipt stamps" have been designed. The debt of the Philatelic community in this country to Royalty is so heavy that nothing can repay it, and it is the more incumbent upon us all, therefore, to evince in some small measure our gratitude by endeavouring to promote the sale of these stamps in every possible way. They are exceedingly beautiful in design, and will doubtless, as mementoes of the Jubilee of Her Gracious Majesty, have and retain a financial value that their brethren who are strictly within the Philatelic fold may often fail to achieve. It is probable that there will be an unprecedented demand for them among all sections of Her Majesty's lieges, and we are sure that Philatelists will not be laggard in their loyalty when they recollect the gracious connection of Her Majesty's son and grandson with their pursuit.

"Much consideration has been given to the problem of how to place it within the means of everybody in London to contribute to the form of commemoration for London approved by the Queen, as embodied in the Prince of Wales's Hospital Fund. As the easiest and readiest way of enabling people of all classes with the minimum of trouble to subscribe to the Hospital Fund, the Prince of Wales has approved a design for two stamps of the face value of 1s. and 2s. 6d. respectively, which has been prepared by the Government contractors, Messrs. De La Rue & Co., who have given the blocks and drawings free of charge. The wholesale distribution of these stamps has been undertaken by Messrs. Simpkin, Marshall, Hamilton, Kent, & Co. (Limited), of Stationers' Hall Court. The stamps will be ready after Easter. The issue will be strictly limited in number, and no reissue will be made. The stamps may be procured through any bookseller, newsagent, stationer, or stamp-seller. The design of the stamps is artistic and beautiful, and, apart from their popularity with the smaller subscribers to the Prince of Wales's Hospital Fund, they are calculated to excite great interest amongst Philatelists, of whose Society the Duke of York is the President."

THE LATE MR. J. K. TIFFANY.

IT is with the deepest regret that we hear of the premature and unexpected death of a Philatelist whose name was respected and honoured equally in this country and in the United States during the past quarter century. After a comparatively short illness Mr. Tiffany expired on the 3rd March last, just after attaining his fifty-fifth birthday. The deceased gentleman was a lawyer, but had for many years abandoned active practice, devoting his time to attending to the large real estate that he had acquired as a paternal inheritance. Universally beloved and respected, Mr. Tiffany's removal will leave a sad blank among Philatelists, and will plunge a wide circle of relatives and friends into the keenest grief. Mr. Tiffany's writings on Philately are widely known, and have always been held as evincing scientific research of the highest order. His work on the stamps of the United States is perhaps his most enduring title to fame; but in many other branches of Philately he has established a reputation that will hold him in high esteem as long as stamps are collected.

From the formation of the American Philatelic Association down to last year Mr. Tiffany was President, and his eloquence in the chair has become a universal theme of admiration in his own country. As a collector Mr. Tiffany may truly be held to be one of the pioneers of the science, who in company with the late E. L. Pemberton, Judge Philbrick, Dr. Legrand, Herr von Ferrary, and others, were already forming their collection on true Philatelic lines five-and-twenty years before the general spread of knowledge thereon. In many of the English Colonies, notably Australian, in Afghanistan, and in the United States Stamps and Locals—St. Louis, to wit—the late President of the A.P.A. showed by his grasp of minor varieties and his system of Philatelic arrangement that his was a master hand.

Although of later years his collection had not been materially increased, we understand that it has remained unbroken, and must to-day contain many stamps of the deepest interest and rarity. Deterred perhaps by the increasing prices and competition in acquiring rarities, of late years Mr. Tiffany devoted his attention to completing his already extensive Philatelic library.

Methodical to a degree in arrangement, and untiring in his energy of acquisition, so successful has Mr. Tiffany been in this branch that to-day the collection of Philatelic literature that he has left behind him comprises almost every known book, magazine, or publication, and stands confessed as without a rival in the world. In the best interests of Philately in America it is most earnestly to be desired that this magnificent collection may remain unbroken and accessible, at once affording an education to successive generations of collectors, and an enduring monument to the qualities of the man who formed it. By virtue of his long connection with Philately, his high character and his talent, the late Mr. Tiffany was the undoubted leader of the pursuit in America, and his death is a sad event scarcely more deplored in his own country than on our own shores.

DEATH OF DR. VON STEPHAN.

AN illustrious man has passed away in the death of Dr. Heinrich von Stephan, the Postmaster-General of the German Empire, who, in addition to brilliant administrative faculties, exercised through the trying times of 1870–71 and continuously since in his important duties, has created for his name an enduring record as the founder of the Postal Union. To the Philatelic world the foundation of this great international agreement has been fraught with numerous and important changes in issues, which, however, must have tended to reduce and simplify the postal varieties during the past quarter of a century. A still greater claim to the affections of the stamp world is, however, the fact that Dr. von Stephan was the inventor of the now ubiquitous post card. By his death, in his sixty-seventh year, Germany loses one of its most brilliant and devoted citizens.

PHILATELIC EXHIBITION AT PLYMOUTH

AN interesting "display of stamps" by members of the Plymouth Philatelic Society was held on Saturday, February 27th, at 9a, Princess Square, in a large room placed at the disposal of the Society for their meetings by Mr. W. Earl, solicitor. It was the first exhibition organized by the Society during the current session, and both in the growth in number and variety of the exhibits, and the larger attendance of visitors compared with previous displays, showed evidence of increased interest in Philately in the district.

Prominent among the exhibits was Mr. R. Tyeth Stevens's collection of the stamps of Barbados, which, though containing few of the extremely great rarities, was noteworthy for its fine range of shades of colour. Mr. Stevens also showed comprehensive little collections of the stamps of Antigua, Bahamas, Bermuda, and Dominica. Both series bore evidence of extreme care and neatness in mounting, the stamps of Barbados being arranged on the plan of the new handbook of Messrs. Bacon and Napier. Mr. M. Z. Kuttner exhibited the stamps of St. Helena, also scientifically mounted, each stamp being arranged in its proper issue, and annotated with the exact measurements of the overprints and length of bars. His collection included all the known varieties up to the 1894 issue, and many minor varieties that are not catalogued. Mr. Kuttner also sent nearly a dozen sheets of rarities, including complete sets of used Ionian Isles, a pair of £5 British Bechuanaland stamps, several Cape wood blocks, including the scarce damaged *cliché;* a 20s. Gold Coast stamp; a magnificent used copy of the 5s., blue, Lagos; complete sets of the early issues of the Mauritius stamps, showing different states of the plates; unused pairs of unperforated Gambias; and many other fine examples of desirable stamps that excited the admiration and envy of collectors. Mr. A. R. Barrett sent a collection of unused Jamaica stamps, which were greatly admired for their fine range of shades. Among them were blocks of the early pine issue, and the split 1d. pine on the entire cover, and a curious double surcharge. Besides a fairly

complete set of the stamps of Gibraltar, Mr. H. W. Mayne sent a number of Cape of Good Hope stamps, including some fine pairs of the early stamps, and a well-selected series of the later issues. Mr. J. E. V. Moreton showed a small group of Tonga stamps. Being all of comparatively recent issue, and consequently not well known, they attracted a good deal of attention. While they could not be commended for beauty of execution, they were remarkable for the extraordinary variety of surcharges, which created a good deal of comment, and elicited many inquiries as to their meaning. Mr. W. J. W. Miller contributed several sheets, showing the various issues of the stamps of Norway, including the extremely rare error of the first issue and nearly all the newly-discovered minor varieties. Mr. Preston Pearce lent his very fine collection of United States Revenue stamps, comprising some seventy pages of his album, and including many of the scarce stamps that are now fetching very high prices in America. Owing to absence from Plymouth, the President (Major G. H. W. Stockdale, R.E.) was unable to send his fine collection of Spanish stamps as promised, but these will be included in the next display held by the Society.

The exhibits were well arranged and classified, and several members of the Committee courteously conducted the visitors round the room and explained the various features of the different collections. Many of the collectors who visited the exhibition expressed gratification at finding so active and vigorous a Philatelic Society existing in Plymouth, and were surprised to learn that over £2000 worth of stamps were on view in the room.

Another display will take place towards the end of the session, and we are asked to state that collectors wishing to join the Society may obtain information from the Hon. Secretary, Mr. W. J. W. Miller, 5, Athenæum Terrace; or the Vice-President, Mr. Tyeth Stevens, 6, St. James's Terrace.

New Issues.

NOTES OF NEW, AND VARIATIONS OF CURRENT, ISSUES.

(Varieties of Obsolete Stamps, and Discoveries, will be found under "Philatelic Notes.")

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.

Members of the London Philatelic Society, and other readers generally, are invited to co-operate with us in making the columns as interesting as possible. Our foreign readers can especially help us in this direction, by sending copies of any official documents relative to changes in the current issues, or early intimation of any new issue, accompanied, when possible, by a specimen; such information will be duly credited to the correspondent, and, if desired, the specimen promptly returned. Address: EDITOR "LONDON PHILATELIST," EFFINGHAM HOUSE, ARUNDEL STREET, STRAND, LONDON, W.C.

BRITISH EMPIRE.

BRITISH CENTRAL AFRICA.—In our February issue (page 50) we chronicled some changes in colours on the authority of our contemporaries; we have since learnt that the stamps mentioned are the fiscal-postals which we have already alluded to on page 359, vol. v. Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. have now sent for our inspection a set of the watermarked stamps just received from the Colony. These are as follows:—

Adhesives.	1d., black	wmk.	Cr. C A.
	2d., green and black	,,	,,
	4d., brown-buff and black	,,	,,
	6d., ultramarine and black	,,	,,
	1s., pink and black	,,	,,
	2s. 6d., mauve and black	,,	Cr. C C.
	3s., orange-yellow and black	,,	,,
	5s., olive and black	,,	,,
	£1, ultramarine and black	,,	,,

BRITISH SOUTH AFRICA COMPANY.—Again we are indebted to Mr. J. F. Jones for being able to describe the new designs, which have been engraved by Messrs. Waterlow & Sons, for the Company's new issue of stamps. These are two in number, consisting of one design for all values up to and including the sixpence, and the other for the one shilling and higher values. Both are of upright rectangular shape, measuring 23 × 19 mm., and in the case of the former the Arms of the Company appear in the centre, the value in figures on square tablets in the upper corners, and in words on a straight tablet at the base, "British" "South Africa Company" in two curved lines of Roman capitals above the Arms. The design for the higher values contains the Arms in the centre, figures at top and words at base, as already described; but the words "British South Africa" above the Arms are in Roman capitals on a semi-circular tablet, supported by pillars, the word "Company" being inserted within the inner curve. Although these stamps are being printed, they will not be put into use until the stock of the re-engraved stamps is exhausted. When printed, four panes of 60 stamps each will form a sheet of 240 stamps, and the values will be: First design, ½d., 1d., 2d., 2½d., 3d., 4d., 6d.; second design, 1s., 2s. 6d., 5s., 10s. As soon as we hear these stamps are in use, we will illustrate and add a formal chronicle.

CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.—The issue of the 2d. and 4d. stamps in the new colours is announced.

Adhesives.	2d., brown;	perf. 14.
	4d., olive	,, ,,

GREAT BRITAIN.—We have received inquiries as to the "Hospital" stamps, which we understand are to be put on sale after Easter. These, as alluded to elsewhere, will have absolutely no postal value, and will in reality be merely receipts for money contributed to the Hospital Fund. It is an evidence of the common sense of the Postal authorities that all the suggestions for a commemorative stamp have been refused. The *Philatelic Record*, however, assures us that this year will see a new series of adhesives put into circulation—

news for the confirmation of which we must be content to wait.

NATIVE INDIAN STATES.—The *Philatelic Journal of India* enlightens us as to the character of the stamps which have been chronicled for the Native States of Charkhari and Duttia. Both these States are in Bundelkhund, not far from Jhansi, Central India. The Charkari stamps are five in number, with two additional envelopes. It appears that Duttia has had a post office and postage stamps since 1893, and the present service consists of one head office and nine branch offices. The stamps are printed at a private press, and it is said an ingenious device is resorted to in order to prevent forgery. No stamp, envelope, or post card is available for prepayment of postage until it bears the impression of the Maharajah's seal. The stamps, which our contemporary illustrates, are of a type-set rectangle, 25 mm. high and 20 mm. broad. In the centre the figure of the god Ganesh appears, on the left-hand side, reading upwards, is the word "Duttia," at the top "State," and on the right-hand side, reading downwards, "Postage," value in Hindi at base, the whole design being enclosed in a single-lined upright rectangular frame. There is a second type with a trefoil border and inscription in Hindi at base only. Both types are printed in a hand-press one at a time—in the case of Type 1, in horizontal strips of six, and in the case of Type 2, horizontal strips of eight. There are also envelopes and post cards, of which we can only at present mention the existence. The Maharajah's seal, which gives the stamps their postal value, is circular, 23 mm. in diameter; in the centre is the figure of a god sitting cross-legged, surrounded by a Hindi inscription, and finished off with a beaded border. The seal is impressed in various coloured inks, and when used through the post is cancelled with a pen mark, and the stamp by an oval obliteration bearing the words, "Head Office, Raj Duttia," in Hindi.

The varieties at present known are as follows:—

CHARKARI.

Adhesives. ¼ anna, rose.
½ ,, purple.
1 ,, green.
2 ,, ,,
4 ,, ,,

Envelopes. ¼ anna, rose.
½ ,, purple.

DUTTIA.

Adhesives.

¼ anna, black on *orange-red; thin wove paper. Type* 2.
½ ,, ,, ,, *light blue-green* ,, ,, ,,
1 ,, red, on *white wove paper. Type* 1.
2 ,, black, on *yellow; thin wove paper. Type* 2.
4 ,, ,, ,, *rose;* thin wove paper *Type* 2.

Envelopes.

½ anna, black, on *thin white laid paper*, 120 × 68 mm.

Post Card.

¼ anna, black, on *stout white wove paper*, 21 × 21 mm.

NEW SOUTH WALES.—Our Special Correspondent sends us the 9d. and 10d. adhesives, both with the watermark Crown and N S W (Type II.); these were issued on February 10th. The surcharge on the former is in smaller type, measuring 13½ mm. in length, in place of 14½ mm., while the perforation is 12, in place of 11 × 10. The 10d. is of a bright lilac colour, and perforated 11 × 12 in place of 11 × 10.

Adhesives. 9d., red-brown.
10d., lilac.

Mr. A. F. Basset-Hull writes: "I find now that the old plate (De La Rue's) has been used for these printings. The superior appearance and clear printing at first led me to believe that a new electro had been made."

QUEENSLAND.—The first of the "figures in four corners" type has appeared for Queensland in the shape of a 1d. wrapper. The issue of this band was rendered necessary by an alteration in the newspaper rate, which is now ½d. per 2 oz. The stamp is of the current type, but with the additional figures "1 1" in the top corners. It is a shocking example of the effect of continued tinkering. Colour, dull brick-red, on manilla paper; inscription in six lines above the stamp: "This wrapper may only be used for newspapers, or—for such documents as are allowed to be sent at the—Book-rate of postage, and must not enclose any letter—or communication of the nature of a letter (whether separate—or otherwise). If this rule be infringed, the packet will—be charged as a letter." Size of wrapper 290 × 125 mm.

Wrapper. 1d., dull red on manilla.

SEYCHELLES.—The *D. B. Z.* chronicles three new values of the current type.

Adhesives. 18 c., blue.
36 c., brown and carmine.
1 rupee, deep lilac and carmine.—*A. J. of Ph.*

SIERRA LEONE.—We regret exceedingly having to chronicle a long list of fiscal-postals and surcharges, which have appeared in this otherwise upright Colony. The

Philatelic Record has received the 1d. fiscal, surcharged in black "Postage—and —Revenue," in three lines of small capitals. In addition to this the 3d. and 6d. fiscal stamps have been overprinted, with the same inscription described above, and in addition, "2½d.," there being four varieties of this surcharge. Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. inform us that the surcharge is printed in two operations, each half-sheet of thirty stamps being separately overprinted, thus the top and bottom halves of the sheet show the same variations of type. This occurs in both the 3d. and 6d. values.

Adhesives. 1d., green and lilac.
"2½d." on 3d., green and lilac, *three types*.
"2½d." on 6d. ,, ,, ,,

SOUTH AUSTRALIA.—Mr. George Blockey sends us a strip of the current halfpenny stamps, which have changed somewhat in colour, the dark brown being replaced by a distinct Venetian red. The stamps have the appearance of having been printed from a new electro plate.

Adhesive. ½d., Venetian red, perf. 13.

EUROPE.

ITALY.—We illustrate the new type of the 5 c. adhesive described last month.



MONACO.—*Le T.-P.* announces the following changes in colour.

Adhesives. 50 c., bistre on yellow.
5 francs, bright rose on greenish.

SWEDEN.—The issue of the 5 c. adhesive is announced in a new shade—yellow-green.

Adhesive. 5 c., yellow-green.

SWITZERLAND.—We have received the 1 c. Unpaid Letter Stamp from Messrs. Whitfield King & Co., in dark yellow-green, with the figure in red in the centre, perforation 12 × 11½.

Unpaid Letter Stamp. 1 c. yellow-green and red.

TURKEY.—We annex an illustration of the surcharge chronicled last month, copies of which are to hand from Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. There are two varieties, one with overprint in black and the other in red. The latter is said to be a special stamp for publishers who post newspapers in quantities! This would be the stamp we chronicled last month.

There is one error in each sheet of 150, "CN1Q" instead of "CINQ."

Adhesive. 5 paras, green, black surcharge.



AMERICA.

ARGENTINE REPUBLIC.—The *Weekly Stamp News* announces the decease of the 3 c., orange, adhesive, and the *A. J. of Ph.* chronicles the 50 c. with the new watermark.

Adhesive. 50 c., blue-green.

BRAZIL.—*Le T.-P.* announces that the 10 reis adhesive has been redrawn. The word "DEZ" to the left of the label at base is replaced by the word "REIS," and the figures of value "10" are smaller but thicker.

Adhesive. 10 reis, carmine and blue, *redrawn*.

PARAGUAY.—The 10 c. adhesive, which has formerly been in use with a circular hole punched out to prevent the stamp being fraudulently surcharged and passed as the Jubilee issue, has now been issued entire.

PERU.—Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. have shown us two unpaid stamps, being the 50 c. and 1 sol stamps of 1886 surcharged "DÉFICIT," in sans-serif capitals, diagonally from left to right, reading upwards.

Unpaid Letter Stamps. 50 c., vermilion, black surcharge.
1 sol, pale brown ,, ,,

OTHER COUNTRIES.

CONGO FREE STATE.—Several of our contemporaries announce new post cards, bearing the lately-issued 10 c. and 15 c. stamps, illustrated on page 360, vol. v. They are very handsome, having been prepared by Messrs. Waterlow & Sons.

Post Cards. 10 c., red on *buff*.
10 c., brown + 10 c., green on *rose* (reply).
15 c., blue + 15 c., yellow-brown on *azure* (reply).

The first card is intended for interior use only, the second is available throughout the Postal Union, and the third bears a similar designation.

CURAÇAO.—*Le T.-P.* chronicles the 40 c. Unpaid stamp in the current type.

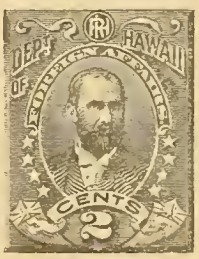
Unpaid Letter Stamp. 40 c., green and black.

GERMAN COLONIES.—We illustrate two of the Colonial surcharges mentioned last month.





HAWAIIAN ISLANDS.—We also give an illustration of the new stamps for the Department of Foreign Affairs.



ORANGE FREE STATE.—Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. send us the halfpenny post card bearing the current adhesive stamp of that value, printed in orange, overprinted with the usual "Arms" and inscriptions.

Post Card. (½d., orange) on black and *white*.

PERSIA.—*Le T.-P.* informs us that the profile of the new Shah, Muzaffer-Eddin, will appear on a new series of stamps which should be issued this month. The values are to be 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 8, 10, 12, 16 shahi, and 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 10, and 50 krans, which would suggest that the new issue is being prepared for higher (!) service than that of the requirements of the Post Office.

SURINAM.—The 40 c. unpaid stamp is in use here also.

Unpaid Letter Stamp. 40 c., green-black.

Philatelic Societies' Meetings.

THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY, LONDON.

Honorary President—H.R.H. THE DUKE OF SAXE-COBURG AND GOTHA, K.G., &c.

Council for the Year 1895-96:

President—H.R.H. THE DUKE OF YORK, K.G.

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. | T. WICKHAM JONES.
R. EHRENBACH. | D. GARTH. | H. R. OLDFIELD.

THE nineteenth meeting of the season was held at Effingham House on Friday, the 12th March, at 7.45 p.m., the members in attendance being: Messrs. E. D. Bacon, F. W. Ayer, H. R. Oldfield, R. Meyer, R. Frentzel, W. Silk, T. Maycock, A. R. Barrett, C. McNaughtan, J. C. Potter, E. J. Nankivell, R. Pearce, Gordon Smith, and J. A. Tilleard.

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

Mr. Bacon, in calling attention to the presence of Mr. F. W. Ayer, referred to the prominent position taken by him in Philatelic circles in America, and in the name of the Society assured Mr. Ayer of the pleasure which it gave to members to see him at the meeting. Mr. Ayer, in acknowledging the welcome accorded him, was good enough to promise to show his unrivalled collection of the stamps of St. Louis at the next meeting of the Society.

Mr. Gordon Smith then read a paper entitled, "Notes on the Later Issues of the Transvaal," which dealt with the stamps of the second Republic. In describing the several issues, which were illustrated by specimens of the stamps themselves, the question of the variety of type of the surcharge of 1882—een-penny on the 4d.,

sage-green—was dealt with, and the various surcharges employed and the reasons for their use were explained. The question of perforations was also fully considered and exhaustively treated. The varieties to be sought for were detailed, and many novel items of information and matters requiring further investigation were introduced by Mr. Gordon Smith in the able paper which he had prepared.

An interesting discussion ensued, in which Mr. Nankivell and Mr. Pearce, as the leading collectors of Transvaal stamps, took part, the latter quoting the figures which he had compiled to show the relative degrees of scarcity of some of the perforations to be found in the stamps of the 1885 issue. On the conclusion of the discussion the cordial thanks of the meeting were voted to Mr. Gordon Smith for his valuable and instructive paper.

THE twentieth meeting of the season 1896–97 was held at Effingham House on Friday, the 19th March, 1897, at 7.45 p.m.

Members present: Messrs. E. D. Bacon, F. W. Ayer, H. R. Oldfield, R. Meyer, T. W. Hall, R. Frentzel, F. F. Burghard, A. R. Barrett, H. Hetley, L. S. Wells, B. D. Knox, M. S. Cooke, F. Ransom, D. Ellis, E. A. Elliott, C. Mc Naughtan, R. Pearce, W. T. Wilson, R. Ehrenbach, C. N. Biggs, J. C. Potter, and J. A. Tilleard.

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

A letter from the Secretary of the British North Borneo Company, with information of an alteration in the stamps of North Borneo and Labuan, so as to include the value in Malay and Chinese characters, was read, and the Honorary Secretary was directed to acknowledge with thanks the receipt of the information and of specimens of the stamps in question, which had been forwarded with the letter.

Major A. B. Maxwell, proposed by Mr. C. Stewart-Wilson, and seconded by Mr. F. N. Schiller, was elected a member of the Society.

Mr. F. W. Ayer then showed his magnificent collection of the stamps of St. Louis, in which every known variety of the stamps is fully represented. The collection consists of unused copies of all the types on the three different papers, reconstructed plates of all the values and types, including pairs and strips or blocks of many of them, and a beautiful series of stamps on entire letter sheets or envelopes. Mr. Bacon gave an elaborate description of the stamps, and the several types and varieties, and explained how the collection had completely verified the existence of the 20 c. stamp, which for many years had been discredited by most leading Philatelists.

Mr. Wilson, in moving a hearty vote of thanks to Mr. Ayer for kindly giving the display, explained his connection with the researches made by the late Mr. Pemberton in regard to the St. Louis stamps, and expressed his gratification that Mr. Pemberton's views had been so fully corroborated by Mr. Ayer's investigations. The vote was seconded by Mr. Bacon, and carried unanimously.

On the motion of Mr. Ehrenbach, seconded by Mr. Hall, the thanks of the meeting were awarded to Mr. Bacon for the interesting and valuable descriptions he had given.

The remainder of the evening was occupied with an inspection of Mr. Frentzel's fine collection of the early issues of Mexico.

In submitting the stamps, Mr. Frentzel observed that in his opinion the stamps of this country offer to an ardent student a greater field for exploration than perhaps any other country, and deserve much more consideration than they have hitherto enjoyed. He explained that for twenty-eight years, from 1856–1883 inclusive, the stamps were surcharged with the names of the respective States where they were issued; and for twenty years, from 1864–1883, all the stamps were dated. In addition, in two instances, on the eagle and Maximilian issues, consignment numbers were added, and assuming that each consignment conveyed a full complement of stamps, the total number of the "eagle" issue alone would amount to 3054 stamps, irrespective of any varieties whatever.

In proceeding, Mr. Frentzel remarked: "These three points, the surcharging of the names of the States, the dates, and the numbers, offer in themselves sufficient material to operate upon; but this is not all, as we have also to deal with the various styles and colours of the surcharges, the former representing innumerable distinct types, and the latter being found in five

distinct colours—black, red, blue, magenta, and violet.

"Furthermore, we have to deal with two other very important factors—paper and perforations. Of the former we find: wove paper of various thicknesses, white and coloured; laid paper (horizontally and vertically), also of various thicknesses; *bâtonné*, *quadrillé*, ruled on face and reverse; ribbed and pelure papers; and lastly, but not least, watermarked papers.

"The perforations are also of great variety, of ordinary machine perforation, pin, round, and square sawtooth perforations, and rouletted. And, finally, we come across any amount of errors, not only in the paper on which the stamps are printed, but also in their colours, their surcharges, and their obliterations.

"New discoveries and surprises, in a collection like this, are continually cropping up, and one of them, which seems to have passed observation hitherto, is that in most of the earlier issues, up to that of 1884, stamps are occasionally found with a small round hole punched out of them. I have in addition to a few used copies an entire sheet of the 1872 issue in which the twenty-fifth stamp is so treated, and I shall be much obliged if any member can throw light on this subject. These stamps so marked seem extremely scarce, and I have met with only a dozen or so, although I have gone through many thousands of stamps."

The stamps shown comprised a very fine series of the issues from 1856 to 1867, and were inspected with great interest, the best thanks of the meeting being voted to Mr. Frentzel on the motion of Mr. Bacon, seconded by Mr. Wilson.

THE twenty-first meeting of the season was held at Effingham House on Friday, the 26th March, 1897, at 7.45 p.m., the following members being present, in addition to one visitor, viz., Messrs. E. D. Bacon, T. H. R. Crowle, H. R. Oldfield, R. Meyer, R. Frentzel, W. R. Palmer, C. N. Biggs, A. R. Barrett, C. McNaughtan, R. Pearce, and J. A. Tilleard.

The chair was taken by Mr. Bacon, and the minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed.

Mr. Bacon announced the receipt of information of the death of Mr. J. K. Tiffany, who had been a member of the Society for many years. He explained the great esteem in which Mr. Tiffany was held, and the position occupied by him amongst Philatelists in America, and referred to the valuable work which Mr. Tiffany had done in the best interests of Philately. On the motion of Mr. Bacon, seconded by Mr. Pearce, it was resolved, "That the members of the Philatelic Society, having heard with very great regret of the death of Mr. J. K. Tiffany, desire to record their sense of the great services rendered by him to Philately, and to express their sincere sympathy with his widow and family in the great loss which they have sustained."

Mr. T. H. R. Crowle produced for the inspection of members attending the meeting his collection of the stamps of Hawaii issued between 1853 and 1865, including the interisland stamps, and read a series of notes he had prepared, containing a full description of the stamps comprised in the issues referred to, and the varieties of types to be found, and explaining his views as to the order in which the several printings of the interisland stamps appeared.

A hearty vote of thanks was accorded to Mr. Crowle, on the motion of Mr. Bacon, seconded by Mr. Tilleard, for the interesting display he had given, and for the valuable notes, which, with his consent, will be published in the *London Philatelist*.

In consequence of the Easter holidays, it was determined that no meeting should be held between the 9th and the 30th April.

THE twenty-second meeting of the season was held at Effingham House on Friday, the 2nd April, 1897, at 7.45 p.m.

The members in attendance were: Messrs. E. D. Bacon, R. Ehrenbach, T. W. Hall, R. Frentzel, A. R. Barrett, L. S. Wells, T. Maycock, C. McNaughtan, R. Pearce, B. D. Knox, and J. A. Tilleard.

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

Mr. F. E. Owen, proposed by Mr. McNaughtan, and seconded by the Secretary, was elected a member of the Society.

The Secretary reported that he had received a communication from the President in reference to the proposed issue of Hospital Stamps, of which notice had appeared

in the papers. His Royal Highness, in explaining exactly what was proposed to be done, had expressed the hope that as the stamps in question would not be available for postage, and were not intended to be issued in connection with the postal service, Philatelists of all classes would see their way to give their hearty support to the scheme, which had been proposed for the sole object of benefiting the Prince of Wales's Hospital Fund.

The general opinion expressed by the members attending the meeting was that, as the Hospital Stamps were not intended to be available for postal service, the scheme was one which should have the hearty approval and support of Philatelists.

Mr. R. Meyer being unfortunately absent through ill-health, the display of Lagos stamps which he was to have given was postponed.

In Mr. Meyer's absence, Mr. T. W. Hall was kind enough to produce for the inspection of the members present his collection of the type-set stamps of Tolima, which he had with him, and to give some interesting information in regard to the various issues, and to what he believed to be an alteration in one of the plates which has hitherto remained uncatalogued. Mr. Hall was also good enough to promise to write some notes upon the early stamps of Tolima to be used at a later meeting. Mr. Hall's kindness in making the display was much appreciated.

BIRMINGHAM PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

President—W. T. Wilson, Esq.
Hon. Sec. and Treas.—Mr. G. Johnson, B.A.,
208, *Birchfield Road, Birmingham.*

March 4th.—Messrs. W. W. Westwood (Birmingham), J. J. Carroll (U.S.A.), A. W. Batchelder (U.S.A.), A. F. Cooke (Hawaii), W. H. Hodgson (London), and Mrs. Mayers (Barbados), were unanimously elected members. A large number of applications was postponed or rejected.

Mr. R. Hollick then read his paper on "Used Stamps, and Why I Prefer to Collect Them." This was followed by a spirited discussion, in which most of the members present took part, from which it was evident that most preferred to have *both* used and unused. Mr. Hollick afterwards gave a display of his collection of West Indian stamps, showing nearly all varieties, used and unused.

Notice to Members.—It was decided that the name of A. Schlachter (U.S.A.), elected on December 17th, should *not* be entered on the list of members, *one* of the reasons being that he has not complied with a necessary part of the Rules. *His reference as being a member of the Society* should be of no avail in obtaining consignments of stamps.

March 18th.—Messrs. G. B. Bainbridge (Northumberland), O. T. Hodges (London), L. W. Grey (India), H. A. Pocklington (New South Wales), were unanimously elected members.

Mr. Pimm then gave his paper on "Barbados," illustrating it by means of his own fine collection, and also by a grand lot shown by Mr. Wilson.

April 1st.—Messrs. H. Anderson (Germany), W. R. Palmer (London), J. Westhorp (London), were unanimously elected members.

Mr. Walton presented a copy of *The British Stamp Directory*, and Mr. Wurtell some stamp journals. Vote of thanks was ordered to be entered on the minutes.

Owing to the ever-increasing value of the packets, it was decided to purchase a safe in which to keep them while being prepared for circulation.

Mr. F. E. Wilson (in the unavoidable absence of Mr. Lundeblad through illness) showed his fine collection of European stamps, giving notes on the minor varieties, which were very interesting and instructive. The early issues of Austria and Norway deservedly came in for a fair share of attention.

BRIGHTON AND SUSSEX PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

Hon. President—Baron de Worms.
President—M. P. Castle.
Acting Hon. Secretary—W. T. Willett, West House, Brighton.

The seventh meeting of the season 1896–97 was held at Markwell's Hotel, Brighton, on Tuesday, January 12th, at 8.15 p.m. Nine members were present; the President in the chair. After the minutes of the previous meeting had been read and confirmed, Messrs. Castle, Willett, de Worms, and Marshall exhibited their collections of stamps of Great Britain, and several other members showed some interesting varieties. The members present expressed the opinion that so fine a display of the stamps of this country had probably never previously been exhibited before any society. Among the rarities shown were ten V.R.s, all the rare varieties of the perforated 1d. and 2d., about 120 of the embossed stamps, twenty-five 4d. small and medium garters, the 9d. with hair lines and plate number 5, twenty of the high values, &c. The less rare varieties were also shown in a very large number of shades. All the specimens were in mint condition.

The eighth meeting was held on Tuesday, January 26th. Nine members were present. In the absence of the president, the Vice-President took the chair. The minutes of the last meeting having been read and confirmed, a display of the stamps of the British Colonies in West Africa took place. Very fine collections of unused were shown practically complete, including all the rarities and principal varieties in a profusion of shades, comprising a number of pairs and blocks. Great interest was taken by the members present in inspecting the various exhibits.

The ninth meeting was held on Tuesday, February 8th. Nine members were present. In the absence of the President, the Vice-President took the chair. After the minutes of the last meeting had been read and confirmed, the Librarian acknowledged the receipt of a parcel of Philatelic publications from Mr. Willett. In the unavoidable absence of Mr. Burrows, who was to have read a paper, no further business was transacted.

The tenth meeting was held on February 23rd. Eleven members were present. The Vice-President took the chair. The minutes of the last meeting having been read and confirmed, a display of the stamps of Nevis took place. Extremely fine specimens of every variety were shown, and with few exceptions all unused; also entire or reconstructed unused sheets of each value of the engraved and lithographed issues, a splendid copy of the 1s. on laid paper, &c.

MANCHESTER PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

President—W. Dorning Beckton.
Hon. Sec.—A. H. Harrison.

The ninth meeting took place at the Grand Hotel on February 5th, the President being supported by ten members.

Although regretting the unavoidable absence of Mr. J. H. Abbott, the Committee had arranged that the evening should not be unprofitably spent. To attain this the following gentlemen volunteered to give short papers, and invited discussions thereon :—

The Hon. Secretary read a short article on the stamps of Iceland. The Hon. Treasurer (Mr. Duerst) followed with concise notes and useful information on the issues of Romagna.

Mr. Petri gave a detailed account of the cancellations upon the Modena stamps, illustrating his paper with *fac-simile* drawings.

The President (Mr. W. Dorning Beckton)

took for his subject the articles appearing in certain Philatelic papers on the stamps of the United States, giving a very instructive, if severe, criticism upon them.

Before the close of a most enjoyable evening it was announced that Mr. Duerst had accepted the Editorship of the *Philatelic Journal of Great Britain*, whereupon he received the hearty congratulations and best wishes of all.

THE thirteenth meeting of the session was held at the Grand Hotel on Friday, April 2nd, the President and sixteen members being present.

Dr. Bradley (Farnworth), Mr. A. Buxton (Heaton Chapel), and Mr. W. Terry (Brooklands) were duly elected members of the Society.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed, and the general business transacted.

The subject for the evening was "The Stamps of Sicily." Fluently translating Dr. Diéna's paper from *Le Timbre-Poste*, Mr. Petri gave the most interesting and the most important passages which had reference to the mode of production and the retouches, etc., of the various values. Many of the varieties hitherto unknown to many of those present were clearly defined.

Coming after the disappointments experienced during the last few weeks, Mr. Petri's reading was greatly appreciated by all.

ARTHUR H. HARRISON, *Hon. Sec.*

GRASMERE, WHITEFIELD, NEAR MANCHESTER.

THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY, NEW YORK,

351, FOURTH AVENUE.

FOUNDED JANUARY 23, 1891; INCORPORATED FEBRUARY 1, 1892.

GOVERNING COMMITTEE FOR 1897:

President—CHARLES GREGORY. | *Treasurer*—HENRY CLOTZ.
Vice-President—J. M. ANDREINI. | *Secretary*—FREDERICK AUGUSTUS NAST.
Librarian—R. W. QUIGLEY.

Governing Committee:

WILLIAM THORNE. | WILLIAM HERRICK.
JOHN WALTER SCOTT. | GILBERT E. JONES.

THE Society's room, which contains a fine library and many other items of Philatelic interest, is always open to members. Non-resident Philatelists are cordially invited to visit the Society's room upon application to any resident member. The regular general meetings are held on the third Monday of each month, at eight p.m. The Society will be pleased to receive all contributions of Philatelic literature, etc., which may be addressed to its room.

THE annual meeting of the Society was held December 21st, in its room at The Collectors' Club. President Herrick in the chair.

Present: Messrs. Herrick, Hartshorn, Falcon, Luff, Gregory, Brevoort, Terrett, Quigley, Scott, Holland, Bruner, Thorne, and Nast.

After the reading and approval of the minutes of the preceding meeting, Mr. David Benjamin, of Shanghai, China, was elected a member of the Club by unanimous vote.

On behalf of the publishers, Mr. Luff presented the Society with a copy of Mr. Herrick's *Illustrated Catalogue of Russian Local Stamps*, the publication of which in serial form attracted so much attention during the past two years. Mr. Bogert donated priced copies of his late auction catalogues. Both accepted with thanks.

Messrs. Andreini, Thorne, and Scott were appointed an Audit Committee to examine the Treasurer's books.

TREASURER'S REPORT FOR 1896.

Receipts.

To Balance, Jan. 1st, 1896 . .	$171.30
„ Entrance Fees	55.00
„ Yearly Dues	350.00
„ Auctions (Rent of Rooms) .	200.00
	$776.30

Expenses.

By Rent	$284.00
„ New Furniture	100.00
„ Printing and Postage . .	26.33
„ Moving Exp. and Glass . .	11.20
„ Gas Co.	9.49
„ Janitor	16.50
„ S. S. Soc. (our part) . . .	17.68
	465.20
Balance . .	311.10
	$776.30

In Market & Fulton Bank	$310.49
In hand	.61
	$311.10

HENRY CLOTZ, *Treasurer.*

December 21st, 1896.

SECRETARY'S REPORT FOR 1896.

One of the most eventful years in the history of the Society has just closed. We had hardly begun with the year's work when we were notified that our lease would not be renewed, and to the resulting uneasiness was probably due the fact that this year less original work in the matter of papers has been done than ever before.

Four papers were read during the year. January 20th, 1896, "Reunion," by Mr. Herrick; April 20th, 1896, "Reprints of U.S. Stamps," by J. N. Luff; "Shifted Dies, Mis-strikes, and Double Impressions of U.S. Stamps," by Mr. Leavy; June 15th, 1896, "British Stamps with N. and S. American Cancellations," by Mr. Andreini, each a masterpiece in its way. On the other hand, such quantities of rare and scarce stamps, with albums made up on the most thorough Philatelic basis, have been exhibited to our members, that those who have attended the meetings regularly have seen practically everything worth seeing in the matter of stamps. The members with fine collections deserve the thanks of the Society for their never-failing generosity in bringing their Philatelic treasures to the common room for inspection.

The Exchange Department, organized last February, has been very successful, and, with the assistance of those members who have not participated in the exchange, the department will be a great benefit to all.

The great work of the year has been the establishment of The Collectors' Club through the exertions of the Metropolitan Societies. The Club speaks for itself, and it is to be hoped that the Club-house will be the centre of Philately in America.

As to membership, we have not only held our own, but have increased, not largely; but still the record of the past years has been sustained.

F. A. NAST, *Secretary.*

December 21st, 1896.

The Librarian's Report for 1896 calls for a number of periodicals needed to complete volumes on hand. Any Philatelic literature not now in the Library will be a welcome addition.

The Staten Island Philatelic Society asked for the use of the Society's room, January 21st, 1897. Granted.

The Committee on the annual dinner recommended a late date in January at the Club-house.

The Club's House Committee asked the loan of some of the unused frames containing Philatelic exhibits. Granted.

The election of officers for the ensuing year was ordered. Mr. Herrick declined re-election, as he could not reasonably hope to be in town regularly. His decision was received by the members with great regret, and a rising vote of thanks testified to the appreciation of the Society for his labours in its behalf.

Mr. Chas. Gregory was nominated, and by unanimous vote the Secretary was directed to cast a ballot for him. The retiring President made an earnest address to the Society, calling it to renewed efforts in Philately, and welcomed the new President to the chair, who took the same after an expression of thanks to the Society.

By unanimous vote the following officers were elected:—

Vice-President . .	MR. ANDREINI.
Treasurer . .	MR. CLOTZ.
Secretary . .	MR. NAST.
Librarian . .	MR. QUIGLEY.
Governing Board	MR. THORNE. MR. SCOTT. MR. HERRICK. MR. JONES.

FREDK. A. NAST, *Secretary.*

THE COLLECTORS' CLUB,

351, Fourth Avenue, New York.

BOARD OF GOVERNORS:

President—William Herrick. | *Secretary*—J. M. Andreini, 29, W. 75th Street.
Vice-President—Charles Gregory. | *Treasurer*—John W. Scott, 40, John Street.

Henry L. Calman. | John N. Luff. | Frederick A. Nast.
Hiram E. Deats. | F. E. P. Lynde.

COMMITTEES:

Executive—H. E. Deats, *Chairman.*
H. L. Calman. | J. N. T. Levick.

House—F. E. P. Lynde, *Chairman.*
H. E. Deats. | John N. Luff. | Albert Perrin. | W. S. Scott.

Amusements—John N. Luff, *Chairman.*
J. B. Brevoort. | J. Oakley Hobby. | P. F. Bruner. | C. L. Moreau.

Auditing—F. A. Nast, *Chairman.*
Henry Clotz. | Alvah Davison.

Literary—H. E. Deats, *Chairman.*
Jos. J. Casey. | Jos. S. Rich,

Membership—Chas. Gregory, *Chairman.*
R. R. Bogert. | H. Collin. | H. Clotz. | H. N. Terrett.

Furnishing—J. W. Scott, *Chairman.*
R. R. Bogert. | H. L. Calman.

DIRECTORY:

First Floor—Office and Assembly Room.
Second Floor—Library.
Room of the Philatelic Society, *front.*
Room of National Philatelic Society, *rear.*
Third Floor—Guest Chambers.
Basement—Billiard Room.

Admittance by Membership Card.

Notices of coming events and application for membership will be found posted on the bulletin board.

For special information inquire of the House Committee.

Sixth meeting of the Board of Governors, held at the Club-house, 351, Fourth Avenue, January 11th, 1897. President Herrick in the chair; called to order at 7.55 p.m. Present: Messrs. Scott, Luff, Lynde, and the Secretary.

Minutes of the last meeting read and approved.

The Secretary read a letter from the Philatelic Club and Exchange, Limited, London, sending specimen card and membership roll. The Secretary was directed to acknowledge receipt of same with thanks, and to mail to the Philatelic Club and Exchange, Limited, our Constitution and list of members.

The Secretary was instructed to thank the London Philatelic Society for their kind donation of books for the Club Library.

The Secretary read letters from Mr. E. Stanley Gibbons and from the Secretary of the Archæologic and Numismatic Society, thanking the Club for courtesies extended.

The Secretary was directed to acknowledge with thanks a catalogue received from Mr. H. L'Estrange Ewen, London, and a file of the *Stamp Collector's Fortnightly*, from Harry Hilckes & Company, Limited, London.

The thanks of the Club were likewise extended to Mr. Chas. De Witt Drew and

Dr. Paul Allen for gifts of unframed engravings, etc.

The Treasurer reports that the Club's incorporation was finally accomplished on December 14th, 1896.

The Treasurer also reported that Constitution and By-Laws, in pamphlet form, had been distributed to the members.

Upon motion the thanks of the Club were extended to Mr. Da Costa Gomez for gift of English essays in frames, presented to the Club through Mr. J. W. Scott.

Mr. Luff was delegated to extend the courtesies of the Club to the members of the Staten Island Philatelic Society at their meeting in the Club-house on the 21st inst.

The following application for membership was reported: John R. Myers, The Dunmore, W. 42nd Street—proposed by Robert L. Coursen, seconded by A. Perrin—and his name was ordered to be posted according to the Constitution.

Upon ballot the following candidates were unanimously elected:—

H. B. Wesselman, 150, Broadway.

N. M. Kaufmann, Marquette, Mich.

Chas. Steigerwalt, Lancaster, Pa.

C. A. Needham, Hamilton, Ontario, Can., and they were accordingly declared elected as subscribing members.

Adjourned at 9.40 p.m.

J. M. ANDREINI, *Secretary.*

Subscribing members previously elected:—
C. P. Krauth, Pittsburg, Pa.
Joseph Holmes.
Robt. S. Lehman.
Wm. Alex. Smith, Jun.
J. B. Chittenden.
Angel M. Trujillo.
Robt. L. Coursen.
Fred. V. Green.
Dr. Jas. H. Stebbins, Jun.

SEVENTH meeting of the Board of Governors, held at the Club-house, 351, Fourth Avenue, February 8th, 1897. President Herrick in the chair. Present: Messrs. Gregory, Deats, Lynde, Luff, Nast, Scott, and the Secretary.

Called to order at 8 p.m.

Minutes of previous meeting read and approved.

The Secretary read a letter from Mr. Edward F. Weed, received with two oil paintings and four engravings loaned to the Club. The Secretary was directed to acknowledge receipt of Mr. Weed's letter, and to extend to him the thanks of the Club for the loan. The House Committee reported the pictures and engravings hung in the Assembly Room.

The Chairman of the Literary Committee acknowledged the receipt of Philatelic literature from the Scott Stamp and Coin Company, Limited; the J. W. Scott Company, Limited; Mr. Henry Gremmel; and the C. H. Mekeel Stamp and Publishing Company; and the Governors thanked the above-mentioned firms for their gifts.

The Chairman of the Executive Committee resigned, owing to his inability to be present regularly at the meetings, and the Governors accepted his resignation with regret.

Upon motion, Mr. Henry L. Calman was unanimously elected Chairman of the Executive Committee.

The Chairman of the Literary Committee, Mr. H. E. Deats, presented to the Club several bound books for the Library, and he received therefor the thanks of the Governors.

EIGHTH meeting of the Board of Governors, held at the Club-house, 351, Fourth Avenue, March 8th, 1897. Vice-President Gregory in the chair. Present: Messrs. Calman, Luff, Lynde, Scott, and the Secretary.

Called to order at 8.10 p.m.

Minutes of previous meeting were then read and approved.

The Secretary read letters from Messrs. M. P. Castle, Percy C. Bishop, and Stanley Gibbons, Limited, London, relative to publication of minutes; a letter from Mr. Harbeck with detailed memorandum of books loaned; and another from the Chairman of the Literary Committee regarding the binding of certain volumes received as gifts.

J. M. ANDREINI, *Secretary.*

[The seventh and eighth reports are abridged, owing to demands on our space. —ED.]

SUBURBAN STAMP EXCHANGE.

FOUNDED in 1892. Number of members to date, 283. Two A packets (composed exclusively of sheets, valued at not less than £5 gross each), and two B packets (sheets of less than £5), made up about the 21st of each month. Average value of packets, £1500–£1800. The following characteristics of the Club may be noted :—

(1) Stamps are priced at members' discretion.
(2) Cash settlements are monthly, and sheets are returned as promptly as possible.
(3) Every precaution is taken to exclude undesirable members.
(4) Priority on the lists is taken in turn, and members can see or contribute to as many packets as they like.

The usual number of packets were made up and despatched on the February circuits, their aggregate value amounting to £1591 14s. 1d. Considering the scarcity and condition of many of the stamps offered, quotations were very moderate. November packets have just returned from the supply rounds, sales being as follows :—

	£	s.	d.
Nov. A 1	79	6	11
„ A 2	71	8	4½
„ B 1 and B 2 . .	60	4	4
Supply A 1 and A 2 . .	37	2	1
	£248	1	8½

December packets have now been made up for supply rounds, and accounts will be rendered in due course. Members are reminded that sheets should not be sent for inclusion later than the 20th of each month. Several new contributing and buying members have been admitted since January, including T. J. Smithson, Hull; C. Daly, Streatham; Captain Thorburn, Ayr; Professor Lipman, Jersey; P. H. Young, Cambridge; Mrs. Capell, Dunmow; P. de Smith, Brussels; H. A. D. Capell; J. Bilson, Birmingham; T. O. Callender, Erith, etc. etc. Medium and advanced collectors giving good references are always welcomed, and rules and full information will be forwarded on application to the Secretary, H. A. Slade, Tudor House, St. Albans.

THE number of members enrolled on April 1st, 1897, was 288. Two A packets (composed exclusively of sheets valued at not less than £5 gross each) and two B packets (sheets under £5 gross) are made up and circulated on the 20th of each month. Aggregate value of the four packets £1600–£1850.

The ordinary rules of Exchange Clubs apply, but the following may be especially noted :—

(1) Stamps are priced at members' discretion.
(2) Cash settlements are monthly.
(3) Every member sees packets first in turn.
(4) Members can see or contribute to as many packets as they like by giving notice.
(5) Satisfactory references are indispensable.

NOTICE FOR APRIL.

Two A and two B packets were despatched on March 22nd, the quality of the sheets being quite up to the average. Old Europeans and Africans were especially well represented. November accounts have been submitted and balanced, and December packets are expected back shortly from supplementary rounds. Sales were as follows :—

	£	s.	d.
Nov. A 1 packet . . .	123	4	7
„ A 2 „ . . .	114	10	11
„ B 1 „ . . .	44	4	0
„ B 2 „ . . .	29	1	1
Supply rounds of A 1 and A 2 packets . . .	49	19	4

January packets have already started on their supply rounds; members wishing to be included on lists should notify me. Mr. Oldfield has kindly promised to send a copy of the revised code of rules he is drawing up in view of the recent legal decision given *re* the liabilities of Exchange Clubs. The suburban rules will probably be reconstructed to meet these requirements and to protect members; due notice will, however, be given. Responsible collectors will be furnished with full information as to membership, etc., on application.

H. A. SLADE, *Hon. Sec.*

TUDOR HOUSE, ST. ALBANS.

PLYMOUTH PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

President—CAPTAIN G. H. W. STOCKDALE, R.E.
Treasurer and Hon. Secretary—W. J. W. MILLER.

THE seventh ordinary meeting of the Society was held at 9a, Princess Square, on Wednesday, December 30th, 1896, at 7.30 p.m. The Vice-President (Mr. R. T. Stevens) in the chair, supported by ten members and two visitors. The Hon. Secretary reported receipt from Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., of Part I. of their new Catalogue, and from Mr. Ewen of a presentation copy of his new album for English specialists, and was instructed to acknowledge same with best thanks of the Society.

Mr. E. R. Hudson, Plymouth, and Lieut. C. W. Keighley-Peach, R.N., H.M.S. *Cambridge*, were elected ordinary members of the Society.

Mr. Mayne introduced the subject for study, "Some of the Stamps of Great Britain." His remarks were confined to the Mulready envelope and its caricatures, the 1d. V.R., and the Line-Engraved Series, of which he showed some good specimens. An interesting discussion followed. The Vice-President exhibited a copy of the 1d. imperforate, printed in blue, and stated that the authenticity of this stamp had been doubted by experts ; but in a valuable collection which had recently changed hands there was, he believed, a similar variety found. A vote of thanks, on the proposition of the Vice-President, seconded by Dr. Bulteel, was heartily accorded Mr. Mayne.

The Hon. Secretary was instructed to convey the best thanks of the Society to the following publishers for donations to the Society's Library during the year :—Messrs. Theodore Buhl & Co. ; Mr. Wm. Brown, Salisbury ; and the Publishers, *Philatelic Chronicle and Advertiser.*

THE eighth ordinary meeting of the Society was held at 9a, Princess Square, on Wednesday, January 13th, 1897, at 7.30 p.m. The Vice-President (Mr. R. T. Stevens) in the chair, supported by nine members, one hon. member, and four visitors.

The Hon. Secretary reported receipt of letters acknowledging the votes of thanks passed at last meeting, and offering similar benefit during the current year, and he was instructed to acknowledge same with best thanks of Society.

Dr. C. E. Rendle, Plymouth, was elected an ordinary member of the Society.

Mr. Mayne continued his remarks from last meeting on the stamps of Great Britain, dealing with the 3d. and 4d. of the surface-printed series, showing specimens of the different printings, and pointing out the different wmks., plate numbers, and shades of colour. An interesting discussion followed, the Vice-President showing some very unusual shades of colour of both the 3d. and 4d. values, and giving a very interesting description of the processes employed for the engraving and printing of both the line-engraved series and the surface-printed stamps.

THE ninth ordinary meeting of the Society was held at 9a, Princess Square, on Wednesday, January 27th, 1897, at 7.30 p.m. The President (Captain G. H. W. Stockdale, R.E.) in the chair, supported by seven members.

Mr. A. W. Shield, Plymouth, was duly elected an ordinary member of the Society.

The subject for study, "The Stamps of Great Britain," was introduced by Mr. Mayne, being a continuation of his remarks from last meeting. He dealt with the 6d. and 1s. values, and illustrated his remarks by the exhibition of specimens from his collection, pointing out the different wmks., plate numbers, and shades of colour. An interesting discussion followed, and the President exhibited his collection of the stamps under notice for the information of members.

On the proposition of the President, seconded by Mr. W. E. Harvey, a vote of thanks was accorded Mr. Mayne for his remarks.

THE tenth ordinary meeting of the Society was held at No. 9a, Princess Square, on Wednesday, February 10th, 1897. Mr. H. W. Mayne in the chair, supported by seven members and two visitors.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed, and the receipt of the usual publications was reported.

Mr. A. M. Watkins, Stoke, was balloted for, and elected an ordinary member of the Society.

The Vice-President (Mr. R. Tyeth Stevens) having been unexpectedly called to London, the subject of study, "The Stamps of Barbados," which was to have been introduced by him, was unavoidably postponed.

The Chairman (Mr. Mayne) gave the members an interesting account of how he commenced stamp collecting, and at the close of his remarks was accorded a hearty vote of thanks.

THE eleventh ordinary meeting of the Society was held at No. 9a, Princess Square, on Wednesday, February 24th, 1897, at 7.30 p.m.

The Vice-President (Mr. R. T. Stevens) in the chair, supported by nine members and two visitors.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed, and the report of publications received were announced.

A sub-committee of eight members was elected to make arrangements for the Display of Stamps to be held at the Society's Room on the 27th inst.

The Vice-President (Mr. R. T. Stevens) introduced the subject of study, "The Stamps of Barbados." He dealt with the stamps comprised in Issues I. to VIII. of Messrs. Bacon and Napier's Handbook, and illustrated his remarks by the exhibition of his own collection, arranged in accordance with the handbook, and which showed very distinctly the different wmks., perforations, and shades of colour. He explained the differences in the pin perforation, clean cut perforation, rough or blind perforation, and the succeeding clean perforation, and specimens of each were passed round for inspection by the members. In the Star wmkd. series, the differences in the sizes of the stars and their positions on the sheet were explained.

A most interesting discussion followed, and a hearty vote of thanks was accorded the Vice-President for his very exhaustive and interesting remarks.

At the close of the meeting, Mr. Cocks passed round for inspection the new issue of Zanzibar stamps, on original envelope.

W. J. W. MILLER, *Hon. Sec.*
5, ATHENÆUM TERRACE, PLYMOUTH.

We have to express our regret to the Hon. Secretaries of the foregoing Philatelic Societies that the publication of some of the preceding minutes should have unavoidably been so long delayed.—ED.

Correspondence.

COMMUNICATIONS.—*All communications on Philatelic matters and Publications for Review should be addressed to the Editor of* THE LONDON PHILATELIST, Kingston Lodge, Richmond Place, Brighton.

GREAT BRITAIN, 2d., BLUE; THICK WHITE LINES; SC; PERF. 16.

DEAR SIR,—You will see that the enclosed is a very early use of the 2d., blue, perf. 16, SC—over three weeks before the hitherto-supposed earliest date of use of this stamp. May, 1854, was, until recently, believed to be the first month of issue; but Ewen, in his latest catalogue, states that the earliest known date of use of this stamp is April 30th, 1854—twenty-two days later than the enclosed.

Faithfully yours,
ALLAN H. STAMFORD.

Mr. H. L. Ewen, to whom we submitted the foregoing, kindly writes:—

"This stamp, so far as I know, antedates by twenty-two days the previous earliest known specimen of 2d., blue, perforated. The perforating machines were brought into use in January, 1854, and a copy of the 1*d.*, *red*, *perf.* 16, is known used on *February 20th*, 1854; so it is quite possible the perforated 2d., blue, stamps were also issued previous to April, 1854. I have never had an opportunity of examining many dated copies.

"The letter to which the stamp is affixed was evidently sent from London to Bradford, and being received at this latter place on April 8th, would probably have been despatched on *April 7th*." [ED.]

The Market.

MESSRS. PUTTICK & SIMPSON.

Sale on April 5th and 6th.

	£	s.	d.
Bavaria, 1850, 9 kr., green, an entire sheet of 45 stamps .	6	0	0
Ditto, ditto, 12 kr., red, do. do. .	10	10	0
Ditto, ditto, 18 kr., yellow, do. do.	12	0	0
Switzerland, 1852, 15 cents, red, unused, with gum . .	7	0	0
Ceylon, 2/-, blue, imperf., with margins on all sides . .	14	10	0
Barbados, CA, 5/-, ochre, block of 4, unused, with gum .	3	18	0
Nevis, CA, 6d., green, unused, with gum	6	15	0
St. Christopher, CA, 6d., grey, block of 4, unused, with gum	6	5	0
New Caledonia, first issue, 10 c., grey-black, entire sheet of 50 originals	10	0	0

MESSRS. CHEVELEY & CO.

Sale on March 22nd.

	£	s.	d.
French Colonies, 25 c., black on red, impf., block of 4, unused	4	15	0
Great Britain, 4d., wmk. Medium Garter, unused pair on white paper	29	10	0
Spain, 1851, 2 reales, red, unused	33	10	0
„ 1852 „ „ „	23	10	0
„ 1853 „ „ „	11	0	0
Labuan, 2 c. on 16 c., blue (Gibbons' No. 25), unused	5	15	0
Natal, no wmk., 6d., grey, unused block of 4	2	16	0
New South Wales, 5d., green, imperf.	4	0	0
Queensland, 1879, 1d., *yellow*, *error*, unused . . .	5	5	0
British Columbia, unused, $1, perf. 12½	3	0	0
Buenos Ayres, 3 pesos, green .	4	7	6
Colombia, 1862, 20 c., red . .	6	0	0
„ „ 1 peso, lilac, unused	5	0	0
Dominica, CA, 1/-, unused pair	6	15	0
Nevis, lithograph, 4d., orange, unused (No. 5) . . .	7	5	0
Ditto, ditto, 6d., olive, unused (No. 2)	10	5	0
New Brunswick, 6d., yellow, unused	19	10	0
Nova Scotia, 1/-, cold violet, large margins	25	0	0
Peru, medio peso, rose . .	12	10	0
„ „ „ yellow, unused	3	14	0
Tobago, CA, 6d., ochre . .	11	5	0
Trinidad, "Lady McLeod" on entire letter	12	10	0
Turks Islands, 2½d. on 1/-, prune (Gibbons' Type X), unused .	6	15	0

MESSRS. VENTOM, BULL, & COOPER.

Sale on March 30th and 31st.

	£	s.	d.
Great Britain, 1d., black, a reconstructed plate . . .	2	17	6
British Columbia, perf. 14, 10 c., blue and rose, unused . .	11	0	0
Ditto, perf. 12½, $1, blue and green, unused . . .	3	15	0
British Guiana, 1862, provisional, 4 c., blue, border of trefoils, showing roulettes all round, No. 15 on plate . . .	6	10	0
Dominica, 1/-, violet . . .	4	0	0
St. Christopher, CA, 4d., blue, unused	6	0	0
Ditto, ditto, 6d., olive-brown .	2	12	0
Turks Islands, ½d. on 4d., grey, unused pair . . .	4	15	0
Victoria, 1861–66, 6d., orange, beaded oval	4	15	0

THE

London Philatelist:

THE MONTHLY JOURNAL OF

THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY, LONDON.

VOL. VI. MAY, 1897. No. 65.

A Colossal Advertisement of Philately.

ABUNDANT evidence is already forthcoming that the sale of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales' Hospital Fund Stamps will be altogether abnormal. From all quarters, in town or country, retail and wholesale, we hear of great eagerness to purchase specimens, and there can be no doubt but that hundreds of thousands of these labels will be absorbed by members of the general public to whom Philately has been hitherto a sealed book. We are fully aware that no Postal or Philatelic value is sought to be attached thereto either by the promoters of the benevolent scheme or those amongst us who are only too happy to further such a good work. In the interests of the hospitals themselves the idea is a brilliant one, greatly redounding to the credit of the originator, and will, we are convinced, be an ultimate material factor in the success that must attend the Royal Family's kindly initiative on behalf of the suffering of this country.

The appeal on the foregoing ground alone would necessarily evoke the warm sympathy of all our readers, but Philatelists have a double claim on their good will. Despite the knowledge that these "stamps" are purely of a philanthropic and not a Philatelic nature, the fact remains that they are—*to the outside public*—in every way a visible and, moreover, a very handsome representation of the conventional postal label. Every purchaser must perforce have his or her attention called to the facts that stamp collecting is an acknowledged and recognised pursuit, that its votaries are now so numerous as to influence the issue of special stamps, and that there can be inherent beauty, interest, and variety attaching to postage stamps. Inevitably many of those who have these stamps will be led insensibly to consider the advisability of adding others, and we anticipate that,

notably in the stamps of this country, there will be a sure and steady influx of the "New Collector." The issue of the Centennial Stamps in the States created a new army of collectors, a precedent that there is a just reason to anticipate will be followed in this country. Philatelists, therefore, actuated alike by the purest of virtues, patriotism and charity, and the meanest of failings—selfishness—have every incentive in helping on the Hospital Fund Stamps, and we trust that our united efforts may be of great value in the good cause of our less fortunate brethren and also of ourselves.

The Stamps of Bolivia.

A Paper read before the London Philatelic Society on the 14th May, 1897.

By H. R. OLDFIELD.



IKE most of the other South and Central American States, Bolivia is at the present time an unfashionable country so far as the collection of its stamps is concerned; and a very good thing too for those who are interested in them, otherwise there would be some considerable difficulty in getting together a thoroughly representative collection.

While itself not wholly free from blame, Bolivia suffers for the sins of others. It has come under the notice of the S.S.S.S., though not to the same extent as other kingdoms or republics of the American continent. The shadow of the curse of Seebeckism and of Surcharges which rests upon some of its neighbours has blighted its prospects, and lessened the attraction a study of its stamps would otherwise present.

The manufacture of stamps solely for commercial and speculative purposes, without regard to the reasonable requirements of postal service, very naturally frightened away collectors from the country which descended to such methods of raising money, or allowed its public servants to barter away their respectability and good faith for a paltry profit. However, this evil is rapidly working its own cure. Collectors have begun to find out that if they cease to buy the stamps such issues will no longer be made, and that consequently there is no reason why the country should be tabooed as a whole. It will not be long before a natural revulsion of feeling, consequent upon the realization of this fact, will bring these countries back into popular favour, while the earlier issues and such as have not been tampered with will become more highly prized than in the past.

Undoubtedly a much greater degree of interest has been shown during the last six months in the stamps of Buenos Ayres, Uruguay, and possibly in those of the Colombian States as well. This interest is likely to increase and to extend its range to other South and Central American States.

Among others I think Bolivia deserves, and will receive, its fair share of attention. Only a few speculative or unnecessary stamps have been issued.

From 1866 to the present time (1897) the regular issues have only been nine in number, one of which had a duration of seven years, and another of nine years. The stamps are engraved in *taille douce*, surcharging has been made use of only to a small and, I think, legitimate extent, and there are consequently no such difficulties as those which lead collectors generally to fight a little shy of Mexico, Peru, and Venezuela.

At the same time the stamps of Bolivia present their own peculiar difficulties, some of which were indicated in the "Notes on the 5 Centavo Stamps," which I wrote in 1896. These, however, are not nearly so serious as they seem to be, while the forgeries—with one or two exceptions—are far from dangerous.

Bolivia was in no hurry to confer upon its inhabitants the advantages involved in the issue of postage stamps, for the first were not available until July, 1866—more than 25 years after Great Britain had led the way—10 years later than Uruguay, and 13 years after Chili had introduced the system among the Native States of the South American continent.

Very little has been written about the Bolivian stamps, and much of the information which has been published is erroneous. With the exception of some few notes and articles in the *Stamp Collectors' Magazine* for the years 1869, 1870, 1871, and 1872, and of a note in the *Metropolitan Philatelist* for 1892, no information has been vouchsafed to collectors, save the ordinary intimation from time to time as to fresh postal issues.

It seems a pity that the writers of the various letters and articles upon the 5 centavos stamp of the first issue, which appeared in the *Stamp Collectors' Magazine* during 1869 and 1870, did not take the trouble to obtain complete sheets of the various printings, for in 1897 (some 30 years later) it is naturally much more difficult both to obtain and to arrange these printings in their proper order.

The eagle issue, which appeared in 1866, consisted of four values: 5, 10, 50, and 100 centavos. Other values, viz., 15 and 20 centavos and 1 peso, were chronicled in 1869, but were all forgeries. The design in its main features was the same for each value: an eagle with outstretched wings is resting upon a hemisphere of curved lines (generally called the globe). This eagle is enclosed in an oval band outlined in the colour of the stamp, and containing on a white ground the following words: at the top "BOLIVIA," at the bottom "CENTAVOS," on the left side "CORREOS," and on the right side "CONTRATOS." The background, both inside and outside the oval band, is composed of vertical and horizontal lines crossing each other, the horizontal ones slanting somewhat in a downward direction towards the left. The outer background is surrounded by a plain rectangular frame, also outlined in the colour of the stamp. In the case of the 5 centavos value there are white ovals separating the four words before mentioned, each containing a large figure "5," coloured green. These ovals are placed with the narrow ends one towards but not touching the corner, and the other infringing upon the oval band surrounding the eagle.

In the case of the 10 and 100 centavos these ovals are placed with the broad sides towards the corner and towards the oval band, but not touching either.

In the case of the 50 centavos there is no white oval at all; the figures of value are engraved upon the background in the corner of the stamp.

The stamps are engraved, but upon what metal I have been unable to ascertain, although, in an article which appeared in the *Stamp Collectors' Magazine* for 1869, a statement is made that the design was engraved by a Senor Estruch, who was in business with his brother at La Paz, and that he prepared *two steel* plates of the 5 centavos value. Both these statements, I believe, are incorrect. Certainly the stamps were not printed from two plates, as will appear hereafter, and I find it difficult to believe that steel was the metal used, for even a copper engraving ought to have lasted much longer than this plate evidently did. From the rapid signs of wear and the frequent retouches, one might almost imagine them to have been engraved upon some soft metal, such as lead, although probably this was not the case.

The stamps were printed in sheets of varying sizes: 72 stamps in 6 rows of 12 each of the 5 centavos; 78 in 6 rows of 13 each for the 10 centavos; and 30 in 6 rows of 5 each for the 50 and 100 centavos.

As appears from the inscription, it will be observed that the stamps were available for fiscal as well as postal purposes.

Each stamp having been separately engraved, it follows that there were as many varieties as stamps on each plate. The 5 centavos were slightly larger in size than the other values.

It is necessary to deal with these stamps separately, and special attention is required for the 5 centavos stamp, having regard to the numerous retouches to which the plate was subjected during its short life of from 18 months to two years at the outside.

In my former "Notes" I inclined to the opinion that there were two distinct plates of this value from which printings took place, but I have since come to the conclusion that only one plate was prepared. My original opinion was based partly upon the difference in the measurements of the stamps (which, however, was probably caused by the difference in the quality of the paper used and the variation of shrinkage in drying), and partly upon certain peculiarities in the stamps of the later printings, which were not present in the earlier ones. Further examination, however, led to the discovery of an error which appeared in two stamps, one being No. 47 and the other No. 58. In No. 47 of each of the first five plates, and in the first printing from Plate VI., the bottom horizontal line of the background extends too much to the left, and shows itself in the white space between the background and the rectangular frame in the left corner. In No. 58 there is a projection at the right upper angle of the stamp, which also appears in the first six plates. This, coupled with the fact that the white oval containing the figures of value always appears in the same position relative to the four words in the oval band, appears to be conclusive on the point. This may be noticed more particularly in the following stamps:—

In No. 1 the oval just touches the "B" of "BOLIVIA."

In Nos. 29, 30, 42, and 43 it almost touches the "S" of both "CENTAVOS" and "CONTRATOS."

In Nos. 37 and 40 it touches the "C" of "CENTAVOS."

In Nos. 49, 52, and 63 it touches the "S" of "CENTAVOS."

In No. 69 the top of the oval in the lower right-hand corner is almost below the "S" of "CENTAVOS," instead of coming up between it and the "S" of "CONTRATOS."

To enable these peculiarities to be appreciated more fully, I have brought specimens of the following: Nos. 1, 43, 37, 49, and 69, from which you can see at a glance how material they are upon this point. No. 1 in all the plates is also shown in the reproductions which have been prepared to illustrate this paper. It would appear, then, that there was only one plate, which was retouched from time to time, and strictly speaking the various alterations should be described as Plate I., first, second, third retouch. It will be more convenient, however, if for descriptive purposes I term the retouches Plates II., III., etc., it being distinctly understood that I do not mean actual new plates by this description.

In the "Notes" before referred to it was stated that there were five plates, which I termed A to E respectively; but in the course of further investigation I find there are actually seven plates, and even these do not include a slight retouch which took place after the yellow-green shade and before the succeeding sap-green colour was used. The order of the plates also as given in the "Notes" is not quite correct, as will appear later on.

Now I can quite well imagine that any collector, however enthusiastic, might well pause before taking up a country in which 504 (7×72) varieties were to be looked for in one of the stamps of its first issue. But after all it is not necessary to undertake this task to secure a representative collection, nor are the difficulties anything like so great as would appear at first sight. Only a specialist would attempt to procure all the varieties, and probably he would get tired of the work unless he were able to procure unused sheets —some of which, I may mention, are still in the market.

My present aim is to indicate the leading characteristics of each plate, and to point out some of the more prominent varieties, and anyone who is able to obtain one of the average specimens of each plate, and also some three or four of the more prominent varieties, will probably have no cause to regret hereafter the slight trouble and small expense involved in their acquisition.

For those, however, who may think the following descriptions too complicated or too troublesome to remember, there is an exceedingly easy way of distinguishing some five varieties of these five CENTAVOS stamps.

The globe upon which the eagle stands is crossed by other lines, some vertical, some diagonal, and some horizontal, and the presence, absence, or combination of these lines serves to distinguish one variety from another. To prevent confusion I will indicate these varieties by the letters A to E.

A. There are vertical and diagonal lines upon the globe. These are to be found on Plate I.—No. 42.

B. There are only diagonal lines in the globe. These may be found on Plate II. and in one stamp on Plate I.—No. 12.

C. There are diagonal lines and new horizontal counter lines to the right of the globe. These may be found on Plates III., IV., and (some few stamps) on V.

D. There are only the horizontal counter lines to the right of the globe. These may be found on Plates III. or IV. (some few only) and on V. and VI.

E. There are no lines at all other than the curved ones forming the globe itself. These may be found on Plates VI. and VII., the latter being the plate from which the lilac-coloured stamps are printed.

To show these varieties I have had illustrations made of each, indicating the plate from which it is taken, and the number of the stamp on such plate.

All other varieties will be more properly described in connection with the plates on which they may be found, and those most prominent will be specially referred to.

PLATE I.

In its original state the yellow-green stamps were printed from this plate. The yellow varies a good deal in shade, and I have found some few stamps of a shade of green quite distinct both from the yellow and from the succeeding green. One of these is No. 10 on the plate, and it is a wonderfully clear impression, almost as distinct as the yellow-green. For purposes of comparison perhaps you would examine the three stamps now before you, all being No. 10 on Plate I.: one yellow-green, one the ordinary shade of green, and the other being the one just referred to.

It has been generally assumed that both the yellow-green and the sap-green stamps were printed from the same plate before any retouch took place; but I am inclined to think the plate became worn while the yellow-green colour was being used, or very shortly afterwards, so as to render a partial and slight retouch necessary.

If you will refer to the five stamps now before you, being Nos. 11 and 12 on the plate, and compare the pair of yellow-green with the pair of later green immediately below, then you will notice to how large an extent the lines of the wings have been retouched and strengthened; this is very marked in No. 12. The fifth stamp is also No. 12 in the later shade of green, but *before* the retouch took place, and you will find it to be identical with the yellow-green stamp, although slightly worn. (See also the same numbers in the illustrations of Plates I. to VII.)

If you will also examine the four stamps, being Nos. 41 and 42 in the yellow-green, early and worn impression, with the same numbers on Plate I. of the later green colour (early impression), you will see in the last-named signs of retouches about the lines of the head of the eagle and in the background.

Generally, if you will take any one of the blocks of yellow-green stamps which are here to-night, and compare them with the stamps in the same position on the early printing of the green colour, you will observe that in many cases the lines in the background of the last-named stamps have been strengthened.

For these reasons I submit that there must have been a slight retouch before the sap-green stamps were printed, but it seems to have been so slight and partial as not to warrant its being described as a separate plate.

The colours of Plate I., therefore, appear to have been yellow-green, *dark* green, sap-green, and bright and dull green.

The paper used is wove, but it varies greatly in thickness both in the yellow-green and in the other shades, as you may see from the specimens before you.

The characteristics of Plate I. may be summarised thus: The lines of the globe in all the stamps (except No. 12, where they are hardly visible) are crossed by a series of small vertical lines, while at the extreme right there are two or three diagonal lines curving slightly inwards. These vertical lines commence about the middle of the upper portion of the globe, extending thence towards the right, except in the case of a few stamps in the two top rows of the sheet, where they are confined to the extreme right of the globe. There are no traces of old lines underneath any portion of the design, and only some few indications of strengthening of existing lines, and these indications are confined to the background and (in three or four cases only) to the general outlines. The workmanship throughout is fine and delicate, clear and distinct. The shape of the head of the eagle is well defined. With some few exceptions the lines of shading on the breast of the eagle are only horizontal and diagonal. The vertical lines in the exceptions are limited to two or three at most, running parallel with the vertical lines of the wings. There are, however, some few indicating the line of the throat above the breast, which are vertical. In some of the stamps (most of them being in the third row) the "A" of "CONTRATOS," and in two or three stamps the "A" also of "CENTAVOS," is not barred, being really an inverted "V."

Prominent Varieties:—

These all arise either from a slip of the engraver's tool, or from careless workmanship in retouching defective portions of the design. I have throughout specially indicated the more important varieties, but the list is by no means exhaustive.

The following are peculiar to Plate I.:—

No. 3. There is a short line joining the back of the "5" in the lower left corner to the outline of the oval.

No. 41. There is a vertical line in the upper left-hand oval, containing the figure "5." (This is one of the stamps to which I have just called your attention.)

No. 44. There is a short horizontal line in the oval band between the "S" of "CENTAVOS" and the "S" of "CONTRATOS."

No. 57. *There are two short horizontal lines in the oval band just below the* "C" *of* "CORREOS," *and there are no pinions to the right wing.* (*See Illustration.*)

The following may be found on other plates:—

Nos. 7 and 10. The upper horizontal outer frame of these stamps extends a little too far to the right. This is to be found on Plates I. and II.

No. 12. There is a diagonal line above the "L" of "BOLIVIA," which extends upwards towards the right in the margin above the outer frame

of the stamp. This is to be found in Plates I. and II.; but in the illustrations it does not show, as the stamps have been cut too closely.

No. 13. The outer line of the right wing runs into the oval band below, cutting the "S" and touching the "O" of "CENTAVOS." Traces of this, but showing only the line between the "O" and the "S" of "CENTAVOS," are to be found on Plates II., III., and IV. (*See Illustrations.*)

No. 42. There is a vertical line in the left top corner, just beside the oval containing the figure "5." This is to be found also on Plates II., III., and IV.

No. 47. This is the error before referred to (namely, the projection under the lower left corner of the "5" oval), which is to be found on Plates I. to V.

No. 58. There is a horizontal line covering the narrow space between the background and the outer rectangular frame at the top of the right side. This is also to be found on Plates II., III., IV., V., and in the earlier printings from Plate VI.

There is one further feature to be referred to, which may or may not be found in stamps printed from the other plates, and that is a double impression. See the block of sixteen which you have before you.

PLATE II.

This plate was provisionally called B in my former "Notes," and, as previously explained, it is the old plate which has been subjected to a thorough and general retouch. That such retouch was not made before it was needed, you may see for yourselves if you will look at the specimens from the worn plate, which are here.

It is scarcely necessary to refer you to individual stamps. If you will look at the two plates you will see a distinct difference in each stamp, and the illustrations of Nos. 1 and 13 and of Nos. 11 and 12 also show these differences very clearly. The colours are deep green and bluish green, and they are printed upon thick and also upon thin wove paper.

The following are the characteristics of Plate II.:—

The vertical lines on the globe have commenced to disappear. Out of the 72 types there are some 18 where they are fairly distinct; in some 28 copies there are faint traces; while in the remaining 26 they have totally disappeared. The diagonal lines on the globe have either been deepened or newly cut (*e.g.*, observe No. 12 on the plate and compare with Plate I.); and, speaking generally, there appears to be a slight shadow over the extreme right of the globe. There are faint traces on the breast of almost all the stamps of the old lines of shading in Plate I. The shading on the breast is much coarser and heavier, and numerous *vertical* lines have been added.

Prominent Varieties.—The following are peculiar to Plate II.:—

No. 4. *There is a distinct vertical line passing from the background upwards into the upper right-hand oval containing the figure* "5," *which almost touches the back of the* "5," *and the outer line of the inscription label is doubled on the left side between the upper and the lower* "5." (*See Illustration.*)

No. 15. There is a diagonal line crossing the white space above the right

LINES ON GLOBE. 5 Varieties.

Plate 1 No. 60



Vertical and Diagonal.

Plate 2 No. 6



Diagonal only.

Plate 3 No. 32



Diagonal and Horizontal.

Plate 5 No. 41



Horizontal only.

Plate 6 No. 13



No lines except the curved ones forming shape of globe.

6 Vertical Pairs, Left Corners.



Plate 1 2 3 4 5 6

Plate 1  No. 57

Plate 2  No. 4

Plate 3  No. 56

Plate 4  No. 18

Plate 5  No. 36

Plate 6  No. 66

Plate 7  No. 3

7 Single Specimens.
Prominent variety from each plate.

11 12

Plate 1
Yellow Green 

Plate 1 

Plate 2 

Plate 3 

Plate 4 

Plate 5 

Plate 6 

Plate 7 

8 Horizontal Pairs. Right corners.

wing, and cutting the other line, running from the body of the eagle, which is usually found in that position. There is also a horizontal line covering the narrow space between the background and the outer rectangular frame, about midway down the right side; as to which, however, see note to No. 71 (*infra*).

No. 44. In redrawing the outer outline of the oval band the portion between the "R" of "CORREOS" and the left bottom "5" has been doubled.

The following may be found on other plates:—

No. 71. There is a horizontal line covering the narrow space between the background and the outer rectangular frame, about midway down the right side. This is also to be found on Plates III., IV., and V., but it may easily be confused with somewhat similar lines to be found in some stamps from Plate I., such as Nos. 43, 53, and 67, where, however, it is somewhat lower down, and is not so thick as in Plate II.

PLATE III.

At first I thought this was identical with Plate II., being merely an impression from the worn plate, prior to a retouch, but further examination shows this is not so. There are alterations in the body, in the wings, and in the background of several of the stamps. Note and compare: For the body, No. 24; for the wings, Nos. 15, 22, 32, and 48; for the background, Nos. 36 and 58. In addition there has been an alteration in the globe, which affects all the stamps.

The following are the characteristics of Plate III.:—

The vertical lines on the globe have entirely disappeared. The diagonal lines show plainly on most of the stamps, and with the exception of ten (Nos. 28, 31, 42, 44, 45, 52, 53, 59, 70, and 71) there are fairly distinct traces of them in the others. In the case of all the stamps, however, new horizontal counter lines have been added at the extreme right of the globe. *This, coupled with the white and open appearance of the breast of the eagle, is the most striking feature of the plate.* Nearly all the lines of shading there and in the throat have disappeared, leaving only a few faint traces behind. The head, however, is still well defined. The lines of the wings are not strong, and in some copies slightly defective. The background of the oval has been redrawn, and is very clear and distinct.

The colour of this plate is sap-green, similar to the stamps printed from Plate I.

Prominent Varieties.—The following are peculiar to Plate III.:—

No. 39. In redrawing the right wing the engraver has made only three curved lines instead of four, and consequently one of the small feather pinions appears outside the wing.

No. 48. The outer line of the right wing is bent opposite the "A" of "CONTRATOS."

No. 56. *The left wing is badly drawn, the outer line runs up vertically from the bottom, instead of inclining to the right, and so entirely breaks the shape of the wing; the inner outline of the oval band is doubled between the "C" of*

"CORREOS" *and the* "N" *of* "CENTAVOS." *Several of the lines of the inner background penetrate the oval band.* (*See Illustration.*)

These errors were corrected in the next plate, and although traces of them may be seen, they are faint and partial as compared with the stamps on Plate III.

The following varieties are to be found on other plates:—

No. 15. There are two small feather pinions outside the right wing. These are also to be found on Plates IV. and V.

No. 65. A line from the outer background penetrates the oval band horizontally between the "T" and the "O" of "CONTRATOS." This is also to be found on Plates IV. and V.

PLATE IV.

In my "Notes" I called this Plate D, placing it after the succeeding plate, which I then termed C. It seems quite clear, however, that it should come before and not after. Take, for instance, the stamp No. 56 just referred to. The errors described under Plate III. are corrected in this plate, but not so completely as they might have been, so that traces of the outer vertical line of the left wing can be seen, and the lines which penetrate the oval band are also visible. If, however, you turn to Plate V. you will find that all traces of these defects have been removed. In No. 1 also (which is illustrated) you will observe in Plate III. four short horizontal lines of shading on the breast. These also appear on Plate IV., but not on Plate V.

Similar indications may be found on Nos. 13 and 47, and possibly on many other stamps, but the above are sufficient to prove the priority of this plate over the following one.

I have only seen this plate in a very dark green colour.

The following are the characteristics of Plate IV.:—

The lines of the globe are similar to those in Plate III., the diagonal lines showing plainly on nearly all the stamps; but there is an indistinct thickness, forming a dark shadow on the right of the globe in each stamp. This, coupled with the rough and coarse (but not worn) appearance of the workmanship, is a marked characteristic of the plate. The breast of the eagle is well shaded, but a plain white space, varying in length and shape, is left in the centre. There are only three stamps which have anything like an open appearance (viz., Nos. 34, 46, and 90), and even in these it is not nearly so pronounced as in Plate III. The head of the eagle is blurred and defective, and where any shape can be distinguished it generally appears to be somewhat smaller than in the previous plates. The lines of the wings are complete. The background appears in many places to be almost solid until examined under a glass (possibly, however, this is caused by the heavy printing on the one sheet I possess, and may not really be a characteristic of the plate).

Varieties.—The following are peculiar to Plate IV.:—

No. 1. There is a vertical line extending downwards from the right leg of the "A" and the bottom of the "V" of "CENTAVOS."

No. 3. There is a line in the white space above the right wing, caused by a slip of the engraver's tool from the wing upwards.

No. 18. *There is a short line which cuts the cross-stroke of the figure* "5" *in the right top corner.*

No. 19. The outline of the oval containing the left lower "5" is doubled on the upper side.

No. 26. There is a slight slip of the engraver's tool at the foot of the "5" in the right top corner.

No. 47. There is a slight slip at the bottom of the left top oval, making a short line in the central oval band.

No. 52. There are similar slips under the "B" and the "O" of "BOLIVIA."

No. 60. There is a slip in the right lower oval, which passes right through the back of the "5" and shows under the cross-stroke, and at the bottom of the oval itself.

The following are also to be found on other plates:—

No. 65. Besides the line between the "T" and the "O" of "CONTRATOS," referred to in Plate III., there are two parallel lines which cross the open space in the breast of the eagle, slanting downwards from left to right. There are also two lines in the oval bands (caused by slips), one running horizontally from the top of the "E" of "CENTAVOS" to the inner outlines of the band, and the other crossing the band at the top, cutting through the "B" and the "O" of "BOLIVIA." This is also to be found on Plate V. and in the first period of Plate VI.

No. 2. There is a diagonal line from the foot of the "5" in the right top corner, passing downwards into the oval band. Traces of this are to be found on Plate V.

No. 5. There is a line under the "B" of "BOLIVIA." Faint traces are to be found on Plate V.

Nos. 7, 30, and 33. There are horizontal lines crossing the narrow space between the background and the outer rectangular frame on the left side. These are also to be found on Plates V. and VI.

No. 39. There are two small feather pinions outside the right wing. These are also to be found on Plates V., VI., and VII.

No. 43. There is a similar but vertical line at the upper side. This is also to be found on Plate V.

There is a line in the white space above the right wing, caused by slips of the engraver's tool from the background; also to be found in Plates V. and VI.

No. 23. There is a similar line caused by a slip from the wing; also to be found in Plate V.

No. 25. There is a similar line of the oval containing the left top "5," passing downwards from the base of the 5; also to be found in Plate V.

No. 28. There is a vertical line between the bottom of the "V" and the "I" of "BOLIVIA"; also to be found on Plate V., and in the first period of Plate VI.

No. 29. The left side line of the outer rectangular frame extends too far upwards; also to be found on Plate V. There is a similar error in No. 26 of Plate II.

No. 44. There is a line under the "V" of "BOLIVIA"; also to be found on Plate V.

No. 63. There is a horizontal line crossing the first "R" of "CORREOS"; also to be found on Plate V., and in the first period of Plate VI.

No. 66. There is a line in the oval band under the letters "COR" of "CORREOS"; also to be found on Plate V.

There are, in addition, various other slips, and the whole plate shows signs of the retouch having been hurriedly and carelessly done.

PLATE V.

This was termed C in my previous "Notes," but it really is the fifth or last retouch but two, from which stamps were printed in a green colour. I have found stamps from this plate in dark green and in blue-green shades; but until the last two or three days I was convinced that no printings were taken in the lilac colour. I have, however, two most interesting stamps to show you to night. Some time ago I purchased at auction, for a high price, what appeared to be a remarkably fine impression in a violet shade, apparently printed from this plate (V.); but although I identified it with No. 14 on the plate, and fondly imagined I had secured a great rarity, both as to colour and plate, the stamp has been pronounced a forgery, both by Mr. Bacon and by Mr. De Coppett. The other stamp to which I refer was part of a made-up plate of the lilac colour, in which it appeared as No. 5, being apparently unused, and of an unusually reddish shade. Upon examination I found it was evidently not No. 5 in Plate VII., and as I could not identify it with any other stamp on that plate, I submitted it to Mr. Bacon, who was of opinion that it was quite genuine, the curious shade being accounted for by the stamp having been cleaned, and that it was printed from Plate V. The stamp appears to be absolutely identical with No. 5 on Plate V., and I am forced to the conclusion that stamps were printed from this plate in the lilac shade, although such a fact altogether upsets the theory I had previously formed. Certainly, however, stamps in this shade, from this plate, must be exceedingly rare.

The following are the characteristics of Plate V.:—

The diagonal lines on the globe have mostly disappeared, only 15 stamps showing any traces of them (viz., Nos. 1, 2, 4, 6, 9, 11, 12, 21, 22, 34, 54, 60, 64, 66, and 67), while the rest show only the new horizontal lines to the right, and this is an important feature of the plate. The shadow to the right of the globe is not nearly so pronounced as in Plate IV., but much more like the stamps from Plate II.

There are just two or three stamps where the horizontal counter lines show signs of wearing away (viz., Nos. 53 and 55).

Speaking generally the breast has again begun to get an open and white appearance, though not so much as in Plate III. (except as regards Nos. 34, 36, and 60). The head of the eagle is better formed, though not so well as in Plate III. Several of the wings are very defective through wear. The background is moderately distinct, though rough, and the plate is beginning to show evident signs of wear, though some of the earlier impressions are fairly good.

Varieties.—The following are peculiar to Plate V.:—

No. 36. *In the left bottom corner the line joining the cross-stroke of the "5" to the body of the figure is missing.*

No. 66. The spelling of the word "BOLIVIA" more nearly resembles "BOIIVIAR."

Nos. 17, 41, 63, and 64. The left wing of the eagle is very defective.

Nos. 29 and 62. The right and left wings are both defective.

Nos. 51 and 55. The right wing is very defective.

The following may also be found on Plate VI.:—

No. 24. There is a line in the left upper oval above the top of the figure "5."

No. 50. There are two short lines (almost dots) in the centre of the white space on the eagle's breast.

No. 54. There is a line in the oval band extending upwards from the right lower "5" oval, crossing the "S," and reaching to the "O" of "CONTRATOS."

(*To be continued.*)

Occasional Notes.

THE LONDON PHILATELIC EXHIBITION.

THE arrangements for this much-anticipated event are progressing most satisfactorily. A large number of valued and interesting exhibits have been notified to the Hon. Secretary, and the catalogue has been taken in hand by a sub-committee. Advertisers should take due note hereof. The not unimportant festive part of the programme during the holding of the Exhibition has also been placed in the hands of an efficient and experienced sub-committee. We are further informed that the following gentlemen have accepted the invitation of the Committee to act as Judges for the purposes of the awards in the several competitions:—

MR. E. D. BACON MR. M. P. CASTLE MAJOR E. B. EVANS
DR. A. H. FRAENKEL and LIEUT. F. H. NAPIER, R.N.

Two other representatives of foreign countries have been invited, and as soon as their replies have been received the list of Judges will be completed.

It has been arranged that the Exhibition will be opened on Thursday, the 22nd July, at 3 p.m., by H.R.H. the Duke of York, K.G.

The prices of admission fixed by the Committee are:—

	s.	*d.*
On the opening day (up to 6 p.m.), *by tickets only*, which must be obtained beforehand	10	0
After 6 p.m. on the opening day	2	6
Admission on all other occasions	1	0

	s.	d.
Season Tickets can be obtained for the whole period of the Exhibition, including admission to the opening . . .	15	0
Ditto, for whole period except opening	7	6

Tickets can now be booked on application to the Secretary, J. A. Tilleard, 4, Lombard Court, E.C., and will be forwarded as soon as issued. Postal Orders for the tickets bespoken must accompany all orders.

THE PRINCE OF WALES' HOSPITAL FUND STAMPS.

We publish with pleasure the following official announcement:—

The Jubilee Stamps issued for the benefit of this Fund will be on sale to the public on Tuesday next, May 18th, and can be bought then at all stationers' and booksellers', with the exception of the railway bookstalls. They are issued to give small subscribers a handy and convenient form of receipt, and one which they can retain as a memento of the Diamond Jubilee, and of that increasing interest in hospital support and management shown during Her Majesty's reign, not only by the Royal Family, but by all classes throughout the country, and culminating in this effort to set the hospitals of London on a sound financial basis. It is also evident that stamp collectors are largely interested, and spaces for these stamps are being made in many new albums, in addition to the issue of specially-prepared pages for insertion in existing albums, as in that by Messrs. Lincoln. It is impossible to say exactly to whom the initiation of the idea can be credited, but to Mr. Burdett will be due the success of the scheme. The basis of the design selected by the Prince of Wales is taken from no less an authority in Art than Sir Joshua Reynolds, whose well-known picture of "Charity," executed for one of the Virtues in New College Chapel, Oxford, is the most appropriate design that could have been selected, embodying as it does a beautiful picture, with Mrs. Sheridan as the chief figure.

We append illustrations of the two stamps.





Valuable assistance has been rendered by Mr. De La Rue and by Mr. Purcell, C.B., the Controller of Stamps at Somerset House, who have taken the greatest interest in the undertaking from its commencement.

After His Royal Highness had approved of the design the engraving was

begun, and proved a very much more serious affair than anyone unversed in these details would have anticipated. Such an engraving could only be executed by the most skilled hand. After the matrix had been produced and hardened, it had to be rolled into the steel plate under a pressure of twenty tons, given by a lever set in motion by the foot of the operator, and each impression had to be rolled in separately, the greatest care being taken to adjust the proper distances and a magnifying-glass being constantly in use. Each plate contains a double sheet of eighty, in which one false impression would spoil the whole, and great liability of cracking arises from the weight of the pressure. Every sheet has to be accounted for as carefully as a bank note, and this again entails still greater surveillance.

It is needless to say that the fact of His Royal Highness the Duke of York being President of the Philatelic Society insures the greatest interest being taken in these stamps by collectors in all portions of the globe, and as a work of art there will be nothing wanting in them. A large quantity of the issue has already been secured for insertion in the *Queen's Commemoration Bible* and also in the *Queen's Commemoration Prayer and Hymn Book*, which are to be published as soon as the stamps are ready, and each of which will contain a stamp; and we are informed by the publisher that the greatest interest has been shown all over the country, inquiries having arrived from many places abroad, and telegraphic orders having been received even from South Africa.

His Royal Highness, the President of the Fund, has graciously signified that he will, if possible, personally witness the destruction of the plates from which the stamps are printed; but in any case they will be destroyed as soon as the printing of the limited number of the issue is completed, in the presence of the official representatives of the Fund, and of Mr. Purcell, C.B., Controller of Stamps. A certificate to this effect will be duly published in accordance with the usual regulations.

Our readers will remember that in the case of the Rowland Hill Post Card in 1890, so great was the demand that the value of the Post Card advanced no less than 2500 per cent., and we should add that the trade will be supplied by Messrs. Simpkin, Marshall, Hamilton, Kent & Co., Limited, Stationers' Hall Court, London, E.C.

POSTAL REFORM.

THE statement of the Chancellor of the Exchequer, in his introduction of the Budget, embraces some important changes in our postal system which will tend to make things easier to the Philatelic community. We reproduce the portion of Sir Michael Hicks Beach's speech referring thereto.

"REDUCTION IN THE PARCELS RATE.

"Then, further, a reduction is proposed in the parcels postage rate. For every subsequent pound beyond the first the present charge is 1½d., amounting to a maximum of 1s. 6d. In future, it is proposed the charge shall be 1d. per pound up to a maximum of 1s. These matters may seem to the Committee small things

in themselves, but, after all, much of the comfort and discomfort of life, especially in the rural districts, is made up of small things, and when these changes are carried into effect many an inhabitant in the rural districts will feel that his lot is somewhat more equalised than it was with that of the more fortunate dwellers in the towns. The next change is one of a larger character, and, perhaps, more important to tradesmen than those I have mentioned. At the present moment samples and books travel by post at cheaper rates than ordinary letters. The postage of samples and books is, however, surrounded by the Post Office with the most minute restrictions, which are very troublesome to the public and to the Post Office officials themselves. The result of those restrictions is often absurd. Take, for instance, the sample post. A man may send a pair of gloves as a sample, but if the person to whom the gloves are sent buys them a penalty is incurred. A gardener may send cut flowers as a sample, but if they are bought a penalty is incurred, and yet flowers may be sent cheaply by parcels post to the purchaser in England from the South of France. With regard to the book post, I dare say the Committee think they know what a book is. I thought I did until I studied the two-and-a-half pages of closely-printed matter in the *Postal Guide*, which explained what a book is in the eyes of the Post Office. The Postmaster-General proposes that in the future the sample post shall be entirely abolished; that the book post shall be abolished above two ounces, under which books will still go for a halfpenny, and that all articles, whether letters, samples, or books under a maximum of four ounces shall be sent for a penny, with a further charge of one halfpenny for every two ounces exceeding that amount. I believe that will be felt by the public as a very great advantage, as saving infinite trouble; and also it will be a very great saving of trouble to the officials of the Post Office. Now I come to the last point, which relates to foreign and Colonial letters. I am afraid I have nothing to say which will satisfy my hon. friend the member for Canterbury (Mr. Henniker Heaton). It must be remembered that the paying postal service is the home postal service, and even now foreign letters are carried at a loss. It is proposed that in future there shall be a change made in the postage of foreign and Colonial letters, which now amounts to 2½d. per half ounce. The amount fixed for the postage under the rules of the Postal Union is 25 centimes, and 2½d. was, for some mysterious reason, adopted by our postal authorities as the nearest expression in English coinage to 25 centimes, the result being that at present we have the dearest foreign postage of any nation in the world. The rate cannot be altered without the assent of the Postal Union, which meets, I believe, next month at Washington, and, at that meeting, our representative will propose that the rate of 2½d. shall be reduced to 2d., which will, at any rate, place us on an equality with other nations. It will take some time to bring all these changes into operation, especially the last, which cannot be made until January 1st next year; but I calculate that the total cost of them, assuming them to be brought into operation as soon as possible, will be about £366,000 for the current year."

NEW SOUTH WALES—CONTEMPLATED NEW ISSUE.

FROM Surgeon-Colonel Williams we have the following items, taken from the columns of the *Sydney Daily Telegraph* of April 12th, which presage a new issue for three denominations:—

"A NEW POSTAGE STAMP ISSUE.

"The Postmaster-General has under consideration a proposal to introduce a series of new postage stamps in commemoration of the 60th anniversary of the Queen's reign. One of the suggestions made to Mr. Cook was that a series should

be prepared similar in motive and execution to the Columbian issue of the United States, containing designs portraying some of the principal historical events which have marked the Victorian era. Owing to the want of the complicated and expensive machinery necessary for the production of this class of work in the Colony, and the limited time at the disposal of the Government, this suggestion could not be carried out; but it has been definitely decided to mark the occasion by the issue of three stamps of the respective values of 1d., 2d., and 2½d., which will supersede the stamps of corresponding denominations now current. The design is to consist of a portrait of Her Majesty the Queen in profile, enclosed in a frame of artistic but simple construction, without any unnecessary elaboration of ornament. In another column an announcement is made, inviting competitive designs, for which a premium is offered. Designs must be sent in by noon on the 22nd inst., and as soon as a suitable one has been selected, the utmost expedition will be employed to prepare the dies and plates, so as to provide for the issue of the stamps on the 22nd June, the day of celebration."

"*Government Notice.*

"GENERAL POST OFFICE,
"SYDNEY, 10*th April*, 1897.

"DESIGN FOR NEW POSTAGE STAMPS.

"Competitive designs will be received at this office until noon on Thursday, the 22nd instant, for three new postage stamps, of 1d., 2d., and 2½d. denominations, intended to be commemorative of the 60th anniversary of Her Majesty's reign.

"The designs must be drawn in black and white to a scale twice the diameter of the present 1d. postage stamp, and should contain a portrait of Her Majesty the Queen in profile, enclosed in a frame of artistic but simple construction, and without any unnecessary elaboration of ornament.

"The value must be expressed in fairly prominent figures, and the inscriptions must be 'New South Wales,' 'Postage.'

"A premium of £10 10s. will be given for the best design, and £3 3s. for the second best.

"The designs for which premiums are given to become the property of the Government; those that have not obtained prizes will be returned to the owners.

"The designs are to be addressed to the Acting Deputy Postmaster-General, General Post Office, Sydney, from whom any further information can be obtained.

"Each design to be marked on the right-hand lower corner with some distinctive sign or motto, and the name and address of the tenderer enclosed in a sealed cover marked with the same sign or motto, to accompany the design, which cover will not be opened until the selections have been made.

"JOSEPH COOK."

PHILATELY AND FRAUD.

THE practical uses of Philately have once more been demonstrated, and on this occasion the postal authorities of Switzerland have to thank the vigilance and prompt action of the Lausanne Philatelic Society for the detection of a serious misappropriation of its revenue. The details, which are given in *La Philatélie Helvétique*, are as follows:—In 1890, Mons. Huttenlocher, a member of the Lausanne Society, had occasion to send several large packages to the same destination, accompanied by the request that the stamps on the cover might be returned. When these arrived, Mons. Huttenlocher discovered that they were all in pieces, but joined together; he then showed them to the head of the parcels despatch office, who instituted

an investigation, which revealed, however, no clue to the torn stamps. A considerable period later—since September, 1896—Mons. Meystre had been in the habit of sending packages to his son at St. Gall, and the latter being a collector desired to keep the stamps, but found them to be all in pieces, joined together and stuck down to the parcels. This circumstance led him to send the stamps to his father for an explanation, and by chance the latter showed the stamps to Mons. Huttenlocher who, despite the lapse of six years, remembered his own experience.

The matter was referred to a meeting of the Lausanne Society, and Mons. Blanchard, the president, undertook to submit the stamps to the Director of Posts, where he met the head of the parcels despatch office. Suspicion rested upon the clerk employed in the office, by name Ruffy, and a close watch was kept for eight days, during which time the addresses on some fifty packets passing through Ruffy's hands for cancellation were kept, and the recipients requested to return the covers. Mons. de Reuterskiöld was called as an expert, and his report disclosed the fraud which for some years had been carried on. Ruffy had collected a quantity of cancelled stamps of all values, and by removing those portions of the stamps which had escaped cancellation he was enabled to make an apparently perfect unused specimen, although the pieces when stuck on the parcels revealed to experienced eyes divers shades of colour and irregular joining. These stamps (or portions) were applied to parcels received by Ruffy when alone in the office, mainly between one and two o'clock p.m., a heavy cancellation being added to hide the jointing, the postage paid being appropriated to his own use. The accused naturally had a denial forthcoming, his naïve explanation being that owing to nervousness he often tore the stamps when applying them to the parcels! An investigation of his drawers, however, revealed the truth, as also some torn and mended stamps awaiting usage. Ruffy had been in the employ of the department for 23 years, and was receiving the maximum salary (3,300 francs). He had bought two estates for 71,000 francs, upon which he had borrowed 65,000 francs, of which he had repaid 5,000, so that these estates brought in an additional income (after payment of interest) of 1,600 francs. Mons. de Reuterskiöld's report to the Police Tribunal proved conclusively the exact *modus operandi* of the theft, and a sentence of six months' imprisonment, 400 francs fine, and 20 years' deprivation of civil rights has been passed.

The representatives of Swiss Philately should receive the congratulations of the State, as also of their *confrères*, for their service both to the one and the other.

A BRITISH STAMP DIRECTORY.

THERE can be little doubt as to the value of such a work, and a laudable commencement has been made by the Philatelic Publishing Co. (Fentham Road, Handsworth, Birmingham). The British Stamp Directory contains approaching 2000 names and addresses of "British Philatelists," though we doubted the existence of so many of that especial genus, but no attempt has been made at proper alphabetical classification. The publishers announce a speedy new edition—in a curiosity of literature entitled Preface—and we hope to see further improvements in a useful undertaking such as this.

Reviews.

STANLEY GIBBONS' CATALOGUE, PART II., 1897.*



ITHOUT any doubt the appearance of the second part of this firm's 1897 Catalogue marks a new epoch as regards Philately in the country. We are fully aware that these catalogues are issued mainly for the benefit of the publishers; but when in conjunction herewith so much new and important matter is produced, the commercial element is, in the view of this Journal, entirely subordinate to the Philatelic aspect. We have, therefore, no hesitation in stating that, in our opinion, Part II. of the 1897 Catalogue, being the lists of adhesive stamps of the world other than Great Britain and Colonies, is not only far and away the best and most reliable price catalogue extant of these stamps, but that it presents such an aggregate of solid and advanced knowledge as to establish it a record in the annals of Philately. They are open secrets that, throughout, the aid of the leading specialists and best connoisseurs in almost every country has been secured, that recourse has been had to all the finest collections in Great Britain to correct and supplement the shades and details, and that literally no expense or labour has been spared in the endeavour to present *for the first time* a Foreign Catalogue that should be on a par with its colonial predecessor.

The rising favour in which many of the South American and European countries are held has induced in their respective countries a closer and more scientific examination, the result of which has been to almost revolutionize the preconceived notions both as to completeness and relative rarity. In many instances this recent knowledge has been incorporated in this Catalogue, and—to the multitude—much of the information will be a complete surprise. Amongst such lists we may briefly cite: Finland, Sweden, Russia (including sixty-three pages of fully illustrated locals), Norway, France, Holland, Transvaal, etc. etc. The German and Italian States are also well brought up to date, while Peru and the United States will be found to include all the latest reliable information. The new illustrations of this latter are excellent, but it is much to be deplored that the Catalogue is disfigured by many indistinct and defective cuts. The surcharges, however, as in Part I., are excellently reproduced in actual size, and in the case of the French Colonies (a most able and exhaustive list) will be found of great value. It is remarkable that in the case of the European stamps there are hardly any surcharges—a fact that may account for their increasing popularity—while in the remaining countries they are mainly and happily confined to their respective colonies. There

* *Priced Catalogue of Stamps of Foreign Countries.* Part II. 1897. STANLEY GIBBONS, LTD., 391, Strand, London, W.C.

are naturally mistakes—frequently palpable ones referring to prices—but as a whole the work is very accurate, though some lists could be improved, *e.g.*, Portugal, Belgium, Roumania, Turkey, Servia, and others. The system of grouping, introduced for the first time in Messrs. Gibbons' Catalogue, is much to be commended, and might even be extended in future editions, such as Scandinavia and Northern Europe, South-east Europe, South and Central American States, etc.

The general production of the book is satisfactory; the paper almost too good, making the work as bulky as a Senf's or Bright's General Catalogue; the binding is serviceable and attractive; and the printing throughout is clean and sharp. That very important part—the prices—hardly falls within our province to dilate upon, but without doubt the figures represent the prices at which the publishers are prepared to deliver the stamps, which is at least an evidence of good faith. It is so stated in the Preface, and we have full belief in the correctness of the statement, however (literally) large the order may seem! Many of the prices, especially for stamps of countries hitherto little appreciated, seem very high, and it remains to be seen how far they are market values.

The issue of this Price List, embodying so great an extent of fresh knowledge, is a distinct gain to the cause of Philately all round, and we take leave of it by wishing its publishers the success they so richly deserve, in having been the first to produce a reliable and scientific Catalogue of the "Foreign" Stamps of the world.

BRIGHT'S CATALOGUE FOR 1897.*

Many noticeable alterations and improvements have been effected in this work since its initial venture. The most important is the division into two portions: (1) Adhesives and (2) Envelopes, Cards, etc., but the general additions are so numerous that 100 pages have been added to the bulk. The publishers modestly state in the Preface that "no direct profit is made in the sale of this Catalogue," and when it is considered that over 750 pages of excellently printed matter, on really good paper, and in a suitable binding, is sold retail for the conventional half-crown, the statement can readily be taken without any pinch of salt. The illustrations are necessarily very uneven, but the latest additions denote a great improvement.

Messrs. Bright & Son have indeed shown a spirit of enterprise in the issue of this Catalogue, under obvious disadvantages, which we trust will meet its due reward, as intimated by them, in the increase of their business. Under all the circumstances the Catalogue reflects great credit on the publishers: in most respects it is on a par with the latter-day Price List evolution, and it should certainly be welcomed by every collector. We consider its literary merit as a better "guide to collectors" (*pace* Preface) than its pecuniary aspect. The practice of pricing everything, or nearly so, as in this case, has often been inveighed against in this Journal, and must inevitably drive the compiler—unless he has all the stamps priced—into

* BRIGHT & SON'S *A B C Descriptive Priced Catalogue of the World's Postage Stamps*. Second Edition, 1897. The Arcade, Bournemouth.

many palpably erroneous estimates. A priced Catalogue should be an index of what the publishers have to dispose of, otherwise, from a purchaser's point of view, it seems to us imaginary and delusive.

It is not our province to especially point out trivial errors, but we think that there is room for improvement in the next edition in some countries, such as many European States, New Zealand, New South Wales (why omit "no CREVIT" and insert "WAEES," the former being a far more important error?). *Per contra* many lists are evidently the work of able hands, such as Portugal, Transvaal, Roumania, Greece, and the Colonies generally. The grouping together, according to type, of Great Britain, South Australia (the latter excellent, but why price practically all the lettered varieties?) and Victoria, has much to commend it on the ground of simplicity. Messrs. Bright & Son have distinctly "gone one better" this time, and we heartily wish them a wide sale as a reward for their plucky enterprise.

J. M. BARTEL AND Co.'s CATALOGUE OF STAMPED ENVELOPES, U.S.*

We have pleasure in acknowledging the receipt of a most valuable and succinct list of the envelopes of the United States brought fully up to the current year, and embodying all the knowledge of the best scientists hereon. No less than 1864 varieties are listed; some idea hence may be gleaned of the difficult task imposed in the collection of these envelopes. Small wonder that the Preface claims "front rank in the matter of embossed postal paper for the U.S. Government." It has, in our humble opinion, also taken front rank in discouraging the collection of entire envelopes throughout the world. Variation in the dies and watermarks, of course, have full claim on the earnest collector's attention, but an endless succession of "knives" (or shapes, as the new work now correctly announces), sizes, pattes, and many-hued papers has, in the judgment of many, a greater affinity to stationery than Philately. A collection of United States envelopes, confined practically to variation of the dies and watermarks, would seem to present far more Philately than all the cream, coffee, amber, or manilla note paper in the world. There can, however, be no doubt of the excellence of Messrs. Bartel's work, and that it will be of great service to all those who collect U.S. envelopes—the appearance of an up-to-date list having really "filled a long-felt want."

* *First complete Catalogue and Reference List of the Stamped Envelopes, Wrappers, and Letter Sheets regularly issued by the United States*, 1853–1897. J. M. BARTEL & Co., 439, Ninth Street, N.W., Washington, D.C., U.S.

New Issues.

NOTES OF NEW, AND VARIATIONS OF CURRENT, ISSUES.

(Varieties of Obsolete Stamps, and Discoveries, will be found under "Philatelic Notes.")

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.

Members of the London Philatelic Society, and other readers generally, are invited to co-operate with us in making the columns as interesting as possible. Our foreign readers can especially help us in this direction, by sending copies of any official documents relative to changes in the current issues, or early intimation of any new issue, accompanied, when possible, by a specimen; such information will be duly credited to the correspondent, and, if desired, the specimen promptly returned. Address: EDITOR "LONDON PHILATELIST," EFFINGHAM HOUSE, ARUNDEL STREET, STRAND, LONDON, W.C.

BRITISH EMPIRE.

BRITISH BECHUANALAND.—In sending us a specimen of the current ½d. Cape of Good Hope stamp, surcharged "British" "Bechuanaland," Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. write: "When this Colony was annexed to the Cape the remaining stock of stamps was sent to Cape Town. They have now been brought again into use, not in B.B., but in the Bechuanaland Protectorate, which is the country to the north of Bechuanaland, extending to the British South Africa Company's boundary." These, it appears, are now entirely exhausted; hence the Cape stamps are being surcharged, the ½d. having appeared as above.

Adhesive. ½d., green; black surcharge.

CANADA.—The ½ cent stamp has been printed on a heavier paper. We regret to hear that a 3 cent Commemorative stamp is contemplated.

Adhesive. ½ cent, black; thick paper.

NATIVE INDIAN STATES—*Gwalior.*—From a block of the ½ anna stamps for official use, sent by Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. for our inspection, we learn that there is an error once on each sheet of 240 stamps, the first stamp in the bottom row but one having the word "Service" (which is printed in native characters "SERVIS") spelt "SERSIV." This error our correspondents have found on the values ½, 1, 2, 4, and 8 annas; but the *Philatelic Journal of India* adds the 1 rupee value with a similar misprint.

MAURITIUS.—A card of 2 cents value is in use, bearing a similar stamp to the 3 cents adhesive, showing the Arms of the Colony.

Post Card. 2 cents; brown on *buff.*

NIGER COAST PROTECTORATE.—The 1d. label has been issued on paper watermarked Crown CA.

Adhesive. 1d., vermilion; wmk. Cr. CA.

QUEENSLAND.—The *M. J.* announces the 2½d. adhesive with head on white ground, no other alteration having taken place.

Adhesive. 2½d., rose; perf. 13.

SIERRA LEONE.—We give an illustration of one of the recent surcharges on the fiscal stamps. The *Philatelic Record* adds the one shilling label, having the same surcharge, with the same variations of type (three varieties). The varieties are as follows: (1) Large, heavy "2," with a straight foot; (2) a smaller and lighter numeral, with a straight foot; (3) "2" with a curly foot; and in the pane of 30 stamps the varieties occur as follows:—



1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
1	2	2	3	2	2	2	3	3	1

Thus there are of each value: 22 of Type I. on the sheet, five of Type II., and three of Type III.

It appears that there is a further variety which occurs on all the values, in which the *fractional* figures have two types of "2," one with a straight and the other with a curly foot. There are only two of the latter variety in a sheet of 60 stamps, and this might be called Type IV.

Adhesive. 2½d. on 1s., green and lilac; *four types.*

SOUTH AUSTRALIA.—The *M. J.* announces the issue of the 2 shillings adhesive, with the surcharge "O S" in the long narrow capitals, replacing the so-called block type.

Service Adhesive. 2 shillings, crimson.

UGANDA.—We have received specimens of another issue for this territory, the postal arrangements in which have met with such success that the missionaries' type-writer has been supplanted by the Government Printing Press as a means of producing the stamps. They are now type-set, and have the name "UGANDA" at the top and "PROTECTORATE" at foot; large letters "V R" in the centre, separated by an asterisk or a dagger, and with an asterisk at each side of them; with "POSTAGE" above the "V R," and the value (1 ANNA, 2, 3, 4 or 8 ANNAS, or ONE RUPEE) below. The 1 a. has a dagger, thus "†," between the letters, the 2 a. and 3 a. an inverted dagger, "⊥," the 4 a. and 8 a. a double dagger, "‡," and the 1 rupee, an asterisk at the foot of the letters. The asterisks at the sides are also ingeniously varied in position, being at the foot of the letters in the 1 a., 3 a., and 1 rupee, at the top in the 2 a., at the upper right and lower left in the 4 a., and at the upper left and lower right in the 8 a.

Adhesives. 1 a., black on *white wove.*
2 a. „ „
3 a. „ „
4 a. „ „
8 a. „ } *on thin yellowish wove,*
1 r. „ } *ruled with faint lines.*

The specimens we have seen have a large letter "L" struck upon them, in *black*, indicating local use; but we understand that there are also stamps without the "L," for use on letters to the coast. — *Monthly Journal.*

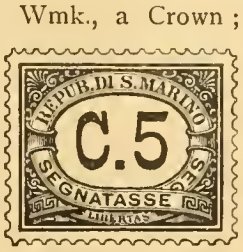
EUROPE.

FINLAND.—An error has recently been discovered, the 3½ roubles stamp having been printed in the colours of the 7 roubles. It is gratifying to learn that on discovery the remaining stock was destroyed.

Adhesive. 3½ roubles, black and yellow, *error.*

SAN MARINO.—We illustrate, and have received from Messrs. Whitfield King & Co., a set of Unpaid Letter stamps. The values are as follows: Wmk., a Crown; perf. 14.

Unpaid Letter Stamps.
c. 5, green and chocolate.
c. 10 „ „
c. 30 „ „
c. 50 „ „
c. 60 „ „
lira 1, dull rose „
lire 5 „ „
lire 10 „ „



AMERICA.

BOLIVIA.—The *A. J. of Ph.* illustrates three stamps, which introduce a new issue of seven values. The stamps are of upright rectangular shape, and bear in the centre a portrait, that on the 2 c. being named Linares, 10 c. Monteguado, and the 20 c. J. Ballivian. For the present we must confess to ignorance as to the identity of these worthies, but shall no doubt be enlightened when other values appear. The stamps are perforated 12.

Adhesives. 2 c., red.
10 c., brown-violet.
20 c., lake and (centre) black.

COLOMBIAN REPUBLIC.—A 10 centavos stamp similar in design to the current 5 c. is announced.

Adhesive. 10 c., brown on *rose.*

MEXICO.—The *M. J.* announces an error—the 12 c. printed in the colour of the 3 c., the impression being on the old paper with watermark "CORREOS E.U.M.," the copies being pin-perf. The same contemporary also chronicles the $5 and $10 adhesives with watermark "R M"; perf. 12.

Adhesives. 20 c., chestnut; *error.*
$5, vermilion; wmk. "R.M."
$10, deep blue „ „

OTHER COUNTRIES.

CHINA.—As was to be expected, the surcharging business has proved remunerative, hence it has been continued *ad nauseam.* Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. send us a full set, twenty-seven in number. The second varieties are formed by a variation from the colour of the previous stamps, the type of the surcharge also being larger. There is in addition a further use of the 3 c. Revenue stamp, this value being surcharged 1 c., 2 c., and 4 c. The remainders of the 1886 issue have also been raked out, and duly besmeared to form 1, 2, and 5 cent stamps. Writing to the *Weekly Stamp News*, a correspondent describes these second printings as "largely speculative," and this description would appear to be well merited. Annexed are illustrations of the first surcharges described on page 75:—









CONGO FREE STATE.—A sheet of the 10 c. stamp has escaped the printing house of Messrs. Waterlow & Sons with the centre *inverted*. The sheet in question was sold at face value in the ordinary course of post, and the purchaser is to be congratulated!

Adhesive. 10 c., greenish blue and black; *error.*

EGYPT.—*Soudan.*—We illustrate a surcharge which has been applied to the 1, 3, and 5 mils. and 1 piastre stamps for use in the Post Office between Wadi-Halfa and the Egyptian frontier.

Adhesives. 1 mil., brown; black surcharge.
3 ,, yellow ,,
5 ,, carmine ,,
1 piastre, ultramarine ,,



Philatelic Societies' Meetings.

THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY, LONDON.

Honorary President—H.R.H. THE DUKE OF SAXE-COBURG AND GOTHA, K.G., &c.

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E. D. BACON. | E. B. EVANS. | T. WICKHAM JONES.
R. EHRENBACH. | D. GARTH. | H. R. OLDFIELD.

THE twenty-third meeting of the season 1896-97 was held at Effingham House on Friday, the 9th April, at 7.45 p.m., the members in attendance being: Messrs. E. D. Bacon, R. Ehrenbach, H. R. Oldfield, R. Meyer, R. Frentzel, A. R. Barrett, T. H. R. Crowle, C. McNaughtan, E. J. Nankivell, R. Pearce, C. W. Viner, B. D. Knox, and J. A. Tilleard.

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

The receipt from the publishers of Vol. 2 of *The Philatelic World* was directed to be acknowledged with thanks.

Mr. H. R. Oldfield then gave a display of, and read some notes on the envelopes and wrappers of Switzerland, of which he has a very complete collection. He followed this with an exhibition of the Cantonal stamps, and those of the first federal issue of the same country. Mr. Oldfield has an immense number of specimens of the latter issue, as he collects all the varieties of postmark, and his interesting remarks concerning the use and scarcity of many of the obliterations found on these stamps were much appreciated by the members present. On the motion of Mr. E. D. Bacon, seconded by Dr. C. W. Viner, a cordial vote of thanks to Mr. Oldfield for his display was passed.

THE twenty-fourth meeting was held at Effingham House on Friday, the 30th April, at 7.45 p.m., the members in attendance being: Messrs. M. P. Castle, E. D. Bacon, T. Wickham Jones, R. Meyer, R. Frentzel, R. T. de Cartaret, C. McNaughtan, Gordon Smith, R. Pearce, W. N. Usher, J. A. Tilleard, A. R. Barrett, J. C. Potter, W. R. Palmer, and B. D. Knox. One visitor also was present.

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

The Secretary read a letter from Mr. Hilckes stating that he had received a communication from a correspondent connected with the Post Office in Natal, setting

at rest the question whether the so-called error "Ealfpenny" on the 6d. Natal was correctly described as an error, or was only a variety due to an imperfect type. In proof of the latter being the correct view, the identical piece of type employed was enclosed, and proved to be only a battered "H." The Secretary was directed to thank Mr. Hilckes for his interesting information, and for kindly presenting the piece of type in question to the Society for preservation.

The Treasurer presented his balance-sheet for the financial year, and on the motion of Mr. Bacon, seconded by Mr. Wickham Jones, Messrs. R. Pearce and A. W. Chambers were appointed auditors to audit the accounts to the annual general meeting.

Mr. R. Meyer then read a short paper on the "Stamps of Lagos," passing round in illustration of his observations his collection of the stamps under consideration, in which all the varieties were represented—in most cases both in unused and used conditions. On the motion of Mr. Gordon Smith, seconded by Mr. Castle, the hearty thanks of the meeting were voted to Mr. Meyer for his interesting paper, and for his kindness in affording the members present an opportunity of inspecting his collection.

In reference to the prizes offered by the Society at the forthcoming exhibition, it was decided that these should consist of two gold and four silver medals.

THE twenty-fifth meeting was held at Effingham House on Friday, the 7th May, at 7.45 p.m. The members in attendance were: Messrs. M. P. Castle, L. L. R. Hausberg, E. D. Bacon, H. R. Oldfield, R. Ehrenbach, R. Meyer, R. Frentzel, W. Silk, W. R. Palmer, C. N. Biggs, T. Maycock, A. R. Barrett, C. McNaughtan, R. Pearce, Gordon Smith, B. D. Knox, and J. A. Tilleard.

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

The special business announced in the notice convening the meeting was unavoidably postponed until the 14th instant, and the evening was occupied with the inspection of stamps brought by various members to the meeting.

THE twenty-sixth meeting was held at Effingham House on Friday, the 14th May, at 7.45 p.m. The members present were: Messrs. M. P. Castle, H. R. Oldfield, E. D. Bacon, R. Ehrenbach, R. Meyer, R. Frentzel, A. R. Barrett, T. H. R. Crowle, O. Pfenninger, W. Silk, T. Maycock, F. Ransom, C. McNaughtan, R. Pearce, Gordon Smith, F. E. Owen, L. L. R. Hausberg, B. D. Knox, T. W. Hall, H. Hetley, E. J. Nankivell, 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 from Messrs. Bright and Son, for the library, of a copy of their new Catalogue, which was directed to be acknowledged with thanks.

Mr. Castle read a paper on the "Stamps of Grenada," compiled by Dr. R. Stanley Taylor, in which, after a reference to the previously published information on the subject, the various issues were described in detail, special attention being drawn to the question of paper, perforations, the sizes of the sheets, the differences in the star watermark, and the varieties to be found in the surcharged stamps. The whole subject was exhaustively treated, and the paper was illustrated by Dr. Taylor's fine unused and used collections of the stamps under consideration.

On the motion of Mr. Tilleard, seconded by Mr. Bacon, the hearty thanks of the meeting were voted to Dr. Taylor for his interesting paper, which will be published in the *London Philatelist.*

Mr. Oldfield then read a paper on the First Issue of the Stamps of Bolivia. In this he described in detail the numerous retouches of the plates, giving the leading characteristics by which each may be readily distinguished, and calling attention to the prominent varieties. The whole subject was minutely dealt with at considerable length, and the paper will be found to contain much novel and valuable information. Mr. Oldfield showed, in illustration of his paper, a very fine selection of stamps from his collection, including several entire sheets of most of the plates, and each member was supplied with a series of autotypes to enable him to follow the reading, these having been provided for the purpose of illustrations in the *London Philatelist* when the paper is published. Mr. Castle moved a cordial vote of thanks to Mr. Oldfield for his most important and interesting paper, and the motion having been seconded by Mr. Bacon, was put to the meeting and carried unanimously.

MANCHESTER PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

President—W. Dorning Beckton.
Hon. Sec.—A. H. Harrison.

The fourteenth meeting of the session was held at the Grand Hotel on Wednesday, April 14th, 1897.

The President in the chair, supported by ten members.

In the absence of the Hon. Secretary through illness, the Assistant Hon. Secretary read the minutes, which were then confirmed.

The paper of the evening was read by Mr. G. B. Duerst on "The Stamps of Parma." He stated that the postal issue of this State was the outcome of a convention concluded between Austria and Parma in 1850, the first issue being in June, 1852, engraved by Domino Pintelli; it consisted of five values—5, 10, 15, 25, and 40 centesimi. In 1857 a new design was approved of, and the new stamps made their appearance as soon as the old stock was used up. This design was engraved by Paolo Formenti. A newspaper stamp of the value of 9 centesimi was issued on February 1st, 1853, and another on April 1st, 1853. On November 1st, 1857, the rate on newspapers was reduced from 9 to 6 centesimi; a fresh stamp was issued, design as last, only value altered.

On July 9th, 1859, the Bourbon rule came forcibly to an end, and the Italian Government decided to issue their own Sardinian stamps at least, Mr. Moens says, and adds that only a very small quantity were forwarded from Turin. These stamps were only in use from July 25th to the end of August, 1859, and can only be told by the postmarks.

In September, 1859, a new issue was brought out for Parma; they were, however, only in use for about three months, the Sardinian stamps being again brought into issue.

Mr. Petri showed a number of the stamps of Parma, all of which were fine copies, and on the original letter sheets.

C. H. Coote,
Assistant Hon. Secretary.

Holmefield, Sale, near Manchester.

THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY, NEW YORK,

351, Fourth Avenue.

Founded January 23, 1891; Incorporated February 1, 1892.

President—Charles Gregory.
Vice-President—J. M. Andreini.
Treasurer—Henry Clotz.
Secretary—Frederick Augustus Nast.
Librarian—R. W. Quigley.

The regular monthly meeting was held March 21st. President Gregory in the chair. The minutes of the preceding meeting were read and amended by correcting clerical errors.

Mr. Olney, President of the A. P. A., was a welcome visitor, but was unable to remain during the entire session as he desired to attend the stamp auction held the same evening.

After the transaction of routine business the Society devoted itself to the study of the stamps of the U.S. of Colombia and its constituent States. The basis of the discussions were the collections of Messrs. Andreini, Gregory, Lehman, and Thorne, all of whom have very complete collections of this interesting country. Mr. J. W. Scott also exhibited some rarities of his own, and also a number of interesting stamps owned by Mr. Gomez.

Practically everything known was exhibited, including minute varieties and shades. Among the uncatalogued stamps may be mentioned the following from Mr. Thorne's collection :—

1883, U.S. of Colombia, pair of 5 cent., pale blue, part perforated.

1881, U.S. of Colombia, 5 cent., used, pale blue on face, and on the reverse side a 5 cent., dark blue, printed upside down with reference to the face.

1883, Antioquia, 10 cent., scarlet, *tête-bêche.*

1864, U.S. of Colombia, 5 cent., orange, *tête-bêche.*

1883, Cundinamarca, 5 cent., blue, unused original, *tête-bêche.*

The following from Mr. Lehman's collection :—

1873, Antioquia, 2½ cent. on *pelure* paper.

The following from Mr. Gomez's collection :—

1891, fiscal stamp, 20 cent., black on yellow paper, postally used.

1889, fiscal stamp, 20 cent., orange, postally used.

1881, 5 cent., strip of six, showing watermark "LACROIX FRERES."

1883, 2 cent., red on rose, very small "DE LOS" in inscription.

1883, 10 cent., orange on yellow, large "DE LOS" in inscription.

It was also demonstrated that the 2 cent., red on yellow, is simply turned by the colour of the paper fading; any specimen on the rose paper will turn to yellow if exposed to the sun for a few days.

The following resolution was adopted by unanimous vote :—

Resolved. The members of the Philatelic Society, New York, regret to learn of the untimely and unexpected death of John Kerr Tiffany, one of the founders of this Society, and for many years President of the A. P. A. Through his death we lose an old friend, and one of our best known American Philatelists, to whose labours all collectors are deeply indebted.

The subject for the Society's next meeting is "The Stamps of Greece," and Mr. Lynde will open the discussion by a paper on the subject.

Adjournment taken at 10.30 p.m.

FREDERICK A. NAST, *Secretary.*

[We regret that some of the recent minutes of the N. Y. P. S. have failed to reach us.—ED.]

PLYMOUTH PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

President—CAPTAIN G. H. W. STOCKDALE, R.E.
Treasurer and Hon. Secretary—W. J. W. MILLER.

THE twelfth meeting of the sixth session of the Society was held at No. 9*a*, Princess Square, on Wednesday, March 10th, 1897, at 7.30 p.m.

The President (Major Stockdale, R.E.) in the chair, supported by seven members and one visitor.

The minutes of last meeting were read and confirmed, and the following candidates for membership were balloted for and duly elected: Miss C. L. White, Mannamead, Plymouth; Dr. L. F. Houghton, East Looe.

The subject of study, "The Stamps of Barbados," was introduced by the Vice-President (Mr. R. T. Stevens), being a continuation of his remarks from last meeting. He dealt with the stamps from Issue VIII. to the current issue, as comprised in the handbook published by Messrs. Bacon and Napier. His remarks were illustrated by the exhibition of his stamps of the colony, arranged in accordance with the handbook, which showed very clearly the different perforations, and also contained some very unusual shades of colour. He pointed out a peculiarity in the stamps under notice, which was not found in the stamps of any other colony, viz., that they were first perforated with a gauge of 14, followed by 12½, and then again to the gauge of 14. At the close of his interesting remarks, he pointed out that the colony of Barbados enjoyed the proud distinction of being the first to introduce a ½d. rate of postage, and that was further increased in 1896 by the introduction of a ¼d. rate. A most interesting discussion followed, in the course of which Mr. Cocks informed the members that the current 8d. was found with the value printed in two very distinct shades of ultramarine.

The Vice-President was accorded a hearty vote of thanks for his instructive remarks; and at the close of the meeting he sorted and classified the stamps of those members who had brought them, to avail themselves of his offer.

THE thirteenth ordinary meeting of the sixth session of the Society was held at No. 9*a*, Princess Square, on Wednesday, March 23rd, 1897, at 7.30 p.m. The President in the chair, supported by nine members.

The Rev. E. A. Donaldson, of Stoke, Devonport, was balloted for, and duly elected a member of the Society.

The subject of study, "The Stamps of Schleswig-Holstein," was introduced by the President. He dealt very fully with the whole of the issues, illustrating his remarks by the exhibition of his collection. He pointed out the different shades of colour he had found, and gave the members some very interesting information as to the many different currencies used. He also gave full information of the dates of issue and numbers printed of each value, whereby members could estimate the relative scarcity of the different values.

A very interesting discussion followed, and by the comparison of the different collections present some useful information was obtained, and a hearty vote of thanks was accorded the President for his instructive remarks.

Towards the close of the meeting the Vice-President passed round for inspection by the members a curiosity he had recently found, viz., a 3d. Victoria beaded oval of 1862, with the watermark reading "TRHEE" pence instead of "THREE."

THE fourteenth ordinary meeting of the Society was held at No. 9*a*, Princess Square, on Wednesday, April 7th, 1897, at 7.30 p.m.

Mr. H. W. Mayne in the chair, supported by eight members and one visitor.

The minutes of last meeting were read and confirmed, and Mr. Monk, of Tavistock, was balloted for, and duly elected a corresponding member.

The subject for study, "The Stamps of British South Africa," was introduced by Mr. Walker. He gave a most interesting and exhaustive paper, dealing with the country from the date the Chartered Co. were given control to the present time. Each of the issues was dealt with very minutely, the alteration in design, paper, and perforation being given. The so-called "Bulawayo Provisionals" were dealt with at some length, particulars of the numbers stated to have been printed and the errors to be found being given. His remarks were illustrated throughout with the exhibition of his own collection, and in addition he had obtained, through the kindness of the Secretary of the Sheffield Society, three complete unused sheets of the 1d., 6d., and 1s. of Issue I., and four sheets of the ½d., 3d., and 8d. of Issue III., by which the members were shown the position of the watermarks, and also the number of stamps showing watermark and the number unwatermarked.

At the close of an interesting discussion a hearty vote of thanks was accorded the lecturer, the members expressing their keen appreciation of Mr. Walker's efforts in securing the sheets of unused stamps for their inspection.

THE fifteenth ordinary meeting of the Society was held at No. 9*a*, Princess Square, on Wednesday, April 21st, 1897, at 7.30 p.m.

The Vice-President (Mr. R. Tyeth Stevens) in the chair, supported by nine members and one visitor.

The minutes of last meeting were read and confirmed.

The evening was devoted to a discussion on "What to Collect." In a most interesting introduction the Vice-President gave the members what, in his opinion, he considered an English collector should collect. His remarks produced an interesting discussion, and, in conclusion, he summarized the opinions expressed by the members, and gave his opinions on them.

An instructive evening was brought to a close with a vote of thanks to the Vice-President for his introduction and remarks.

W. J. W. MILLER, *Hon. Sec.*

5, ATHENÆUM TERRACE, PLYMOUTH.

SUBURBAN STAMP EXCHANGE.

FOUNDED in 1892. Number of members enrolled on May 1st, 1897, was 290. Two A packets (composed exclusively of sheets valued at not less than £5 gross each) and two B packets (with sheets under £5 each) are made up and circulated on the 20th of each month. Medium and advanced collectors and buying members giving satisfactory references are always welcomed, and rules and full information will be forwarded on application. Aggregate value of the four packets, £1600-1850. The ordinary rules of Exchange Clubs, with monthly settlements, apply. Priority on the lists is taken in turn, and members can see or contribute to as many packets as they like by giving due notice.

NOTICE FOR MAY.

Two A and two B packets were made up and despatched on April 23rd; their quality was good, but, owing to the Easter holidays, fewer contributions were received. Central and South Africans were specially strong. December accounts have been submitted and settled, and January packets have just returned from the supplementary rounds. Sales were as follows :—

	£	s.	d.
Dec. A 1 packet . .	111	4	2
„ A 2 „ . .	123	4	7
„ B 1 „ . .	37	19	1
„ B 2 „ . .	42	6	11
Supplementary rounds of A 1 and A 2 packets . .	87	13	8

February packets will start on their supplementary rounds about the 26th inst.; members wishing to be included in lists should notify me without delay. Probably only two packets will be circulated during the summer months; due notice, however, will be given. The revised code of rules will be ready for signature (it is hoped) very shortly.

H. A. SLADE, *Hon. Sec.*

TUDOR HOUSE, ST. ALBANS.

We have to express our regret to the Hon. Secretaries of the foregoing Philatelic Societies that the publication of some of the preceding minutes should have unavoidably been so long delayed.—ED.

Correspondence.

COMMUNICATIONS.—*All communications on Philatelic matters and Publications for Review should be addressed to the Editor of* THE LONDON PHILATELIST, Kingston Lodge, Richmond Place, Brighton.

ADVERTISEMENTS *should be sent to* MR. H. M. GOOCH (Advertising Department), Effingham House, Arundel Street, London, W.C.

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. ($1.50). *Subscribers' remittances should be sent to* Mr. H. M. GOOCH, EFFINGHAM HOUSE, ARUNDEL STREET, STRAND, LONDON, W.C.

FORGED CEYLON SURCHARGES.

To the Editor of the "London Philatelist."

DEAR SIR,—I recently received from a Mr. E. G. Rusbridge, the Fort, Colombo (whose original circular I enclose), two books of "surcharged" Ceylon stamps of various issues, which he offered me for 50 rupees per book. I have had the whole of the "surcharged" stamps in *one* of the books photographed, and send you copies of them on two sheets. The book *not* photographed contained a further considerable assortment of "surcharged" stamps differing from, and in addition to, those in the photographs. In fact, the two books together held a most magnificent collection (nearly 200 in all) of Ceylon "surcharged" and unsurcharged issues, and all, including many not catalogued, for 100 rupees. I have heard of several other similar books having turned up in this city lately, and Mr. Rusbridge himself has been good enough to inform me that the demand for them is very great. Some of us out here are now minutely examining our surcharged Ceylons, and comparing them with specimens from the Rusbridge crop. In the meantime I take the liberty of sending you the accompanying photos, in the hope that you may be able to assist the many

collectors who touch at Colombo to fully appreciate Mr. Rusbridge's philanthropic endeavours on their behalf.

Yours faithfully,

WILMOT CORFIELD.

The circular reads :—

CEYLON STAMPS.

The Ceylon Government having destroyed all the Ceylon surcharged stamps, cards, and envelopes, collectors must kindly bear in mind that Ceylon stamps are considered the best investment one could make nowadays, and therefore apply without delay to the undersigned before prices rise higher.

E. G. RUSBRIDGE,
Colombo Library, Fort Ceylon.

[From the photograph kindly sent by Mr. W. Corfield it is at once evident that the vast majority of his specimens are provided with forged surcharges, and it is well therefore that collectors should be on their guard.—ED.]

THE NIGER COAST STAMPS.

To the Editor of the "London Philatelist."

DEAR SIR, — I have read with much interest Mr. C. H. Rock's and Mr. Morley's remarks on the stamps of the Oil Rivers and Niger Coast Protectorate in the November, December, and January numbers of the *London Philatelist*, calling attention to varieties of perforation and so forth.

I have been a stamp collector for over twenty-five years, and having been in the Niger Coast Protectorate I naturally had opportunities of acquiring, and did acquire, a good number of the different varieties, especially of surcharges, that my judgment told me *should* become valuable because of the very small number issued of each.

Of the surcharge "ONE HALF-PENNY," in black, on 2½d., blue which Mr. Rock mentions (only 960 of which were issued, *i.e.*, twenty sheets—forty-eight stamps in each sheet), I have before me, besides a number of used copies, an entire unsevered sheet of forty-eight stamps, unused of course and with original gum. The sheet consists of six rows of eight stamps, and it is the last stamp of each row in which the word "ONE" reads "OIE," as remarked by Mr. Rock.

Mr. Rock is perfectly correct in stating that owing to the *extreme* dampness of the climate only small quantities of any of the stamps were sent out at a time to the Niger Coast, and, as it was not thought to be a value likely to be much required, *very* few ½d. stamps were sent out ; and when they were bought up, as they were very quickly, by people out there, who—collectively—sent thousands home to their friends (many stamping their letters with *five* ½d. stamps instead of one at 2½d.) and by dealers, it took over three months before a fresh stock could be got out from England. Meanwhile there was, of course, a continual demand for them *in the Protectorate* for postal purposes, to meet which stamps *had* to be surcharged in a hand-to-mouth sort of way —one sheet or so at a time.

I cannot, of course, as I was not there at the time, pretend to explain the variety of ½d. surcharges of the Oil Rivers lot, or the different inks used ; but the fact remains that all these stamps were duly issued by the Postmaster-General—and in one case by the Postmaster (the Acting Vice-Consul) of an un-get-at-able out-station—and were used *genuinely* for the franking of letters, as scores of my entire original envelopes will show.

I have even heard that a dealer objected (probably because he had not got hold of any of them !) that some of the provisionals were not "authorized." *They have passed through the post* and would still pass, and that is quite sufficient authorization, dealers who are "short" of them notwithstanding.

I have now before me a letter from a stamp dealing firm offering a friend of mine two of these surcharges at 60s. each, and stating that "the others wanted [six varieties] were not at present in stock!" This is one of the firms that has affected to pooh-pooh these stamps, and I rather think the reason for their doing so is transparently obvious !

If these good people could get hold of a stock of these stamps, *at their own price*, I undertake to say *no more* would be heard of their being "unnecessary" or "unauthorized" !

It is somewhat instructive and rather amusing to note how some stamp dealers, *when* they have not been able to get hold of any particular stamps, especially surcharges which are generally used up on the spot almost as soon as issued, treat their

issue almost in the light of a personal slight to themselves, and therefore try to run them down; it reminds one rather forcibly of the fable about "the fox and the grapes."

I shall be very happy to show my Oil Rivers and Niger Coast stamps to Mr. Rock if he thinks they will assist him in preparing the list which he alludes to, and he may be able to point me out some varieties I have not observed.

Yours faithfully,

A. G. GRIFFITH.

ROYAL COLONIAL INSTITUTE, LONDON,
19th April, 1897.

[Our correspondent's remarks seem to raise the Philatelic-zoological aspect of the question!—ED.]

The Market.

MESSRS. VENTOM, BULL, & COOPER.

Sale on April 8th and 9th.

	£	s.	d.
Naples, ½ tornese, blue, "Arms"	17	0	0
Portugal, first issue, 50 reis, green, unused	4	0	0
Spain, 1851, 2 reales, red	18	0	0
„ 1852 „ „	10	0	0
„ 1853 „ „	6	6	0
Geneva, double stamp	20	10	0
Tuscany, 2 soldi, brick-red, horizontal pair, used, on entire, with a 1 soldo	27	0	0
Ditto, 3 lire	42	0	0
Ceylon, wmk. CC, 5d., purple-brown, unused	9	5	0
Ditto, 2 r. 50 c., lilac-rose, unused	4	15	0
Lagos, 1885–87, 2/6, olive-black, unused	4	15	0
Ditto, ditto, 5/-, blue, unused	8	0	0
Ditto, ditto, 10/-, lilac-brn., unused	15	0	0
British Columbia, perf. 12½, 1 dollar, green, unused, horizontal pair	6	0	0
Ditto, perf. 14, 10 c., blue and pink, unused, horizontal pair	18	18	0
Nevis, first issue, perf. 11½, 1d., vermilion, unused sheet (12)	8	5	0
Ditto, wmk. CA, 1/-, purple, block of 4, unused	5	10	0
St. Kitts, 6d., olive-brown, unused, block of 4	7	0	0
Trinidad, wmk. CC, 5/-, dull lake, imperf., unused	5	0	0
Lubeck, the error, 2½ sch., brown	10	0	0

Sale on April 29th and 30th.

	£	s.	d.
Great Britain, I.R. official, £1, green, vertical pair	7	0	0
Ceylon, 8d., brown, imperf., used on entire, with a 1d., blue	22	0	0
India, service stamp, 1867, 2 as., green and lilac, unused	7	10	0
New Zealand, 1856, 1/-, blue-green, thick paper, serrated perfs.	6	10	0
St. Christopher, wmk. CA, 4d., blue unused	4	12	6

MESSRS. PUTTICK & SIMPSON.

	£	s.	d.
Great Britain, 1s., green, octagonal, unused (with gum)	10	5	0
Ditto, 1d., black, V.R., block of 4, with full gum	53	0	0
Ditto, a block of 4, but showing margins of sheets	68	0	0
Ditto, a complete set of plate numbers, unused	7	11	0
Ditto, 3d., carmine, plate 2, small letters, block of 9, unused	12	15	0
Ditto, 4d., carmine, medium garter, on *white*, unused	10	0	0
Ditto, 5s., rose, plate 4, wmk. anchor, on *bluish*	11	0	0
Ceylon, 1s. 9d., green, imperf.	5	12	6
British Columbia, perf. 12½, 10 cents, pink, pair, unused	7	0	0
Canada, 6d., grey-lilac, imperf., unused	12	12	0
Ditto, 10d., blue, imperf., thick paper, unused	12	12	0
Ditto, 6d., purple-brown, imperf., unused	15	0	0
St. Vincent, star wmk., 4d., dark blue, unused	5	0	0
Ditto, wmk. CA, 4d., red-brown, unused	6	15	0

MESSRS. CHEVELEY & CO.

Sale on April 14th.

	£	s.	d.
Geneva, double stamp, on entire letter	21	10	0
Winterthur, a pair, on ditto	6	0	0
Saxony, 3 pf., red	5	15	0
Nevis, CA, 6d., green	6	10	0

Sale on April 26th.

Afghanistan, 1871–72, 6 shahi, purple, unused	5	15	0
Ditto, 1875, 1 shahi, mauve	4	10	0
Ditto, ditto, 1 sunar, black, unused	4	0	0

Sale on May 10th.

New South Wales, laureated, 8d., orange	4	15	0
Bolivia, 500 c., 11 stars, unused	4	2	6
Buenos Ayres, 5 pesos, orange	6	6	0

MESSRS. BUHL & CO., LIMITED.

Sale on April 22nd.

Bahamas, CC, 1s., green, imperforate pair, unused	4	10	0
Ceylon, CC, ½d., lilac, imperf., unused	5	0	0
Ditto, ditto, 2d., maize, imperforate pair, unused	5	10	0
St. Helena, CC, 3d., purple, imperforate pair, unused	15	0	0
Tobago, CA, 6d., ochre, unused	8	15	0

MR. P. M. WOLSIEFFER (Chicago).

	£	s.	d.
United States, 1869, 90 c., unused block of 4	21	0	0
Ditto, 1863, 3 c., scarlet	8	8	0
Ditto, Justice, 90 c., unused	5	17	6
Ditto, State, $5	27	0	0
Ditto, ditto, $10	12	14	0
Ditto, ditto, $20	12	0	0
Antagaville, Ala., 5 c., provisional envelope	87	18	0

MESSRS. R. F. ALBRECHT & CO.

(New York City.)

United States, 1851, imperf., 24 c., lilac	6	4	0
Dittto, 1857–60, 5 c., brick-red, unused	9	12	0
Ditto, ditto, 90 c., blue, unused	3	9	0
Ditto, 1861–66, 3 c., scarlet, pen-marked	5	2	0
St. Christopher, CA, 4d., blue, unused	5	2	0
Colombian Republic, 1876, 20 c., blue, on laid paper, sheet of fifty	5	0	0
Grenada, 1891, 1d. on 2s., orange, unused	4	18	0
United States, 1869, 90 c., not embossed	4	0	0



A. E. CHALON, R.A., Pinxt. S. COUSINS, A.R.A., Sculpt.

Victoria R.

HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN,

IN ROBES OF STATE, JULY 17, 1837.

THE

London Philatelist:

THE MONTHLY JOURNAL OF

THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY, LONDON.

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The Diamond Jubilee and Philately.

THE great day of national thanksgiving and rejoicing has been celebrated with the happiest results, to Her Gracious Majesty, to her millions of lieges, and to her distinguished visitors. It is superfluous to assert that, drawn as they are from all sections of society, Philatelists are as loyal to Her Majesty and as proudly appreciative of the lustre of her long reign as any other section of the community. We are not however content to rest upon this assertion, but contend that the very nature of the pursuit prevents any Philatelist from being a "little Englander," and that it imbues him (or her) with a closer acquaintance with the vast and varied realm that, under the proud title of the British Empire, is rapidly assuming proportions such as the world has never seen.

At the period of the Queen's accession to the throne in 1837 postage stamps were only in embryo, but ere three years of her reign had sped they had become accomplished facts, so that the sixty years of Her Majesty's rule are practically coterminous with their use. In almost every guise, from tender girlhood to honoured age, Queen Victoria's profile has appeared upon the stamps issued in the various countries and colonies that acknowledge her sway. Philatelists, therefore, have the most tangible and charming connection with "the glorious reign," and the magnificent national rejoicing that has just celebrated the completion of its sixtieth year.

Amongst these many charming representations of Her Majesty that are depicted upon our British and Colonial stamps, there is perhaps none more beautiful than that of the New Zealand stamps. It is therefore with a satisfaction that we are confident will be shared by our readers that we are enabled to reproduce the original portrait of Her Majesty from which this striking vignette was obviously reproduced. Mr. C. H. Mottram has been kindly permitted by the authorities at the British Museum to photograph the engraving in their possession, and we have to express our deep

obligations to that gentleman, both for the portrait and the interesting information hereon that we are permitted to lay before our readers.

It will be seen from the contemporaneous excerpts which follow that Her Majesty is portrayed in the robes of state that she wore at the prorogation of Parliament in 1837. The portrait was painted by order of the Queen to present to her mother, the Duchess of Kent, as a souvenir of the occasion of Her Majesty's visit to the House of Lords. It was the first one taken of Her Majesty in her reign, and is sometimes described as "*in Coronation Robes*," which is erroneous.

The prorogation would probably have been the Queen's first public appearance of importance, as it occurred on the twenty-eighth day of her reign, an event naturally exciting much interest. The picture was painted by Alfred Edward Chalon, R.A. (1780–1860), was engraved in mezzo-tint by Samuel Cousins, A.R.A., and published on Coronation Day, June 28th, 1838. The genius of painter and engraver has undoubtedly succeeded in transmitting for the benefit of posterity a singularly beautiful record of Her Majesty's appearance in the first year of her illustrious reign, and it is with much pleasure that we present her portrait to the Philatelic world, with which it is so especially and charmingly associated.

The following excerpts, kindly furnished by Mr. Mottram, will be found to be of much interest in connection with the picture :—

"Mr. Chalon has just finished a drawing of our young Queen, which we think may take its place as *the* portrait, whether in right of the likeness, which is faithful and characteristic, or in right of its artistic treatment. Our Sovereign is standing in all the bravery of gold and diamonds, velvet and ermine, as she appeared on the day when she closed Parliament; but these are so judiciously managed as not to oppress her with their gorgeousness. The left arm rests among rich drapery, and the crimson train, sweeping in massive folds down the damasked steps on which she is standing, gives stature, and adds to the dignity of her figure. There is a delicate taste, too, in all the accessories—in the virgin-white flowers peeping in among the columns in the background, in the crouching lion sculptured in the pedestal at her side. This is certainly (as it should be) Mr. Chalon's most successful work."—*The Athenæum*, September 9th, 1837.

"The Queen went in state yesterday to the House of Lords to prorogue the Parliament.

"At twenty minutes before two o'clock the Royal procession" (consisting of four carriages, each drawn by six horses, and the state coach)* "left the new Palace in St. James's Park. The state coach was drawn by eight cream-coloured horses, preceded by the Queen's marshalmen two and two, the Queen's footmen in state liveries two and two, and a party of the Yeomen of the Guard. As the Queen entered the state coach a signal was given by the Sergeant-trumpeter to the trumpeter on horseback, the band of the Foot Guards at the same moment playing 'God Save the Queen.'

"Over a white satin petticoat, embroidered with gold, the Queen wore a kirtle of crimson velvet trimmed with ermine in stripes, and gold lace. The robe was confined at the waist and shoulders with gold cords and tassels. Her Majesty had a diamond stomacher, on both arms strings of diamonds, and on the left an armlet with the

* The words in brackets are my own; the report went on to enumerate the names of the Household.—C. H. M.

motto of the Order of the Garter. Her Majesty also wore the Riband, Badge, and Star of the Order, the two latter set in diamonds.

"On the Queen's head was a splendid circlet of diamonds. Opposite to Her Majesty sat the Duchess of Sutherland, Mistress of the Robes, and the Master of the Horse.

"A new set of harness for the cream-coloured horses was used for the first time. It is of red morocco, richly ornamented with the Royal Coat of Arms.

"The Royal procession passed through the triumphal arch in front of the Palace, and down the middle Mall in St. James's Park, escorted by the Royal Regiment of Horse Guards.

"Her Majesty was enthusiastically received on the whole of the route. On Her Majesty's arrival at the House of Lords the Queen's robe was changed for a Parliamentary robe of crimson velvet, entirely lined with ermine, and having a cape of ermine. The sides and bottom of the robe had a deep border of ermine and gold lace."—'Court Circular,' *The Times*, Tuesday, July 18th, 1837.

"This being the day fixed for the prorogation of Parliament by the Queen in person, the House of Lords was the scene of great bustle and preparation at an early hour.

"There were upwards of 130 peers present, and nearly double the amount of ladies in all. The *coup d'œil* from the gallery was very imposing.

"At two o'clock the firing of guns and the sound of music intimated that Her Majesty was approaching. The Duchess of Kent, accompanied by the Princess of Leiningen, soon afterwards entered. The peers and peeresses rose. Her Royal Highness bowed repeatedly, and then took her seat on the woolsack, immediately opposite and close to the throne. The Princess of Leiningen sat beside Her Royal Highness, who was observed to be in deep conversation with the Duke of Sussex, until a flourish of trumpets was heard from the outside, when everyone prepared for the appearance of the Queen; but some delay took place, and an apprehension prevailed that Her Majesty's self-possession had failed her while in the robing-room. Another flourish of trumpets was heard, and all again rose from their seats, but only to experience another disappointment. After a third flourish the heralds slowly entered, and everyone was on tip-toe; the state officers soon followed, preceding the Queen, who walked with a firm step to the throne. Her Majesty was dressed in white satin robes decorated with gold and jewels; she also wore the Order of the Garter, and a rich diadem and necklace composed of costly diamonds. The Royal mantle of crimson velvet surmounted the whole. On taking her seat Her Majesty seemed to be struck with the gorgeous spectacle before her; a slight flush was visible on her countenance, but there was nothing to indicate nervous trepidation. After a pause of two or three minutes Viscount Melbourne spoke in an undertone to Her Majesty, who immediately said, 'My Lords, be seated.'

"After the attendance of the Commons at the bar of their lordship's house—

"HER MAJESTY delivered the speech.

"Her Majesty read the speech in a clear and distinct tone. Her enunciation was deliberate and correct, and her voice being musical she made herself heard without an apparent effort. Her demeanour was at once graceful and dignified, and confirmed that prepossession in her favour which everyone seemed to conceive on her first entering the house.

"The LORD CHANCELLOR declared it to be Her Majesty's royal will and pleasure that Parliament should stand prorogued to Thursday, the 10th day of August next.

"Her Majesty then prepared to depart. As she descended the throne she turned towards the Duchess of Kent with a smile of confidence, and on retiring bowed in an affable manner to the peeresses and peers whom she passed."—The House of Lords, Monday, July 17th, 1837.

The Stamps of Bolivia.

A Paper read before the London Philatelic Society on the 14th May, 1897.

By H. R. OLDFIELD.

(*Continued from page* 125.)

Plate VI.



HIS was called E in the "Notes." The colours are very dark green and dull green. The stamps printed from this plate can be divided into two periods, the dark green colour being the earlier (not, as stated in my "Notes," the later printing). The differences arise solely from the wear of the plate and not from any retouch. In the first period the stamps closely resemble in colour and general appearance those printed from Plate IV.; while in the second period the colour is dull green, and the stamps have a more open and white appearance about the breast as in Plate V., several of them being defective in consequence of the wear of the plate. I have not seen any stamps from this plate in the lilac colour.

The following are the characteristics of the first period of Plate VI.:—

There are no signs of any diagonal lines on the globe. In some cases the horizontal counter lines have disappeared, and there is a very dark shadow to the right of the globe on all the stamps except 8 (Nos. 7, 9, 16, 30, 31, 33, 55, and 69).

The breast of the eagle is well shaded, but a plain white space, varying in length and shape, is left in the centre. The background in some few cases has a solid appearance, but generally looks more like confused lines in blocks, showing evident signs of wear, instead of being composed of vertical and horizontal lines running continuously across the stamp from top to bottom and side to side. Colour, very dark green.

The following are the characteristics of the second period of Plate VI.:—

The horizontal counter lines have now almost disappeared from the globe, leaving merely the curved lines which form the shape of the globe itself; the shadow on the right is much less, and has quite vanished in many cases.

There is no solid appearance left in the background, which is composed merely of confused blocks of lines. The whole plate is absolutely on its last legs. Colour, dull green.

In both periods the lettering on the oval band is thick and smudged, so that there is no open space between the crossbars and the top of the letters "A" in the inscription. In the case of some of the stamps there are no crossbars. See the first "A" of "BOLIVIA" in No. 1, and in the second period note the three "A's" in No. 7.

Prominent Varieties.— The only variety peculiar to Plate VI. which I have been able to discover is:—

No. 66, where the word "BOLIVIA" in the inscription is spelt "BOUVIA."

There are some few varieties common to Plates VI. and VII., among which may be noted:—

No. 8. The left wing has become defective, and the outline only has been renewed, and presents a very patched appearance.

No. 5. The left wing here has also become defective, and has been carelessly redrawn.

PLATE VII.

There is some doubt as to the date on which stamps were printed from this plate. Some few are printed in green, but they are mostly in the lilac colour, and the change appears to have been made about the same time as the colour of the 50 centavos was changed from yellow to blue, and the 100 centavos from blue to green. In Edward L. Pemberton's Catalogue, published in January, 1874, the changes of colour are termed a second issue, and the date is given as (?) 1868; but if so, they must have been in use for a very short time, for the stamps of the *succeeding* issue were actually received from the American Bank Note Co. in November, 1867. I should imagine the more correct date would be the end of 1867.

I find in the *Stamp Collectors' Magazine* for 1869 a statement that the change was merely to satisfy public requirements pending the arrival of the next issue from New York, and that only a small number of sheets were printed.

It has always been supposed that the lilac stamps were printed from the preceding plate, No. 6, and no one seems to have noticed the differences between Plates VI. and VII. I am inclined to think, however, that the bulk of the printing in the lilac shade was from Plate VII., and for the following reasons: In the first place, you find some very worn copies from Plate VI., and one of the sheets shown to-night evinces very evident signs of wear.

At the same time the two periods of the green stamps from Plate VI. are undoubtedly similar, save for the wear of the plate. If, then, you find lilac stamps showing a clear impression, they must either have been printed from Plate VI. during the first period, or else there was a retouch of Plate VI. before the printing in lilac began. Now, as a matter of fact, you find both clear distinct impressions, and also worn ones, in the lilac shades, and so the first assumption would involve a change of colour from green to lilac, then back to green, and possibly again to lilac. This sounds very improbable, and would require to be very fully proved before being accepted. Notwithstanding the discovery of the lilac stamp printed from Plate V. before referred to, I am inclined to retain this view, and to retain the printing in lilac from Plate V. as an experiment only. The rarity of these stamps seems to support such a contention.

Careful examination forces me to the conclusion that there was another

retouch after Plate VI., which I therefore term Plate VII., and from which with but few exceptions the stamps in the lilac colour were printed. To be satisfied on this point you have only to examine the background of almost any one of the stamps, and to compare the varieties mentioned below with the same stamp on Plate VI.

At first I thought no stamps were printed in green from this plate, but I have recently become the owner of a sheet in green, which differs materially from Plate VI., while it appears to be identical with the lilac sheets. I am convinced, however, that very few impressions were taken in the green colour, which must, therefore, be very rare. The lilac colour varies from brown-rose or pink to brown-red, bright violet, lilac, dull lilac, and grey-lilac. The earliest impressions appear to have been in brown-rose, pink and red-lilac, while the latest were in lilac and dull lilac, as you may see from the copies now submitted for your inspection.

The following are the characteristics of Plate VII.:—

After the first few impressions had been taken the colour was changed from green to varying shades of lilac. There are horizontal counter lines at the right of the globe on some of the stamps, but in many these are wanting. The background has been redrawn, and in the earlier impressions it is very distinct considering the state of the plate ; even in the worn copies it is generally much clearer than in the green stamps from Plate VI. The breast is very much the same as in the second period of that plate.

Prominent Varieties.—The following are peculiar to Plate VII.:—

No. 3. *Both the wings of the eagle are defective and broken up in a most extraordinary way.* (*See Illustration.*)

No. 6. The left wing has become worn and been carelessly redrawn.

No. 11. (*See Illustration.*) *Three short diagonal lines have been added as feather pinions, but have been placed* OUTSIDE *the outline of the right wing.*

No. 20. A new thick diagonal line has been added to the lower part of the left wing.

I am afraid the consideration of this 5 centavos stamp has occupied a large portion of space and of time also; but notwithstanding, I should like to add a few more words to show that, however long the explanation may have been, there is really very little difficulty by means of it in readily assigning any 5 centavos stamp to the plate from which it was printed.

The first thing to do is to look at the globe.

If there are only vertical and diagonal lines there, the stamp is from either Plate I. or II., and if from the latter there will probably be traces of the former lines in the breast to be seen, and also there will be some distinct vertical lines of shading on the breast, which is covered with coarser lines of shading.

If there are only diagonal lines, the stamp must be either No. 12 of Plate I.—and you can see that by looking at the illustration of this stamp which has been prepared—or else it must be from Plate II.

If there are diagonal and also horizonal counter lines, the stamp may be from either Plates III., IV., or *possibly* V., and the appearance of the breast of the eagle will almost enable you to say which; but if in doubt, the other characteristics given before will easily dispose of the point.

If there are only horizontal counter lines, the stamp may *possibly* be from Plates III. or IV., but is most likely to be from Plates V. or VI.; and, though a little more difficult, the before-given characteristics will, I think, be sufficient to determine the point. If there are no lines of any kind other than those forming the globe itself, the stamp will (if in the green colour) be from Plate VI., or possibly from Plate VII.

To plate the stamps is a task which everyone would not care to undertake, and of course it involves possession either of a photograph or of an original sheet from the plate to which the stamp belongs; but there are several portions of the design which offer material assistance in the work.

1. The relative position of the four ovals containing the figures of value as compared with the four words of the inscription between them.

2. The shape of the wings at the top and the position occupied by the outer lines at the bottom.

3. The lines of shading on the throat and on the breast.

A few words now upon the illustrations which have been made to accompany this paper, and for which I am indebted to the kindness of Mr. M. P. Castle.

Take No. 1 of Plates I. and II. The markings on the breast are quite different, and there are several vertical lines on the body in Plate II. which are not to be found in Plate I. The alteration in the diagonal lines on the globe is also very noticeable. This is very distinctly seen in Nos. 11 and 12, while in No. 13 there are in Plate II. traces of the old lines on the breast of the eagle.

In Plate III., Nos. 1 and 13 and 11 and 12, you will observe the new horizontal lines on the globe, and also how very white and open is the appearance of the breast.

In Plate IV. the breast of the eagle is again well covered with new lines of shading. The dark shadow to the right of the globe is so thick that the diagonal and horizontal lines can scarcely be distinguished without the aid of a glass.

In No. 1 of Plate V. four short horizontal lines about the centre of the breast have entirely disappeared. These can be plainly seen in Plates II. and III., and there are distinct traces of them in Plate IV. Two similar lines have also disappeared from No. 13. In Nos. 11 and 12 the most prominent feature is the defective condition of the wings in Plate V.

In Nos. 1 and 13 of Plate VI. there are some heavy lines of shading in the throat which are not to be found in Plate V.

Nos. 1 and 13 of Plate VII. are practically identical with the same numbers in Plate VI., and there is very little difference in No. 12; but if you turn to No. 11 you will at once observe the new pinion lines which have been added outside the right wing.

Examination will show the existence of many other differences between

similar numbers on the various plates, to which it is scarcely necessary to refer in further detail; but I would like to draw your attention to the very remarkable variation between Nos. 11 and 12 on Plate I., and the same numbers in the yellow-green colour of the earliest printing. There is as great a difference in the fineness of the workmanship in these as there is between the stamps on Plates I. and II.

Among the illustrations you will also find a specimen of one stamp from each plate which has been previously indicated as being peculiar to that particular date.

10 *Centavos.*—Passing now to the second value of the 1866 issue, namely, the 10 centavos stamp, it will be seen that, while the design has the same general appearance, there are several material differences. The globe upon which the eagle stands is partially white, and the lines of shading on the left half are curved upwards; the shading inside the inscription oval is composed of vertical lines and outside the oval of horizontal lines, and the figures of value are contained in a transverse oval. It has been stated that the plate was badly prepared, being too much corroded by the acid. In any case, the impression in most of the copies I have seen is terribly blurred, smudgy, and coarse, and though some few well-executed specimens are to be found, they are few and far between. I have been fortunate enough to secure three of the finest impressions I have ever seen, and if you will compare them with most of the others now before you, you will be better able to appreciate their rarity in this state.

There are 78 types of this stamp printed in 6 rows of 13 each. To plate them is no easy task. Perhaps the most useful means of distinguishing them are the variations in the shape of the white space left in the throat and on the breast amidst the blotchy patches of brown colour in which they are printed.

The stamps are fairly scarce. It is said that the unsuccessful working of the plate caused the stamp to be given up after only a few copies had been printed, and you will, I think, realize the possible truth of this if you endeavour to secure any quantity. I am unable to say whether the plate was ever retouched, or whether all the stamps issued were from the same plate in its original state. I have never seen a complete unused sheet, and even if the necessary copies were accumulated it would tax the patience of a Job, and strain the strongest eyesight, to make such a critical examination as is possible in the case of the 5 centavos. I fear, therefore, I can give you but little information of value as regards this stamp, forgeries of which, however, may be detected on a comparison with the stamps on the entire sheet or a photograph of it.

The article in the *Stamp Collectors' Magazine* for 1869 (before referred to) states that in the case of the figure "10" at the lower right angle only the "1" is to be seen in some of the impressions, the cipher being missing. This, however, is not an error in the plate, but arises from defective printing. The figure "10" in this position is complete in all the stamps upon the plate in the Tapling Collection.

The colour of the stamps varies from brown to a very dark shade.

50 *Centavos.*—The design of this value is the same in nearly all respects as for the 10 centavos, but the workmanship is much finer. The only differences are in the figures of value, which are not contained in an oval, but are engraved upon the horizontal lines of the background; the shading on the body of the eagle is quite distinct from either of the two preceding values, the lines being longer and curving inwards and outwards.

The colour was at first yellow, varying from orange to pale, and the paper thick wove. The change of colour from yellow to blue took place at the same time as the change in colour of the 5 centavos, and for the same reason. The paper, however, on which the blue stamps were printed is thinner, and it is desirable to remember this, as the colour of the yellow stamps has been chemically changed to blue, in which there is a distinct yellow tinge. These stamps were engraved in sheets containing 30 in 6 rows of 5 each, and there does not appear to have been any retouch of the plate. The blue colour, it may be observed, is in shades both light and dark, but *not* in the slate-blue shade.

100 *Centavos.*—This value completes the first issue. The design is similar in all respects to that of the 50 centavos, save that the figures of value are in transverse oval similar to those of the 10 centavos.

The colour in the first instance was slate-blue and dark blue, subsequently changed to green (light and dark shades). The paper is thinner for the green colour, which was originally considered to be the rarest stamp of this issue. Apparently, however, more sheets were printed than was supposed; copies are by no means so scarce as the present catalogue price would lead one to suppose. As compared with the other values, this stamp is marked too high, although if Bolivia were to come into favour with collectors, the supply of all the stamps of the first issue, except the normal types of the 5 centavos, would soon begin to get short.

Postmarks of the First Issue.

It must be borne in mind that all the stamps of the first issue were available for fiscal as well as for postal purposes, as may be seen from two of the words of the inscription, "CONTRATOS" and "CORREOS." Undoubtedly they were used for both purposes, and sometimes when used fiscally the word "CORREOS" in the inscription was struck out. Where there is ink writing or pen marks the stamps have in all probability been used fiscally.

When a line is ruled in ink straight across the stamp, this indicates, I think, that it formed part of a remainder which were so cancelled before being disposed of. This treatment of remainders would naturally tend to increase the value of the unused stamps.

The only postmarks I have seen are:—

(1) A large double circle with the name of the town or district round the outer circumference, and with date in centre. This is struck in black and in red.

(2) Words or letters, indicating probably the name of some place, struck in black.

(3) A single circle, with name and date.

(4) A curiously-shaped postmark, seldom seen, in the form of an elongated oval, composed of numerous short lines, all curving inwards. (Possibly a forgery.)

As regards the 5 centavos value, postmarked specimens of the green colour are undoubtedly much rarer than the unused copies; while, as regards the lilac colour, the value is about equal, and the same comment applies to the 10 centavos stamps.

In the 50 centavos value the stamps in the yellow colour are much more valuable postmarked than unused, and this also applies to the 100 centavos in the slate-blue and dark blue shades.

Postmarked and unused copies are about equally valuable in the 50 centavos, blue, and the 100 centavos, green, issues.

In the cases of all the stamps of this issue, pen-cancelled and remainder stamps ought to stand at a much lower level than either unused or postmarked specimens.

At the present time catalogue prices of Bolivian stamps are purely nominal, and do not correctly represent their real *present* nor their comparative value, and, as there is very little demand for them, it should be very easy for a collector to secure a fine selection at a very moderate price.

Forgeries of the First Issue.

Speaking generally, the forgeries of this issue are such poor imitations that no one is likely to be deceived by them; and, as you may see for yourselves from those now produced, description is unnecessary.

There are, however, some few which are dangerous. I think these are probably some of those referred to in the issue of the *Metropolitan Philatelist* for July, 1892. I am told that these forgeries were copied from a block of the original stamps, and consequently it is only a certain number of the types that have been reproduced. The printing is somewhat heavier, but it has also a more scratchy appearance. It is difficult to give any general tests, although differences can be found upon an examination of the type on the plate from which the forgery has been taken. Fortunately, however, there do not appear to be many of these about. There are also forged postmarks on the 50 centavos stamps in the yellow and orange colours.

Report of the Philatelic Society, London,

ON THE WORK OF THE SEASON 1896-97.

By J. A. TILLEARD, Honorary Secretary.

Read at the Annual General Meeting of the Society on Friday, 21st May, 1897.

AT the conclusion of that period of the year devoted to the Society's business, it is once more my duty to summarize the result of the work and events of the season 1896-97, a season which has, I venture to think, been characterized by sound and steady progress.

The year has been specially distinguished in the history of the Society from those which have gone before by the fact that the Duke of York was graciously pleased, on the occasion of the last Annual General Meeting, to accept the position of President, and thus to associate himself more closely with us as the *actual* head of the Society, and I am sure that you will all be pleased to know that H.R.H. has intimated his consent to continue to serve in the same capacity, should it be your desire that he should do so.

Since the date of my last report I regret to have to record the fact that four of our members have been taken from us by the hand of death.

Mr. Gilbert Lockyer had been a member of our body for many years, and through his contributions to Philatelic literature he was well known outside the Society. An earnest and conscientious student of Philately, ever ready to give the benefit of his great experience to his fellow-workers, his loss will be widely felt.

Mr. T. K. Tiffany had also been associated with the Society for a number of years. Although as a foreign member we were not privileged to see him at our meetings, his name is a household word wherever our pursuit is followed, and the reputation he had justly gained as a Philatelist of the highest order is such that we are proud to have been able to number him amongst our members. In his own country he held the foremost position amongst Philatelists, and his loss is universally deplored.

Major Adam Smith, owing to his duties calling for his residence in India for some years past, was possibly known personally to a few only of his fellow-members; but those of us who had the pleasure of his acquaintance will agree with me that by his death the Society has lost a member whom we could ill afford to spare.

Mr. Bolland was one of our younger members. Having recently completed his university career, he was looking forward to a closer connection with the Society, and his untimely death has robbed us of one of our most promising recruits.

By resignation the number of members has been further reduced, Mrs. Curteis, Mr. Cripps, Mr. Browse, Mr. C. Harrison, Mr. Lumley Cator,

Mr. Rubeck, and Mr. Woodman having all retired from the Society. Three names have also been removed from the list, making a total reduction in our numbers for the year of fourteen members.

The new members elected were: Mr. A. Odell, Mr. G. J. Bailey, Mr. B. Loewy, Mr. A. Rosenberg, Mr. R. Frentzel, Mr. N. H. Withee, Mr. J. S. O'Meara, Prince Doria Pamphilij, Mr. A. H. Stamford, Mr. E. H. Selby, Mr. W. R. Palmer, Mr. H. J. White, Major A. B. Maxwell, and Mr. F. E. Owen—fourteen in all—so that the full number of members at the present time is 296, being the same as at the end of the previous year.

In the course of the season twenty-seven meetings have been held, and the average number of members attending has been sixteen, showing a small increase on the average of the preceding season.

Papers have been read at nine of the meetings, viz., by the Vice-President, on "The 1858 and 1859 Issues of Austria and Lombardy"; by Major Evans, on "The Stamps of Mauritius" (the paper being divided into two portions, read on separate occasions); by Mr. E. D. Bacon, on "The New Zealand Local Posts of 1856"; a paper communicated by Mr. Mottram; by Mr. Meyer, on "The Stamps of Lagos"; by Mr. Nankivell, on "The Status of the First Printing of the Transvaal Stamps"; by Mr. Oldfield, on "The Advantages of Stamp Collecting," as well as an important paper on "The Stamps of Bolivia"; by Mr. Gordon Smith, "Notes on the Later Issues of the Transvaal"; and by Dr. R. Stanley Taylor, on "The Stamps of Grenada."

Five evenings have been devoted to discussions, Mr. Ehrenbach undertaking the opening of the consideration of the question of "Minor Varieties in Stamps"; Mr. Meyer raising the questions of "Stamps Cancelled to Order," and the "Position of Reprints Available for Postage"; Mr. Silk dealing with "The Best Method of Arranging a Collection"; and Mr. Routledge discussing "The Early Stamps of the Dutch Colonies."

The members introducing the discussions have, as a rule, read carefully-prepared notes on the subjects dealt with, which, although unpublished, are practically additions to the papers read during the season.

A special feature of the year has been the large number of displays of stamps of various countries, and these have proved a great attraction. In most cases notes were prepared and read by the member giving the display, many of these attaining to the importance of a paper on the issues of the countries under consideration, and the discussions which have followed the displays have been of the greatest interest and value in eliciting information on many doubtful points in the history of the stamps shown.

At these displays Mr. Ehrenbach has shown his collection of the stamps of "Russia, Poland, and Russian Levant," as well as those of "Brazil"; Mr. Hall has taken "Peru," "Venezuela," and the "Type-set Stamps of Tolima"; Mr. Gordon Smith, the stamps of "South Australia"; Mr. F. W. Ayer, the "St. Louis Stamps"; Mr. Frentzel, those of "Mexico"; Mr. Crowle, the issues of "Hawaii" between 1853 and 1865, including the interisland stamps; and Mr. Oldfield, the envelopes and wrappers, as well as the Cantonal and first Federal issues of Switzerland.

If to these are added the collections of the stamps of "Bolivia," shown by Mr. Oldfield in illustration of his paper; those of "Austria," shown by the Vice-President on the reading of his paper; the stamps of "Curaçao, Surinam, and the Dutch Indies," produced by Mr. Routledge for the purposes of his discussion; and the "Transvaal" second republic stamps and those of "Lagos," shown by Mr. Gordon Smith and Mr. Meyer respectively on the reading of their papers, it will be seen that on no occasion of late years have the members had such opportunities of inspecting the collections of their fellow-members as at the meetings of this season.

The degree of excellence attained by one and all in the collections shown, and the evidences they contain of careful, earnest, and intelligent work, are convincing proofs of the high standard which the collector of the present day sets before him in the studies which he undertakes, and the great advance which has been made in recent years in "specializing."

Where all take such high rank, it is perhaps invidious to single out any one collection for special mention, but I am sure I shall be excused for referring to that of the stamps of "St. Louis," which we were privileged to see by the kindness of Mr. F. W. Ayer, as it is probable that we may never have the opportunity of again inspecting so absolutely complete and perfect a collection of these most interesting stamps.

In dealing with the meetings I must not omit to mention the very excellent magic lantern display of stamps which Mr. Ridpath so kindly arranged for us early in the season. This proved an unqualified success in every respect, and I trust that in the coming season it may be found possible to organize further displays of a similar nature.

I regret that owing to an exceptionally busy year the Publication Committee have not been able to arrange for the completion of the Society's work on the stamps of the African Colonies. It is intended to proceed with the remainder of the book during the recess, and I trust that it may be possible to place it in the hands of members before our meetings are resumed.

It was also hoped that the long-promised book on the stamps of Great Britain would have been published during the season. The authors appear to have encountered considerable difficulties in completing the MSS. in a manner satisfactory to themselves; but the Publication Committee are using every endeavour to ensure the early issue of the work, which is so anxiously awaited by the ever-increasing number of specialists in the stamps of our own country.

Our thanks are again due to the members of the Expert Committee for their labours during the past year. The excellence of that work is attested by the confidence shown by Philatelists in the decisions of the Committee, and the continued applications made for certificates in cases involving any doubt or difficulty.

The accounts and balance-sheet for the year have been audited and will be laid before you this evening, with the Auditors' Report. The improvement shown last year has been maintained, and I think it will appear that the Society is in a sound financial position.

The Council has taken into consideration the question of "commuted

subscriptions," to which attention has on more than one occasion been called by the auditors of previous accounts. The whole subject has been carefully reconsidered, and it will be my duty to submit to you presently a series of resolutions in regard to the commutation of subscriptions, in pursuance of notice given in accordance with the statutes.

I have also ventured to suggest an increase being made in the number of the Council, a proposal which I trust may meet with approval.

At this meeting the Council for the ensuing year has to be elected, and the several members of the present Council are willing to take office again should it be your pleasure that they should serve.

It has been suggested on several occasions that, while the Society is not occupied with the revision of reference lists of stamps, it might be advisable to revert to the former practice of holding fortnightly meetings. This is a matter which is worthy of consideration in view of the numerous calls upon the time of many of those who are most regular in their attendance at our meetings, and I have proposed a resolution for an alteration of the statutes to enable the meetings in each season to be regulated by resolution, to be passed at the first meeting in such season.

In my last Report I referred to the prospects of an International Philatelic Exhibition being held in London, or the neighbourhood, in the present year. This, as you know, will be held in the month of July next, at the Galleries of the Royal Institute of Painters in Water Colours in Piccadilly, under the auspices of a thoroughly representative committee, and with the patronage of the Royal Dukes, our Honorary President and the President of the Council, and of Her Majesty's Postmaster-General. The scheme has met with general approval, and the support received will, I am certain, ensure complete success.

A large share of the work has fallen on our members, and the Society, in addition to joining in the Guarantee Fund formed for providing for the expenses, has contributed six medals for competition by exhibitors in several of the classes under which exhibits will be shown.

An exhibition on such a scale as has been arranged cannot fail to prove of the highest interest, and to be of great assistance in bringing before the notice of the public the many attractions and advantages of Philately, and in so far as concerns the Society I anticipate, as one of the results of the Exhibition, a large accession to our ranks.

The Annual Dinner of the Society has not yet been held. It is suggested that it should take place during the period of the Exhibition, thus affording an opportunity for renewing acquaintance with our numerous country members, most of whom will no doubt visit the Exhibition and will be able to attend on the occasion of the dinner.

In conclusion, I desire once again to acknowledge with thanks the courtesy extended to me on all hands, and the great assistance afforded to me by my fellow-members in carrying out my duties as your Honorary Secretary.

Philatelic Notes.

NOTE.—*The co-operation of Philatelists is invited in order to make this column of a varied and interesting nature.*

NIGER COAST.

WE are indebted to Mr. W. Morley for the following inclusive, if not exhaustive, list of the Niger Coast perforations, which have frequently been the subject of notes in our columns.

1893 Issue.

Perf. 14.

½d., vermilion.
2d., green.
2½d , carmine.
5d., grey-lilac.
1/-, black, thin paper.

Perf. 15.

½d., vermilion.
1d., pale blue.
1d., dark „
2d., green.
2½d., carmine.
5d., grey-lilac.
5d., bright lilac.
1/-, black, thick white paper.
1/-, „ thin paper.

Perf. 12 × 14.

1d., pale blue.
2d., green.
1/-, black, thin paper.

Perf. 12 × 15.

1/-, black, thick paper.

Perf. 12½ × 13 × 14.

1d., pale blue.

Perf. 12 × 12½.

2d., green.

Perf. 12 *on one side, perf.* 14 *other three sides.*

1/-, black, thin paper.

Perf. 12.

2d., green.

Perf. 12½.

2½d., carmine.

Perf. 14½.

1d., pale blue.
1d., dark „
2½d., carmine.
5d., bright lilac.
1/-, black, thin paper.
1/- „ thick white paper.

Perf. 14½ × 15.

½d., vermilion.
1d., pale blue.
1d., dark „
2½d., carmine.
1/-, black, thick paper.
1/- „ thin paper.

Perf. 12½ × 14.

1d., pale blue.
1d., dark „
2d., green.
2½d., carmine.
1/-, black, thin paper.

1894 Issue.

Perf. 14.

½d., green, white paper.
1d., vermilion „ „
2d., lake „ „
1/-, black „ „

Perf. 15.

½d., pale green, white paper.
½d., dark green on grey paper.

Perf. 15.

1d., vermilion, white paper.
1d., do. greyish paper.
2d., pale lake, white paper.
2d., deep „ greyish paper.
2½d., deep blue, white paper.
2½d., pale „ „ „
2½d., blue, greyish paper.

Perf. 15.
5d., bright purple, white paper.
5d., deep ,, ,, ,,
5d., purple, greyish paper.
1/-, black, white paper.

Perf. 14½.
½d., green.
1d., vermilion.
2d., pale lake.
2d., dark ,,
2½d., dark blue.
2½d., pale ,,
5d., bright purple.
5d., dark ,,
1/-, black.

Perf. 14 × 15.
½d., green.

Perf. 13 × 14.
½d., green.
1/-, black.

Perf. 14½ × 15.
½d., pale green.
1d., vermilion.
1d., carmine.
2d., pale lake.
2d., deep ,,
2½d., dark blue.
2½d., pale ,,
5d., bright purple.
5d., dark ,,
1/-, black.

Perf. 12 × 14.
½d., green.
1d., vermilion.
1/-, black.

Perf. 12½ × 14.
½d., green.
1/-, black.

Perf. 12½ *top and sides;* 14 *at bottom.*
½d., green.

FORGERIES OF THE 1851 *AND* 1854 *ISSUES OF SPAIN.*

THERE have been on the market, notably in the United States, a number of exceedingly clever and dangerous forgeries of some of these interesting old issues. Several specimens have passed through the hands of the Expert Committee of the London Philatelic Society, which included copies of the 2 and 6 reales, "postmarked" together "on the original," that might well have deceived any collector who had not been forewarned. The values that have come under our notice are: 1851, 2 and 6 reales; 1854, 2 cuartos and 1 real. The colours of the imitations in general leave something to be desired, and there are departures from the originals as regards the type and setting up. The *American Journal of Philately* in its June number gives a full description of these differences (very unwisely, in our judgment), and gives enlarged illustrations, which are, however, too defective to be serviceable.

HAWAII, U.S.

THE anticipated cession of the Hawaiian Islands to the United States has been effected this month, and Philatelists must therefore be prepared to see the last of the celebrated "Sandwich Islands" stamps. The Americans have always, from geographical reasons, considerably affected the collection of Hawaiian stamps; hence the first issue has always been more in evidence on the other side of the Atlantic than in this country. The effect of the fusion will probably be to accentuate this predilection, and the Hawaiians may follow the example of the "boom" that inflated the prices of Heligoland.

Occasional Notes.

THE LONDON PHILATELIC EXHIBITION.

THE opening ceremony on July 22nd will take place at 3 p.m., but all visitors must be in attendance at 2.30, after which hour no further admission will be permitted. Early application for tickets is therefore desirable, as there will necessarily be no admission by payment at the doors. We understand that facilities will be given at the Gallery for the purchase of tickets up to a reasonable time before the opening ceremony. We are pleased to announce that H.R.H. the Duke of Saxe-Coburg-Gotha has expressed his intention to accompany H.R.H. the Duke of York, should his stay in the Metropolis extend over this period.

An Evening Instrumental and Vocal Concert and Conversazione will be held at St. Martin's Town Hall, Charing Cross Road, W.C., on Thursday, the 29th day of July, 1897, at 8.30 p.m. Full particulars can be obtained at the Exhibition. Mr. Thomas Ridpath has kindly offered to give a Philatelic Lantern Exhibition during the Evening. Tea, coffee, and light refreshments will be provided. Evening dress. Tickets can be obtained at the Exhibition, or on application to the Secretary, J. A. Tilleard, Esq., 4, Lombard Court, E.C., by letter, which should be marked "Entertainment Committee." Gentlemen's tickets, 3s. 6d.; Ladies', 2s. 6d. Subscribers to the Exhibition Fund will receive tickets for this concert free of charge, in accordance with the circular already issued.

THE JUDGES OF THE PHILATELIC EXHIBITION.

WE are now able to announce the complete list of the names of those gentlemen who have kindly consented to act, and it is with especial gratification that we note the acceptances of the office by such distinguished Philatelists from the Continent as MM. Breitfuss, Fraenkel, and Mahé.

The following is therefore the complete list of the

Judges.

Mr. E. D. BACON . . .	London.
Mr. H. BREITFUSS . . .	St. Petersburg.
Mr. M. P. CASTLE, J.P. . .	Brighton.
Major E. B. EVANS, R.A. . .	London.
Dr. A. H. FRAENKEL . .	Berlin.
M. PIERRE MAHÉ . . .	Paris
Lieut. F. H. NAPIER, R.N. . .	London.

Dr. Fraenkel is practically the foremost collector in Berlin. He is a distinguished Philatelist even in that *coterie* of scientific collectors the Berlin Philatelic Club, of which he is moreover Librarian. Dr. Fraenkel is a retired judge and the head of a leading bank in the German capital. M. Pierre Mahé is the custodian of *the* collection of the world—that of M. la Renotière in Paris. To allude to his knowledge of Philately is altogether superfluous.

Mr. Breitfuss is the owner of one of the most valuable collections in the world, is a Philatelist of thirty years' standing, and has a consummate knowledge of all classes of stamps. It would be difficult, in short, to select any other names that could rival these Continental members of the jury. The names of the four British members are well known to the Philatelic community.

THE TAPLING COLLECTION.

MR. E. D. BACON writes to inform us that he has changed the stamps in the cases at the British Museum, the following being now on view: New Zealand, First South African Republic, and part of those of the Transvaal.

ANNUAL DINNER OF THE LONDON PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

THE Annual Dinner of the London Philatelic Society will be held at "The Monico," Shaftesbury Avenue, Piccadilly, W., on Tuesday, the 27th July, at 6.30 for 7 p.m. The price of tickets (exclusive of wine) will be 7s. 6d. each, both for members and their friends. Applications should be accompanied by remittance, and should be addressed to "The Dinner Committee, Philatelic Society, Effingham House, Arundel Street, Strand."

As a large number of the Society's foreign and country members will be in London for the Philatelic Exhibition, and have intimated their intention of being present, it is hoped that as many of the London members as possible will make it convenient to meet them.

THE COUNCIL OF THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY, LONDON.

FROM a perusal of the minutes it will be seen that an important accession of strength has been made to the Council of the London Society. The number of members has increased of late years to such an extent that it was felt necessary to make the Council more representative by a moderate enlargement. This extension has met with unanimous approval, as it introduces the names of Messrs. W. B. Avery, W. Dorning Beckton, and Gordon Smith to fill up the new vacancies created. Mr. Avery's qualifications, as the possessor of the finest collection in the country, are obvious; Mr. Beckton most worthily represents the best type of Philatelist not resident in the metropolis; and Mr. Gordon Smith's abilities as a Philatelist are only surpassed by his popularity. The Council has thus distinctly gained in strength by these accessions, and the new members will be heartily welcomed by their *confrères* of longer standing.

FORGERIES.—MADE IN ITALY.

IT is with considerable satisfaction that we are enabled to record the following prompt check placed upon the trading ambitions of Signor Erasmus Oneglia, who recently arrived in this country from sunny Italy laden with forgeries of stamps, which he was desirous of selling "as

imitations," or probably otherwise, according to purchasers' knowledge. The satisfactory result of the proceedings, a report of which we append, is largely due to the prompt action of Messrs. Stanley Gibbons (Ltd.), and affords yet another instance (as Colonial stamps were included) of the assistance that the authorities receive from Philatelists, in return for which they are incessantly and needlessly worried over the question of illustrations.

Erasmus Oneglia, described as a general merchant, of 40, Woburn Place, was charged before Mr. Lushington, at Bow Street, on the 7th inst., with having in his possession certain fictitious stamps. Mr. B. W. Hawkins prosecuted for the Inland Revenue authorities, who were represented by Mr. Dickins.

Mr. Hawkins said the accused was charged under the Post Office Act with having in his possession a number of fictitious postage stamps. There was no attempt on his part to pass them off as genuine ones, and in offering them for sale he freely stated that they were only imitations. When arrested he had in his possession three large books filled with stamps. Some of them were copies of current issues, and some were copies of obsolete issues. At prisoner's rooms in Woburn Place were found about 4000 more stamps.

Mr. William Jones, Manager to Stanley Gibbons & Co., dealers in stamps gave evidence of the sale to him by the prisoner of a number of stamps similar to those seized by the police.

Detective-Inspector Conquest, of Scotland Yard, said he arrested the prisoner. When told what he was charged with, he said he did not know he was doing wrong.

Prisoner (through an interpreter) now said that as jewellers were allowed to sell imitation gold and imitation diamonds, he thought he had a right to sell imitation stamps.

Mr. Lushington said the accused had evidently acted in ignorance. He was liable to a penalty of £20, but on this occasion would only be fined 20s.; but all the stamps in his possession likely to defraud the Post Office authorities and defraud the Revenue would be forfeited.

THE PRINCE OF WALES'S HOSPITAL FUND FOR LONDON.

THEIR Royal Highnesses the Prince and Princess of Wales and the Princess Victoria visited the works of Messrs. De La Rue & Co., in Bunhill Row, on the 28th of last month, to inspect the process of printing the Hospital Fund Stamps, the limited issue of which is now nearly completed. There were present the following members of the Organising Committee of the Fund: Lord Rowton, Sir Saville Crossley, Mr. C. Stuart Wortley, Q.C., M.P., Mr. Henry C. Burdett, and Mr. J. G. Craggs. Mr. J. S. Purcell, C.B., Controller of Stamps, was also present. Their Royal Highnesses were received by Mr. Thomas De La Rue and Mr. Ernest De La Rue, and were conducted to the floor upon which the stamps are being printed. Passing through one of the numerous departments, the Royal party entered a small room at the end, in which are the three hand machines by which the Hospital Stamps are being printed. Their Royal Highnesses evinced great interest, and closely inspected the operations connected with the production of some of the sheets, and the Prince afterwards signed a double sheet of the 1s. stamps, the printing of which he witnessed. It will be brought home to the public how slow this process is when we explain that the 2s. 6d. stamps are printed on one

machine only, while the 1s. stamps are printed from the other two machines, to each of which there is only one attendant, and the work is entirely done by hand. Mr. Thomas De La Rue, Mr. Purcell, and Mr. Burdett, the three gentlemen who have so closely devoted themselves to the production of the stamps, alternately explained the process of printing, etc. After the Prince and Princess of Wales and Princess Victoria had signed Mr. De La Rue's autograph album, His Royal Highness presented Mr. Stuart Wortley and Mr. J. G. Craggs to the Princess. The Prince then said :—

"Before going I wish to say how very much I have been interested in seeing this process of printing the stamps, and I most earnestly hope that the working classes will buy as many of them as possible, because in doing so it will afford them an opportunity of giving 1s. to the Hospital Fund, and they will always have a souvenir of the Queen's Commemoration by obtaining one of these stamps."

SUNDRY PHILATELIC PUBLICATIONS.

WE have to acknowledge copies of the Catalogues of Mr. E. M. Rubens and of the *International* of Messrs. Mekeel. Both are primarily issued for the trade purposes of those respective publishers, and therefore call for scant comment at our hands. The former inflates, frequently to a ridiculous figure, the especial stamps he has to sell, and only in Scandinavian stamps presents any pretence to completeness as a catalogue, although even here, as in Finland, it is vastly deficient. Messrs. Mekeel's *Catalogue* only gives face varieties, and is intended to encourage the beginner. With this view all the pence values of Ceylon only include twenty-four varieties, but United States, including grilles, etc., extend to twenty-four pages, and Mexican fiscals to twenty more. Further comment is hardly required!

A "CORNER" ROUNDED OFF!

DURING a visit to Monte Carlo in the foregoing winter we became aware for the first time, through a visit to the local post office, that the 75 c. of the current type had been withdrawn from circulation. Subsequent experiences on the Continent and in this country revealed the fact that, although it was rumoured that a large stock was in certain hands, there were absolutely none on sale, everyone having reserved their copies for the rise. The price is not even quoted in the new Stanley Gibbons' Catalogue! We have heard of prices quoted from 10s. to 50s., and the former seemed the accepted "standard" on the Riviera. It appears, however, that now the holder of the stock has loosened his financial grasp, and that the market is now amply supplied at a moderate percentage over face value. This tendency to speculate and corner is baneful in every way to Philately, and we rejoice therefore to think, in this case, that many of the "serpent tribe" will be made to smart. We should like to see a similar result as regards the find of Nova Scotians, which are palpably over-priced, and if reduced would benefit sellers' and buyers' interests.

THE GERMAN CRUSADE AGAINST PRICES.

FOLLOWING in the wake of Judge Lindenberg, of Berlin, Dr. Moschkau, in the columns of *DerPhilatelist*, has latterly been wailing about the increase of prices and the approaching death of Philately in consequence thereof. Less fortunate, however, than his colleague of Berlin, the Doctor has brought down upon himself some adverse criticism at the hands of Messrs. Reinheimer & Freudenstein, of Frankfort, which to us appear to effectually dispose of the Doctor's previous "arguments." Replying in the June number of the above journal, Dr. Moschkau occupies no less than nine columns; but we fail to see anything convincing or of *practical* utility in his "reply." We have the highest respect, in a Philatelic sense, for Dr. Moschkau, but we are tempted to ask, What is his personal experience, say during the past ten years, in the acquisition of really fine or rare stamps? The Doctor's *plaudereien* are so obviously saturated with his esteemed personality that we may be forgiven for putting the matter in this light. We would contrast two points in his reply. 1. In order to rehabilitate Philately, he urges abstention from specializing, except to a limited degree, and the adoption by all of general collecting, *including cut envelopes!* Why not include cut post cards too? This would be absolutely certain to save Philately from impending dissolution! In our humble judgment the general collector makes "stamp collecting," and the specialist creates Philately; hence we are absolutely opposed to our Teutonic *confrère.* 2. Perhaps for want of argument, Dr. Moschkau, in his nine columns, requotes all the various prophecies and fulminations that have emanated from august Berlin as to the impending "slump"—*inter alia*—"The stamps that nobody has do not rise, but only those that the many have got, namely, dealers and speculative collectors." Disregarding the obvious bull, this is sound sense, and nearly meets the whole question. Instead of pages of diffuse diatribes, *which necessarily alarm the small collector, why not set to work to advise them which stamps are too highly priced, and for what reasons?* There is no lack of countries which include some too highly-priced stamps. Heligoland, Saxony, Baden, Bremen, Wurtemberg, Oldenburg, Nevis, West Indians (later issues), Nova Scotia (remainders)—to name only a few—are all instances where an ounce of practical pricing would be worth a pound of prosy preaching. On the contrary, perhaps the learned Doctor will advise others where to buy cheaply simple European unused stamps, such as Alsace 5 c. inverted net, the Wurtembergs perf. 13 on thick paper, the early 2d. perforated English, or the first issue of Thurn and Taxis, most of which are "priced" in Continental catalogues, and are doubtless to be found in the albums of the general collectors whom the learned Doctor so sagaciously counsels to "close your pockets and open your eyes." Dr. Moschkau is evidently a Philatelic Rip Van Winkle, and like that amiable character has apparently closed both his pockets and his eyes for many a long year. The wealthy or advanced collector can protect himself, it is the smaller and medium collector that looks for guidance at the editorial hands; but only harm is done by penning alarmist statements of a general nature instead of *practical* advice.

THE NINTH GERMAN PHILATELIC CONGRESS.

HAMBURG is the chosen city for this year's meeting of collectors and dealers known as the "Philatelisten Tag," and a more charming or suitable *locale* could not have been selected. The dates fixed are the 24th to 26th of July, and as usual a very full programme of instruction and amusement has been provided, although probably the latter will predominate. As the London Philatelic Exhibition will be then in full swing, several accustomed visitors from this country will be prevented from attending; but, on the contrary, we quite anticipate that there will be many of our Continental friends who will come on to London from Hamburg. In the summer the voyage is a delightful one, and there will be ample recompense for the journey in the Gallery of the Royal Institute of Painters.

AUSTRALIAN NOTES.

BY OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.

FOR some time past the question of bringing out a new issue to supersede the Centennial stamps of New South Wales has been under consideration, but postponed from one cause or another until within the last few weeks.

The coming celebration of the sixtieth anniversary of Her Majesty's accession has been taken advantage of to make a preliminary step in the direction of a new series. The limited time at the disposal of the authorities has prevented the preparation of a complete series; but three of the values most in use, viz., the 1d., 2d., and 2½d., are to form the first instalment of what will doubtless be an entirely new set in the course of time.

It is not intended to make the occasion one for the issue of an ephemeral commemorative series, but the new stamps will entirely supersede the current ones of the same denominations, and it is hoped that no necessity will arise for some years at least to alter the design.

This, as appears from newspaper cuttings I sent you last mail, is to consist of a profile portrait of Her Majesty, enclosed in a simple frame, inscribed "New South Wales Postage," and bearing the value expressed in figures only.

In response to the advertisement for designs, over 360 separate drawings were sent in by 140 competitors. As might have been expected, a very large proportion were quite unsuitable, either from defective drawing or design, or from inadaptability to the process of electro-typography. However, an advisory committee, consisting of two representative artists—the Acting Deputy Postmaster-General and the Government printer—have succeeded in narrowing the suitable designs down to twelve, which will be reduced by photography, and from which the final selection will be made.

Some of the designs are of the highest degree of excellence in the accuracy of portraiture and the artistic nature of the drawing, but of course no very great originality is displayed owing to the limited scope afforded by the published conditions. Still it may safely be predicted that the new type will be at least an improvement upon the current stamps, both in design and execution.

Mr. W. A. Gullick, the recently-appointed Government printer, comes

from the establishment of the leading firm of engravers and printers, Messrs. John Sands & Co., of Sydney, and he is devoting considerable time and attention to improving the execution of the postage stamps. The recently-issued 9d. and 10d. are striking examples of what can be effected by the use of modern materials and a little care in printing. Mr. Gullick intends to apply his up-to-date knowledge to the production of work that will be a credit both to his department and the Colony.

Another feature in the commemorative issue will be the resuscitation of that truly artistic and striking stamp, the circular 5s. Designed by Mr. S. Levinge, a former official of the Sydney General Post Office, and engraved by Perkins, Bacon & Co., of London, this stamp served all the requirements of the Colony for such a high value from 1861 to 1886, when the anticipated demand for a large number for prepayment of telegrams led to the issue of the provisional formed from the fiscal stamp surcharged "POSTAGE." The steel plate is still in good condition, and barely shows any sign of wear. It will probably be printed in "regal" purple on the latest surcharged paper, and the effect should be entirely satisfactory.

The letter card has recently been printed on a new variety of paper, of a rather paler shade of drab, but the inside is of an intense pink. Amongst the contemplated improvements in printing there is a scheme for printing the post and letter cards from electrotypes, instead of by lithography as hitherto. The new process will undoubtedly effect a change for the better in clearness and sharpness of the design.

The first of the Queensland adhesive stamps to receive the further "adornment" of figures in the upper angles is the 2d. I have only seen a single copy, so cannot say how many varieties of type there are in the sheet; but judging from the fact that each of the four figures is separately drawn and differently shaped, I have some reason to believe that there will be at least the usual blocks of four varieties. The 3d., 4d., 6d., and 1s. have not yet lost the shading in the background, but doubtless this will come eventually, and the four figures will be added at the same time.

The 1s. is now printed in a distinct shade of reddish violet, and the paper appears to be much thicker, both for this value and the ½d.

The issue of the New Hebrides Interinsular stamps marks an important stride in the march of Australian progress in the Pacific. It is true that they emanate from a company and not from a Government, but it is significant that the company is an Australian one with its head office in Sydney. Many years ago the question of issuing a series of stamps for the New Hebrides was mooted in Sydney, but the Government were loath to move in the matter owing to the political aspect of the question. However, the company are not bound by any such rules of international etiquette, and their progressive action will at least have the effect of extensively advertising the strong hold British interests have gained in the Pacific.

Australian Federation has advanced another step. The Convention has completed the draft Commonwealth Bill, and it has now to be passed by the Parliaments of the respective States, and then accepted or rejected by the people. There is some ground for considering that New South Wales will not accept it in its present form, but matters may be satisfactorily adjusted during its passage through Parliament. In case it is finally accepted there will of course be one uniform series of stamps for the commonwealth.

New Issues.

NOTES OF NEW, AND VARIATIONS OF CURRENT, ISSUES.

(Varieties of Obsolete Stamps, and Discoveries, will be found under "Philatelic Notes.")

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.

Members of the London Philatelic Society, and other readers generally, are invited to co-operate with us in making the columns as interesting as possible. Our foreign readers can especially help us in this direction, by sending copies of any official documents relative to changes in the current issues, or early intimation of any new issue, accompanied, when possible, by a specimen; such information will be duly credited to the correspondent, and, if desired, the specimen promptly returned. Address: EDITOR "LONDON PHILATELIST," EFFINGHAM HOUSE, ARUNDEL STREET, STRAND, LONDON, W.C.

BRITISH EMPIRE.

BRITISH CENTRAL AFRICA.—News is to hand from Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. that the "nigger" type on watermarked paper is already unaccountably obsolete, a new issue having been sent out by Messrs. De La Rue & Co. When the watermark was added to the "nigger" set, in December last, the entire remainders of the unwatermarked stamps were burnt by order of the Government, and our correspondents inform us that all the remainders of the watermarked series have now been submitted to the same fiery ordeal!

Just as we go to press we learn from the *I. B. J.* some further particulars of the new issue. The design is very similar to the previous one—the "niggers" are placed upon a shield with ground unshaded; the motto "Light in Darkness" has been omitted, and the surrounding frame is altered to read "British Central Africa," in one curved line of white capitals on a solid ground at top; while, in the case of the values up to 1s. the value is placed in the centre of the base, on a framed tablet of colour, and in the higher values reads straight across the base on a straight band. "Postage and Revenue" at either side of the shield; wmk. Cr. CA up to 1s., Cr. C C beyond; perf. 14.

Adhesives. 1d., ultramarine and black (centre).
2d., yellow ,,
4d., carmine ,,
6d., sea-green ,,
1s., lilac ,,
2s. 6d., ultramarine ,,
3s., sea-green ,,
4s., carmine ,,
£1, lilac ,,
£10, yellow ,,

CANADA.—We are indebted to Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. for a copy of the *Montreal Star* under date May 21st. From the Parliamentary report in the same we extract the following information regarding the issue of postage stamps in commemoration of the Queen's Jubilee.

"Mr. Gibson asked:—

1. Is it intended by the Post Office Department to issue a set of Jubilee postage stamps?

2. Will such stamps be put into public use, and what course will be adopted whereby the public may purchase such stamps?

3. Will there be any limit to the quantity to be issued?

4. Of what various denominations will such issue consist?

5. What amount of each denomination will be issued?

6. What steps will be taken to limit the number to be issued?

Mr. Murlock replied:—

The Department was about to issue Jubilee stamps, and the public would procure them in the ordinary course from the postmasters throughout the country. The quantity would be limited, and the issue would be as follows:—

150,000	half	cent stamps.
8,000,000	one	,, ,,
2,000,000	two	,, ,,
20,000,000	three	,, ,,
750,000	five	,, ,,
750,000	six	,, ,,
200,000	eight	,, ,,
150,000	ten	,, ,,
100,000	fifteen	,, ,,
100,000	twenty	,, ,,
100,000	fifty	,, ,,
25,000	each of $1, $2, $3, $4, $5,	

besides seven millions of one cent post cards.

These stamps would be sent to the central distributing post offices on June 22nd, and from such centres the smaller offices would be supplied. The issue would alone be sufficient for the service for a period of three months, but the stamps would be in use much longer, as the ordinary stamps would continue to be issued and used at the same time. When the issue had been printed the plates would be destroyed in the presence of officers from the Postal and Finance Departments. The stamps would be printed in Ottawa."

The same paper gives an illustration of the three cent stamp, the same being of oblong rectangular shape, divided down the centre by a Crown and the letters "V.R.I." On either side of this is a portrait of the Queen in an oval, underneath which are the figures "1837, 1897." "CANADA POSTAGE" at the top, "THREE CENTS" on a white tablet at base, the corners being filled in with ornaments. The action of the Dominion Government in this matter is to be regretted, but it is some small mercy that the extent of the issue is apparently large enough to stop any speculation—if such was to be expected.

INDIA.—The *A. J. of Ph.* announces a new shade for the 1 anna adhesive, this value being printed in maroon in place of violet-brown. The official stamp has also been issued in the same colour.

Adhesive. 1 anna, maroon.
Official Stamp. 1 ,, ,, black surcharge.

INDIAN NATIVE STATES.—*Holkar.*—The issue of three new varieties of the current type is announced.

Adhesives. 2 annas, green.
4 ,, violet.
8 ,, ultramarine.

MAURITIUS.—Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. have sent us a new 4 cents stamp, being of the "Arms" type, but with the value printed in a separate colour from the remainder of the stamp. From the same source we also hear that two envelopes of 18 c. and 36 c. have been issued, both bearing stamps of the new "Arms" type.

The *I. B. J.* adds the 1 c., 2 c., and 18 c. adhesives in the same type.

Adhesives. 1 cent, lilac and blue.
2 cents, lilac and orange.
4 ,, lilac and green; perf. 14.
18 ,, green and blue.
Envelopes. 18 cents, blue on *white*.
36 ,, brown ,,

NEW HEBRIDES.—Mr. A. F. Basset Hull sends us the following information regarding a postal service instituted in these islands. The stamps—two in number—are of the same size as those in use for the Congo State, and are described herein:—

"The Australasian New Hebrides Company was formed in 1887, and its operations, at first very small, have grown to an enormous extent.

"During 1892-3 a steamer belonging to the Australian United Steam Navigation Company ran through the New Hebrides group, carrying cargo, passengers, and mails. This service was subsidized by the Governments of New South Wales and Victoria, but the subsidies ceased in 1894. At this time the operations of the Australasian New Hebrides Company had increased to such an extent that they purchased a steamer and inaugurated an interisland service.

"Subsequently a direct steam service to and from Sydney and Port Vila was added, and the steamer now leaves Sydney at intervals of three weeks, connecting with the interisland steamer, which makes a tour of the group, occupying the three weeks between the visits of the direct steamer.

"The New Hebrides are at present neutral ground, under the joint control of England and France; but these powers, as a rule, only take action in criminal matters. The Australian New Hebrides Company, being the only British company in the group, and controlling almost the whole of the commercial operations, is looked to by the residents to push British interests in the islands. There can be little doubt that the absolute control of the New Hebrides group will fall to the nation which makes the greatest commercial progress within its limits.

"This Company has just issued two stamps for prepayment of postage on letters carried between the islands by their steamer. On and after the 1st June they will require all letters from the islands to Sydney to bear an interisland 1d. stamp in addition to the 2½d. New South Wales stamp, which carries the letter to any destination. Of course, all letters from one port in the islands to another will be prepaid solely by the Company's stamps.

"The following are the interisland rates of postage:—

Letters. For every ½ oz. or fraction thereof	1d.
Packets and magazines. Not exceeding 4 oz.	1d.
Packets and magazines. Every additional 4 oz. or fraction thereof . . .	1d.
Parcels. Every 8 oz. or fraction thereof .	1d.
Newspapers. Every 8 oz. or fraction thereof	1d.
Registration	2d.

"The stamps bear a view of Port Vila, Sandwich Island, New Hebrides.

"Lithographed by John Sands & Co., Sydney; white wove paper, no wmk., rouletted.

"*Adhesives.* 1d., magenta and (centre) black.
2d., red-brown ,, ,, blue."

We are of opinion that these stamps are at present of a local and private nature, but time only will show how far this description is justified.

NEW SOUTH WALES.—The *Australian Philatelist* announces that the Letter Card is now coloured a deep pink inside, a shade which is said to differ from that we chronicled in December last, which our contemporary described as "blush-pink." From the same source we learn also that the Letter Card will shortly be printed from an electrotype, instead of being lithographed—a process which is also to be applied to the post cards.

Letter Card. 1½d., red on *drab* (deep pink inside).

We are indebted to Mr. A. F. Basset Hull, as also to Surgeon-Colonel Williams, for cuttings from the *Sydney Mail*, giving descriptions of the stamps alluded to in our last issue, and which are being issued in honour of the Queen's Diamond Jubilee. The cuttings referred to state that from some 360 designs sent in two have been chosen for the 2d. and 2½d. values, while the 1d. has been drawn at the Government Printing Office; this consists of a shield bearing the "cross" with four stars and a lion, a Crown above, the Name and "Postage" below, with value in figures in the lower angles. The 2d. stamp has the Queen's head in profile on a solid ground, borne on a a shield lettered "New South Wales" "Postage" above, and a large "2D" underneath the profile; but the original design, showing the shield filled in by an ornamented background, is to be altered to a rendering of the waratah and native rose; the shield is imposed upon an oblong tablet, representing the ensign of Australia. The 2½d. value is of oblong, rectangular shape, showing a somewhat larger profile of the Queen, superimposed upon a background of colour bearing the Southern Cross, the profile occupying the right half of the stamp and the inscription the left. Altogether the stamps are an improvement on those in use at present, but a great deal will depend upon the engraving and printing.

QUEENSLAND.—The same paper chronicles the 2d. adhesive with the figures of value in all corners. The appearance is described as a melancholy example of deterioration from constant tinkering; and, as the figures all vary in size and shape, an increased number of varieties of this and other values may be looked for, similar to the "LA" joined, long "P," and other minor varieties to be found on the values of the retiring set.

Adhesive. 2d., pale blue; perf. 13.

RHODESIA.—We have pleasure in acceding to our correspondent's request, contained in the following letter:—

P.O. Box 230, Salisbury, Rhodesia,
April 19th, 1897.

DEAR SIR,—I would like to draw your attention to the fact that the official name of this country is now "RHODESIA," under which name should be placed all references to the stamps of the British South Africa Company, instead of placing them under the latter name. This, of course, also applies equally to list prices and catalogues.

Trusting you will see your way to make the above alteration in all your future publications,

Yours faithfully,
D. MONTAGUE JACOBS.

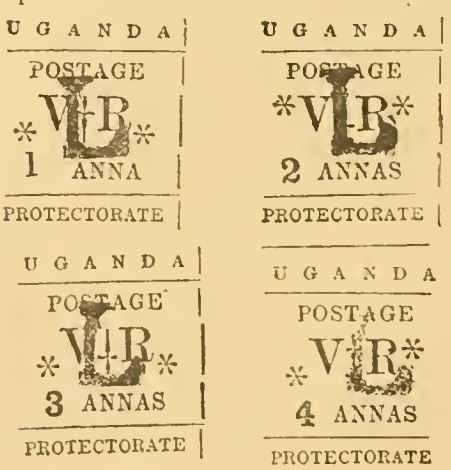
SEYCHELLES ISLANDS.—The *Weekly Stamp News*, in noting the date of issue of the three new stamps (18 c., 36 c., and 1 rupee), the 19th March last, also states that the following is the permanent issue: 2, 3, 4, 8, 10, 12, 16, 18, and 36 cents, and 1 rupee, although there are some values of the provisional and previous issues still in stock, which will be gradually worked off.

SIERRA LEONE.—The colour of the 1s. Fiscal stamp, surcharged 2½d., should be lilac only, and not lilac and *green* as chronicled last month.

Two new values of the current type have appeared.

Adhesives. 1½d., lilac and black.
5d. ,, ,, violet.

UGANDA.—We are indebted to the *M. J.* for the accompanying illustrations of the stamps described last month.





EUROPE.

AUSTRIA.—Some sheets of the current 5 kreuzer stamp have by error been printed on light bluish paper.

Adhesive. 5 kr., red on *bluish.*

ITALY.—*Le T.-P.* chronicles a 5 c. Letter Card, having a stamp of the new type illustrated on page 99.

Letter Card. 5 c., green on *grey.*

AMERICA.

BOLIVIA.—We give illustrations of the three stamps described last month, and *Le T.-P.* enlightens us as to the identity of the portraits appearing thereon. Linares, on the 2 c., was a former President of the Republic. Monteagudo, whose portrait appears on the 10 c. stamp, was a general who distinguished himself in the war of independence, and who was finally assassinated. Ballivian, on the 20 c., was also a distinguished general.







COLOMBIA (REPUBLIC OF).—The *M. J.* has received a 5 c. stamp of the current type printed upon a *deep buff* paper, perf. $12 \times 13\frac{1}{2}$.

Adhesive. 5 c., brown on *deep buff.*

PERU.—We hear that a commemorative series of three values has been ordered to celebrate the opening of the new Post Office at Lima next month, and altogether the South American Continent would appear to be suffering severely just now from an influx of speculative, unnecessary, and other new issues.

OTHER COUNTRIES.

CONGO FREE STATE.—A 15 c. single Post Card has now been issued, completing those chronicled on page 99.

Post Card. 15 c., brown on *buff.*

DUTCH INDIES.—*Der Philatelist* tells us that there is now a new value in the current set, $12\frac{1}{2}$ c. Up to the present the Colony has not required a stamp of this value.

Adhesive. $12\frac{1}{2}$ c., grey.

EGYPT. — *Soudan.* — Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. write to point out that we omitted a value of the Soudan stamps last month, there being also a 2 m. stamp; also that, having received a letter from Halfa Camp franked only with these stamps, they are for international as well as local use.

Adhesive. 2 mil., green, black surch.

PORTO RICO.—On May 7th last the 3 centavos stamp was changed in colour from blue to claret-brown, owing to the previous colour clashing with the 5 centavos stamp. Our contemporary, the *A. J. of Ph.*, in giving this news, points out that the present colour may be said to now clash with the 2 centavos stamp.

Adhesive. 3 c., claret-brown.

PORTUGUESE COLONIES.—We hear that a complete set of Unpaid Letter Stamps will shortly be issued for each of the various Colonies.

Philatelic Societies' Meetings.

THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY, LONDON.

Honorary President—H.R.H. The Duke of Saxe-Coburg and Gotha, K.G., &c.

Council for the Year 1896-97:

President—H.R.H. The Duke of York, K.G.

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. | T. Wickham Jones.

R. Ehrenbach. | D. Garth. | H. R. Oldfield.

The twenty-seventh meeting of the season 1896–97, being the Annual General Meeting of the Society, was held at Effingham House on Friday, the 21st May, 1897, at 7.45 p.m.

The chair was occupied by the Vice-President, and the following members were also in attendance, viz.: Messrs. E. D. Bacon, T. Wickham Jones, T. W. Hall, R. Ehrenbach, R. Meyer, R. Frentzel, A. R. Barrett, A. A. Davis, W. Silk, T. Maycock, C. McNaughtan, Gordon Smith, E. J. Nankivell, R. Pearce, A. W. Chambers, C. N. Biggs, W. R. Palmer, and J. A. Tilleard.

The minutes of the last meeting having been read and confirmed, the Secretary reported the receipt from Messrs. Mekeel of four volumes of the *Daily Stamp Item* for the Society's Library, which were directed to be acknowledged with thanks.

The Secretary read a report on the work of the season, for which, on the motion of Mr. Nankivell, seconded by Mr. Gordon Smith, a vote of thanks was accorded to him, and the report was directed to be received and adopted, and to be published in the *London Philatelist*.

Mr. A. W. Chambers, as one of the Auditors, then read and explained the Treasurer's accounts and balance-sheet for the year, and the report of the Auditors on the financial position of the Society, showing that the improvement of the previous year had been well maintained, and that the finances of the Society were in a sound and satisfactory condition. On the motion of the Vice-President, seconded by Mr. Ehrenbach, the accounts were directed to be received and adopted, and a hearty vote of thanks was accorded to the Treasurer, Mr. C. N. Biggs, and to the Auditors, Mr. A. W. Chambers and Mr. R. Pearce, for their services.

A number of alterations in the statutes, of which notice had been given, were then considered, and amongst other things it was resolved to increase the number of the Council to fifteen, and to increase the payments for commutation of annual subscriptions to twenty guineas in the case of town members and to twelve guineas in the case of country members. Provisions were also added to the statutes dealing with the investment and application of moneys received from life members.

On the consideration of the constitution of the Council for the ensuing year, H.R.H. the Duke of York, K.G., was re-elected as President; Mr. M. P. Castle, Vice-President; Mr. J. A. Tilleard, Hon. Secretary; Mr. C. N. Biggs, Hon. Treasurer; and Mr. T. Maycock, Hon. Librarian; the remaining members elected being Messrs. W. B. Avery, E. D. Bacon, W. Dorning Beckton, R. Ehrenbach, E. B. Evans, D. Garth, T. Wickham Jones, H. R. Oldfield, and Gordon Smith.

It was decided to hold the Annual Dinner of the Society during the Exhibition week, and a Committee, consisting of Messrs. T. Wickham Jones, R. Ehrenbach, C. N. Biggs, and H. R. Oldfield, was appointed to make and carry out all necessary arrangements.

List of Members of the Philatelic Society, London.

Honorary President—H.R.H. The Duke of Saxe-Coburg and Gotha, K.G., &c.

Council for the Year 1897-98:

President—H.R.H. The Duke of York, K.G.

Vice-President—M. P. Castle.

Hon. Secretary—J. A. Tilleard. | *Hon. Assistant Secretary*—R. Pearce.
Hon. Treasurer—C. N. Biggs. | *Librarian*—T. Maycock.

W. B. Avery. | R. Ehrenbach. | T. Wickham Jones.
E. D. Bacon. | E. B. Evans. | H. R. Oldfield.
W. Dorning Beckton. | D. Garth. | Gordon Smith.

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W. Barnard.
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A. T. Bate.
Mrs. C. A. Baynes.
W. D. Beckton.
W. Beckwith.
Rev. W. Bell.
David Benjamin.
F. G. Bepler.
E. Beveridge.
C. N. Biggs.
Rev. G. S. Bird.
W. W. Blest.
W. Block.
Dr. E. Von Bochman.
Rev. N. Borton.
Dr. A. Boswell.
F. Breitfuss.
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F. F. Burghard.
M. Burnett.
W. R. Burrell.
Lieut.-Col. St. L. Burrowes.
M. P. Castle, J.P.
A. W. Chambers.
H. Champion.
J. H. Chapman.
Lieut.-Col. Chermside.
W. L. Chew.
Captain Chichester.
G. Churcher.
Sir Jas. R. Andrew Clark, Bart.
H. R. G. Clarke.
H. Clotz.
E. P. Collett.
F. O. Conant.
M. W. K. Connolly.
M. S. Cooke.
Sir Daniel Cooper, Bart.
Surgeon E. Cooper, R.N.
Captain F. Cooper, R.A.
C. B. Corwin.
W. Cowland.
B. Crowder.
A. B. Creeke, junr.
T. H. R. Crowle.
C. Dack.
C. J. Daun.
A. A. Davis.
H. F. Deane.
H. E. Deats.
Rev. R. T. de Cartaret.
Dr. E. Diena.
T. P. Dorman.
Thos. Dorman.
A. G. E. Driver.
A. F. S. Duro.
H. J. Duveen.
R. Ehrenbach.
E. A. Elliott.
D. Ellis.
A. C. Emerson.
J. D. Enys.
J. H. Escolme.
Major Evans.
T. D. F. Evans.
P. Fabri.
P. Von Ferrary.
H. Ferrier-Kerr.
O. Firth.
Rev. T. S. Fleming.
C. E. Fox.
H. Fraenkel.
F. R Fraser.
R. Frentzel.
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.
J. T. Green.
H. Grey.
A. G. Griffith.
T. W. Hall.
J. H. Hallett.
W. J. Hardy.
Surgn.-Major G. F. A. Harris.
W. Harrison.
H. C. Hart.
J. J. Haupt.
L. L. R. Hausburg.
Surgn.-Major A. W. Haviland.
E. Hawkins.
W. Herrick.
Dr. H. Hetley.
David H. Hill.
F. C. Hill.
Pearson Hill.
J. O. Hobby.
G. Hodgson.
A. Holland.
A. L. Holman.
Rev. W. H. Holman.
F. E. Horton.
Dr. A. Houison.
E. F. Hubbuck.
H. P. Hudleston.
M. E. Hughes-Hughes.
A. F. Basset-Hull.
G. J. Hynes.
W. E. Image.
G. F. Jackson.
D. M. Jacobs.
W. E. Jeff.
Sir H. Jerningham, K.C.M.G.
Mrs. C. M. Jervis.
J. F. Jones.
T. Wickham Jones.
J. E. Joselin.
Lieut.-Col. F. W. Joseph.
W. R. Joynt.
Dr. F. Kalckhoff.
Dr. J. N. Keynes.
J. L. Kilbon.
D. A. King.
T. W. Kitt.
H. J. Knowles.
B. D. Knox.
W. Krapp.
H. Kropf.
C. J. Lambert.
J. S. Lambert.
J. G. Langton.
C. F. Larmour.
F. A. Larmour.
A. B. Langridge.
E. Lentz.
C. Lindenberg.
P. J. Lloyd.
B. Loewy.
H. Loveridge.
H. F. Lowe.
E. C. Luard.
C. J. Lucas.
A. A. Lyall.
H. H. Lyman.
D. J. Macfie.
C. E. McNaughtan.
Dr. F. Mallman.
J. N. Marsden.
Mrs. Marshall.
C. F. D. Marshall.
W. Matthews.
Major A. B. Maxwell.
T. Maycock.
G. F. Melbourn.
R. Meyer.
Dr. G. Michelsen.
H. M. Millington.
J. B. Moens.
J. N. A. Mostyn.
W. E. Muir.
Major C. J. Everitt Mumby.
Capt W. J. Myers.
E. J. Nankivell.
B. W. Neave.
Surgn.-Major A. G. E. Newland.
N. St. J. Newton.
G. B. T. Nicholl.
J. A. Nix.
Capt. F. Northey.
T. Notthafft.
A. Odell.
H. R. Oldfield.
J. S. O'Meara.
Capt. St. G. Ord.
A. A. Osborn.
F. E. Owen.
Lieut. B. Oxehfvud.
J. V. Painter.
W. R. Palmer.
Prince Doria Pamphilij.
A. D. Park.
A. Passer.
Dr. A. G. Paterson.
W. Patterson.
R. Pearce.
W. E. Peebles.
C. Pereira.
Miss Feyl de Pfeil.
O. Pfenninger.
Judge Philbrick, Q.C.
W. Pimm.
J. C. Potter.
H. Quare.
D. A. Quiggin.
Mrs. Raahange.
Lieut. A. R. Raby, R.N.
The Earl of Ranfurly.
T. A. Rance.
F. Ransom.
A. W. Rawcliffe.
Rev. G. H. Raynor.
Rev. P. E. Raynor.
J. H. Redman.
Baron A. de Reuterskiöld.
J. S. Rich.
Vernon Roberts.
J. S. Robertson.
B. P. Rodd.
L. Rodet.
A. Rosenberg.
G. B. Routledge.
Major R. H. Sadler.
E. T. Sandars.
F. N. Schiller.
E. S. Schwabe.
Lieut. L. Schwarz.
W. Scott.
E. H. Selby.
Prince Boris Shahoffscoi.
J. F. Sharples.
E. Shorthouse.
J. Siewert.
W. Silk, junr.
A. B. Slater, junr.
Gordon Smith.
J. E. Sparrow.
A. H. Stamford.
S. G. Stein.
W. M. Stenart.
A. Steudell.
R. T. Stevens.
C. Stewart-Wilson.
W. C. Stone.
W. Strohmeyer.
E. T. Sturgis.
Sir Edward Sullivan, Bart.
Lieut.-Col. H. A. Tapp.
Dr. R. S. Taylor.
Mrs. Tebay.
W. Thorne.
J. A. Tilleard.
J. G. Tolhurst.
J. S. P. Tompsett.
G. L. Toppan.
R. J. Torrie.
C. J. Tyas.
Rev. W. N. Usher.
F. C. Van Duzer.
E. D. E. Van-Weenan, J.P.
Dr. C. W. Viner.
J. Walker.
E. L. Waterlow.
T. Martin Wears.
Consul E. F. Weber.
L. S. Wells.
F. West.
A. E. L. Westaway.
W. A. S. Westoby.
Mrs. Weston.
H. J. White.
H. Winckmann.
W. E. Williams.
A. H. Wilson.
W. T. Wilson.
N. H. Withee.
Baron de Worms.
Baron A. de Worms.
Baron P. de Worms.
G. H. Worthington.
H. E. Wright.

THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF INDIA.

THE first general meeting of the Society was held on 6th March, 1897, at No. 6, Middleton Row, Calcutta, at 9.30 p.m. The following members were present:—Lady Collen, Mrs. Reynolds, Major Day, and Messrs. G. A. Anderson, W. Corfield, Sassoon Gubbay, C. F. Larmour, F. A. Larmour, J. O'B. Saunders, F. N. Schiller, P. A. Selfe, and C. Stewart-Wilson. Mr. C. Stewart-Wilson was voted to the chair, and read the draft of the proposed constitution and statutes of the Society. On the motion of Mr. C. F. Larmour, seconded by Major Day, it was proposed and carried that the draft rules be referred for consideration to a Sub-Committee, consisting of Major Day, and Messrs. A. A. Lyall, J. O'B. Saunders, and F. N. Schiller, with instructions to report in a fortnight.

The meeting then elected the following office-bearers:

President: . . Mr. C. Stewart-Wilson.

Vice-Presidents: Lady Collen. Prof. O. V. Müller. Major C. H. I. Hopkins.

Hon. Treasurer: Mr. Wilmot Corfield.

Hon. Secretary: Mr. P. Aylwyn Selfe, Bank of Bengal.

Editors of the Journal: Mr. C. F. Larmour. Mr. F. N. Schiller.

MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL.

To represent the Ladies:
Lady Collen and Mrs. Reynolds.

To represent Bengal:
Messrs. A. A. Lyall and G. Norman.

To represent Bombay and Rajputana:
Prof. O. V. Müller.

To represent N.-W. P. and Oudh:
Major du Moulin and Mr. Cornwall.

To represent Punjab:
Captain Hancock and Mr. G. A. Anderson.

To represent Central Provinces:
Surgeon-Major Harris.

To represent Assam:
Lieut. T. E. Madden.

The meeting then devoted itself to the inspection of stamps, the collections of Lady Collen, the President, the Messrs. Larmour, and Mr. Schiller being much admired. An adjournment was then made to March 20.

THE adjourned first general meeting of the Society was held on 20th March, 1897, at the Bengal Club. The Honorary Treasurer presided. The Honorary Secretary read the draft of the rules as revised by the Sub-Committee, which, with a few alterations, were confirmed, and the Honorary Secretary was directed to send copies as soon as possible to all members.

[It is with much pleasure that we insert the foregoing minutes as evidencing the healthy state of things Philatelic in India. We can only reiterate our best wishes for the success of the new Society.—ED.]

SUBURBAN STAMP EXCHANGE.

NOTICE FOR JUNE.

The May packets were quite up to the average, many good selections being received. Old Europeans were specially strong. January accounts have been submitted and settled, and February packets are expected back from their supplementary rounds this week. Sales were as follows:—

	£	s.	d.
Jan. A 1 packet . . .	122	11	11
„ A 2 „ . . .	110	14	7
„ B 1 „ . . .	31	2	4
„ B 2 „ . . .	39	2	0
Supply rounds of A 1 and A 2 packets . . .	74	0	2

The revised code of rules (drawn up by Mr. Oldfield in view of the recent legal decisions given *re* the liabilities of Exchange Clubs) is being adopted, and will be submitted to all members in due course for signature. Fresh supplies of stationery are ready for distribution. Responsible collectors will be furnished with full information as to membership, etc., on application.

H. A. SLADE, *Hon. Sec.*

INGLESIDE, ST. ALBANS.

[We regret that the publication of the minutes of the Birmingham Philatelic Society is necessarily deferred till next month.—ED.]

Correspondence.

COMMUNICATIONS.—*All communications of Philatelic matters and Publications for Review should be addressed to the Editor of* THE LONDON PHILATELIST, Kingston Lodge, Richmond Place, Brighton.

ADVERTISEMENTS *should be sent to* MR. H. M. GOOCH (Advertising Department), Effingham House, Arundel Street, London, W.C.

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THE CAPE LOCAL PRINTS.

DEAR SIR,—I have read with much interest Mr. G. Johnson's notes *re* the Cape of Good Hope provisionals in the January number of the *London Philatelist*. From the rough sketches of the reprint sheets appearing in that number we would be led to think that there is a broken or damaged stereotype only in the sheets of the 1d. This is not so, however, as I possess, if not sold in the meantime, a specimen of the 4d. showing, instead of the usual ornaments in the bottom right-hand angle, some white lines.

To my mind the explanation of the variety is this, that when the discovery was made of the 1d. electros amongst the 4d. electros an endeavour was made to remove the 1d. electro, or rather the face of it, with some sharp instrument, thus damaging the next one to it, as per rough sketch herewith. This, so far as I can tell, is the only explanation which can as yet be given of the peculiar variety as above described. If necessary I shall be pleased to let you have a photograph of the specimen in question.

The variety referred to, if I am right in my assumption, should be as valuable as, if not more so than, the 1d., blue, error.

As far as the numbers of the errors are concerned, there is a prior letter on the subject in No. 12, vol. i., 1892 issue of the *London Philatelist*.

Yours faithfully,

WOODBLOCK.

P.O. BOX 3286, JOHANNESBURG.

[From the rough sketch sent by our correspondent it appears that the specimen to which he refers is at the lower right angle of the sheet.—ED.]

The Market.

MESSRS. PUTTICK & SIMPSON.

Sale on May 25th and 26th.

	£	s.	d.
Great Britain, octagonal, 10d., brown, die 4, unused (large margins and gum)	5	10	0
Lagos, 2/6, olive-black, unused (no gum)	3	3	0
Ditto, 5/-, blue do. do.	6	5	0
Ditto, 10/-, lilac-brown do.	12	12	0
Barbados, imperf., 1/-, black, unused pair (no gum)	4	4	0
Ditto, 5/-, rose, unused	3	3	0
Montserrat, CA, 4d., blue, unused	6	10	0
St. Christopher, CA, 4d., blue, unused	4	15	0
Tobago, CA, 6d., bistre, unused (no gum)	6	0	0
British Honduras, CC, perf. 14, 6d., rose, unused	3	3	0
New South Wales, laureated, 3d., green, wmk. "2"	10	10	0
Tasmania, 1st issue, 1d., blue, unused	4	7	6

MESSRS. VENTOM, BULL, & COOPER.

Sale on May 12th and 13th.

	£	s.	d.
Oldenburg, 2nd issue, ⅓ gros., black on green, unused	4	15	0
Ditto, 2 gr., black on rose, unused	5	0	0
Prussia, 2 sgr., blue, black ground, unused	5	0	0
Spain, 1865, imperf., 12 c., rose and blue, centre inverted, unused	30	0	0
Afghanistan, 1289, 6 shahi, purple	4	4	0
Ditto, ditto, 1 rupee, purple.	4	0	0
Ditto, 1293, shahi, black	5	0	0
Cape of Good Hope, triangular, 4d., blue, rouletted, a pair	8	0	0
Virgin Islands, 1/-, crimson, coloured border, entire unused sheet (20)	13	0	0
United States, 1851, 5 c., reddish brown, imperf., unused.	11	0	0

Sale on May 27th and 28th.

	£	s.	d.
Great Britain, 1883–84, wmk. 3 crowns, £1, brown-lilac, unused	3	3	0
Shanghai, first issue, 3 cands., brown	3	3	0
Ditto, ditto, 4 cands., yellow	3	12	6
British Central Africa, first issue, £5, sage-green, unused	4	4	0
Ditto, ditto, £10, brown, unused	9	0	0
Ditto, ditto, £25, blue, imperf.	5	0	0
British South Africa, £5, green, unused	4	8	0
Ditto, ditto, £10, brown, unused	8	10	0
Gold Coast, CA, 1d., blue, unused	6	6	0
Ditto, ditto, 20/-, red and green, unused	9	5	0
Lagos, 2/6, olive-black, unused	4	0	0
„ 5/-, blue „	7	7	0
„ 10/-, lilac-brown „	14	0	0
Oil Rivers, ½d. on half 1d., vertical block of 4, top pair with surch. in violet, the lower pair in red	5	10	0
Ditto, ½d., in carmine capitals, on 2½d., a strip of 3, the centre stamp with surcharge "Half-Penny" (Gibbons' type 5) in blue	6	10	0
Ditto, "One Shilling" on 2d., horizontal strip of 3, unused, two being surcharged in violet and the centre stamp in black (vertically)	8	15	0
Ditto, 5/-, in violet, on 2d., unused	6	0	0
Ditto, 10/-, in vermilion, on 5d., unused	10	0	0
Ditto, 20/-, in violet, on 1/-, green, unused	40	0	0
Nova Scotia, 1/-, dark violet (fine)	32	0	0
New Zealand, wmk. "N. Z." 1d., brown, horizontal pair	30	0	0
Bahamas, no wmk., perf. 12, 4d., rose, unused	5	0	0
Ditto, perf. 14 to 16, 4d., rose, unused	12	0	0
Ditto, perf. 14 to 16, 6d., grey-lilac, unused	7	0	0
Ditto, perf. 13, 6d., violet, unused	14	0	0
Barbados, 5/-, rose, unused	3	12	6
„ 1892, halfpenny, in black *and red*, on 4d., brown, horizontal pair, unused	6	0	0
British Honduras, 1882–85, CA, 6d., yellow and 1/-, grey, unused	5	0	0
Ditto, 1888, error of surcharge, 5 cents. on 1/-, grey, unused	26	0	0
Ditto, ditto, "TWO," in black, on 50 c., grey, unused, with full gum	43	0	0
Ditto, ditto, 1891, "6," in black, on 10 c. on 4d., mauve, with the "6" inverted, unused	20	0	0
Ditto, ditto, a used specimen of above	4	8	0
Ditto, ditto, "6," in red, on 10 c. on 4d., mauve, horizontal pair with "6" inverted, unused	8	0	0
Ditto, ditto, a used specimen of above, with a specimen of "6" in *black*, also inverted, both used on entire	10	10	0
Nevis, litho., perf. 15, 1/-, pale yellow-green, horizontal strip of 3, unused, and imperf. between	17	0	0
Ditto, ditto, 6d., grey, unused	9	15	0
Ditto, ditto, wmk. CA, 6d., green, pair unused	13	0	0
St. Lucia, 1892, provisional, "One Half-penny" on 3d., lilac and green, surcharge inverted	5	0	0
Ditto, ditto, "One Penny" on 4d., brown, surcharge inverted on original	5	0	0
St. Vincent, perf. 15½, clean cut, 6d., yellow-green, unused (fair)	10	0	0
Ditto, perf. 11, 1/-, brown, unused	5	2	6
Ditto, wmk. star, perf. 11, 4d., deep blue, unused	8	5	0
Ditto, 1880–81, provisionals, 1d. on half 6d., deep green, unused pair	18	10	0
Ditto, 4d. on 1/-, vermilion	12	5	0
Ditto, 1880, 5/-, rose-red, unused	17	5	0
Ditto, CA, perf. 14, 4d., red-brown, unused	6	10	0
Tobago, CA, 6d., bistre-brown, unused	9	0	0
Turks Islands, 1/-, prune (perfs. cut at top)	18	10	0
Virgin Islands, perf. 15, 6d., pale rose, unused	4	17	6

MESSRS. BUHL & CO., LTD.

Sale on May 4th and 5th.

	£	s.	d.
Labuan, "1 dollar," in manuscript, on 16 c., blue, red, surch., used	6	10	0
Gold Coast, 20 sh., green and rose, unused	5	0	0
British Guiana, 1850, 12 c., circular, deep blue	15	0	0
Antioquia, 1867, 5 c., deep green	13	0	0
St. Vincent, star wmk., 1/-, claret, perf. 11½, unused	5	0	0
Ditto, 1885, CA, 4d., red-brown, unused	5	0	0
Trinidad, 6d., yellow-green, wmk. Cr. CC, pair, imperf., unused	8	10	0
United States, 1861, 5 c., mustard, unused	6	2	6
St. Christopher, CA, 6d., olive-brown, complete sheet of 20	50	0	0

Sale on May 24th.

	£	s.	d.
Afghanistan, 1288, with plain circle, partly reconstructed sheet (12)	6	10	0
Ditto, 1289, 6 shahi, purple, unused, cut square	8	10	0
Ditto, 1295, (June) shahi, black	4	7	6
Trinidad, 1864, lake (1d.), wmk. Cr. CC, imperf. pair, unused	6	15	0

THE

London Philatelist:

THE MONTHLY JOURNAL OF

THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY, LONDON.

VOL. VI. JULY, 1897. No. 67.

The Philatelic Exhibition.

A TRIUMPHANT success all along the line is the universal verdict as to the result of the protracted labours of the Committee and Sub-Committees appointed several months since to organize the London Philatelic Exhibition. Whether regarded as to the exhibits themselves, the locale selected, the general arrangements, or the attendance, the Exhibition of 1897 must be deemed not only an unqualified success, but far in advance of any Philatelic Exhibition ever held in this country or elsewhere. The illustrious patronage of the Royal Dukes has been a conspicuous feature, and has contributed in no slight degree towards the successful issue; while the presence of Royalty on three separate occasions confers a prestige upon the London Philatelic Exhibition that is rarely equalled in any public form of entertainment. The visit of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales was an unexpected but welcome event, and it is safe to say that the President of the Society, H.R.H. the Duke of York, who accompanied the Prince, has won golden opinions from everyone with whom he has been in contact during his several visits to the Institute. The thanks of the Committee are no less due to H.R.H. the Duchess of York, who graced the opening ceremony, and delighted everyone by her charm of manner and her interest in the display.

The various features connected with the Exhibition will be found fully set out in our columns, and it remains but for us to heartily congratulate the Committee upon splendid success, to tender to Mr. J. A. Tilleard, the Secretary, and his fellow-workers the sincere thanks of all connected with Philately, and to express our conviction that the London Philatelic Exhibition has amply fulfilled its mission—not only in the strengthening of the bonds that hold us together, but in assuring the popularization and permanency of Stamp Collecting.

The London Philatelic Exhibition, 1897.

PATRONS.

H.R.H. the Duke of SAXE-COBURG AND GOTHA, Duke of EDINBURGH, K.G.
H.R.H. the Duke of YORK, K.G.
His Grace the Duke of NORFOLK, K.G. (Her Majesty's Postmaster-General).

COMMITTEE.

The Vice-President, Hon. Secretary, and Nine Members of the Council of the *Philatelic Society, London.*

The President and Hon. Secretary of the *Birmingham Philatelic Society.*

The President and Hon. Secretary of the *Bradford Philatelic Society.*

The Hon. Secretary of the *Brighton Philatelic Society.*

The President and Hon. Secretary of the *Cambridge University Philatelic Society.*

The President and Hon. Secretaries of the *Leeds Philatelic Society.*

The President and Hon. Secretary of the *Liverpool Philatelic Society.*

The President and Hon. Secretary of the *Manchester Philatelic Society.*

The President and Hon. Secretary of the *Oxford Philatelic Society.*

The President and Hon. Secretary of the *Plymouth Philatelic Society.*

The President and Hon. Secretary of the *Salisbury and District Philatelic Society.*

The President and Hon. Secretary of the *Sheffield Philatelic Society.*

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P. M. Bright.
D. Brosnan.
W. Brown.
T. Buhl.
E. Clarke.
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H. L'Estrange Ewen.
M. Giwelb.
E. S. Gibbons.
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S. E. Gwyer.
W. Hadlow.
E. Hawkins.
H. Hilckes.
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J. A. Nix.
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P. L. Pemberton.
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F. Ransom.
Rev. P. E. Raynor.
T. Ridpath.
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W. T. Willett.
A. H. Wilson.
J. Winch.
Hastings E. Wright.

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E. D. Bacon.
W. Dorning Beckton.
M. P. Castle.
R. Ehrenbach.
E. B. Evans.
M. Giwelb.
S. E. Gwyer.
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C. J. Phillips.
Gordon Smith.
J. A. Tilleard.
W. T. Wilson.

Chairman of Committee.—M. P. Castle.

Treasurer.—W. B. Avery. | Secretary.—J. A. Tilleard.

Judges.

E. D. Bacon.
F. Breitfuss.
M. P. Castle.
Major E. B. Evans.
Lieut. F. H. Napier, R.N.
A. H. Fraenkel.
P. Mahé.

Special Judges for Class VIII.

F. A. Bellamy. | R. Ehrenbach. | T. Maycock.

THE WORK OF THE COMMITTEES.

A PERUSAL of the names included in the comprehensive and influential Committee affords an indication of the solid foundation upon which the London Philatelic Exhibition was commenced, and a ready explanation of the brilliant success that has been the result. The illustrious patronage of the scheme has contributed materially to this end, and the enlistment of the leaders of the pursuit throughout this country has secured the fortunes of the scheme. It is difficult to adequately present to those of our readers who have been precluded from visiting the Exhibition an idea of the work involved, or to convey to each and all of the workers their due meed of recognition. Since the initial meeting, many months since, the organization of the work connected with the Exhibition has been divided into various Sub-Committees, each and all of whom have striven zealously to make success assured. On the Executive Committee has fallen the bulk of the work, and it is from this body that the several Sub-Committees for the Catalogues, for Entertainment, for Publicity, for Hanging, or for General Purposes, have been selected; and it is to the gentlemen who have so loyally co-operated in this work that the thanks of the Philatelic community are due. Beyond this, however, in no small measure is the successful issue of the Exhibition due to the great ability, energy, and courtesy of Mr. J. A. Tilleard, the Secretary, and in scarcely less degree to his trusty lieutenant, Mr. Gordon Smith. Recognition is also due to the difficult and protracted labours of the judges, and it is safe to say the inclusion of such illustrious names in the Philatelic roll has done much to add to the prestige of the Exhibition.

THE INAUGURAL CEREMONY.

With the punctuality that is Royalty's politeness, the hour of three o'clock on Thursday, the 22nd July, was scarce complete before their Royal Highnesses the Duke and Duchess of York were crossing the portals of the Royal Institute of Painters in Water Colours. The handsome vestibule and staircase, giving access to the splendid suite of rooms, was tastefully decorated with flowers. The Royal visitors were received in the Central Gallery by the Reception Committee, each member of which had the honour of presentation to their Royal Highnesses. The Duke of York then in a very short speech declared the Exhibition open, and escorted by members of the Reception Committee, the Duke and Duchess made an extended tour of the rooms, displaying much interest in many of the exhibits, and charming all those whose privilege it was to accompany them by their gracious and sympathetic observations. The Duke of York's Philatelic knowledge is well known to the inner circle, but we fancy that his intimate acquaintance with Philately, as disclosed by his remarks and questions, will afford a

welcome surprise to many who were present on the opening day. The Duchess was naturally interested in the sight of the plates of the Prince of Wales's Hospital Fund Stamps, whose destruction she had witnessed, and evinced a lively interest in the book of curious addresses so kindly exhibited by the Post Office authorities. "Mrs. Queen Buckam Palis to be taken care of," may perhaps be cited as one that amused Her Royal Highness.

The Royal visit extended for over an hour, and on its conclusion the Duke and Duchess graciously expressed their approval of the Exhibition, and their congratulations to the Committee on its success, His Royal Highness expressing his intention of revisiting it. The judges had the honour of presentation to the Duke, and the Reception Committee escorted the Royal party to their carriages.

Miss Castle, the daughter of the Chairman of the Committee, had the honour of an introduction to the Duchess of York, and presented her with a magnificent bouquet of white and mauve orchids, which Her Royal Highness was graciously pleased to accept. Attendant upon the Royal visitors were Lady Mary Lygon and the Hon. Derek Keppel, and it will doubtless interest our lady readers if we state that the Duchess, who looked charming and in the best of health and spirits, was attired in a cream-coloured dress of such a handsome nature that it baffles the descriptive powers of the sterner sex.

The attendance of visitors upon the opening day was large and brilliant, including many ladies, among whom we noticed Mrs. Tebay, Mrs. Hausburg, Mrs. G. W. Willett and the Misses Willett, Mrs. Stanley Taylor, the Misses Phillips, and Miss Castle. We have reason to believe that the arrangements made afforded the Royal visitors due satisfaction, and on the part of the Philatelic public it may assuredly be asserted that the inauguration of the London Philatelic Exhibition of 1897 was in every way a delightful and a successful affair.

VISITS OF T.R.H. THE PRINCE OF WALES AND THE DUKE OF YORK.

The Exhibition has been signally favoured in its Royal visitors, as, in addition to his presence at the inaugural ceremony, H.R.H. the Duke of York has twice attended, and, on the morning of the 23rd, was accompanied by H.R.H. the Prince of Wales. The Royal visit on this occasion was absolutely *sans cérémonie*, and proved somewhat of a surprise to some members of the Executive Committee, who had the honour of presentation to the Prince. His Royal Highness expressed to Mr. Castle, the Chairman of the Committee, his congratulation upon the success of the Exhibition, and in company with the Duke of York, and under the able guidance of Mr. Tilleard, the Secretary, made a thorough inspection of the galleries, visiting the dealers' stalls, and evincing throughout a marked interest in all the phases of the undertaking. The distinction conferred upon the Exhibition by the presence of the Prince of Wales will be gratefully acknowledged by all sections of the Philatelic community. The Duke of York subsequently

paid a lengthened visit, and, accompanied by the Secretary and other gentlemen, made an exhaustive examination of the various exhibits, in every class, with which he was pleased to express his entire approval. His Royal Highness was naturally especially interested in the stamps of the British and Colonial Section, of which he possesses so fine a collection, specimens thereof being included in the Exhibition. The displays of Mr. White's English, Baron A. de Worms' Ceylon, Baron A. de Reuterskiöld's Turks Islands (of which latter His Royal Highness has a strong collection), perhaps appealed especially to his sympathies. *Apropos* of this, a pleasing incident of His Royal Highness's first visit may be here cited. The Duchess of York was examining the sixpenny Canadian Stamps of Mr. Duveen, and expressing to Mr. Castle her surprise at the appearance of the late Prince Consort's portrait on the stamps, which Her Royal Highness had promptly recognized, appealed to the Duke as to his possession of this stamp. The Duke with a superior Philatelic smile, replied that it was the twelve penny of the same issue that he lacked!

THE GALLERIES.

Our readers will recollect that illustrations of these spacious and handsome galleries have already been given in the *London Philatelist*, thus rendering a lengthened description unnecessary. Situate in the very heart of fashionable London, spacious, lofty, and lit from above, the Rooms of the Royal Institute of Painters in Water Colours are peculiarly adaptable for the purpose of showing stamps. The entrance from Piccadilly, with its grand staircase decorated with palms and flowers, with its comfortable lounges and marbled walls, creates at once a favourable impression in the visitor, which is heightened on entering the central room, entirely occupied by the stamps of Great Britain and its Colonies. The largest room, however, is that communicating on the left, which is devoted to the special collection of countries other than those last named, and with its many rows of upright cases — all especially made for this Exhibition — presents an imposing appearance. It is significant of the times that, with the exception of two or three cases containing rare stamps, these two galleries should contain nothing but Classes I. and II., *i.e.*, specialised collections of different countries! The room entering to the right contains the exhibits of albums, books, etc., but is principally occupied by the stalls of the dealers, which have been specially constructed, and seem to have given general satisfaction. Another large room upstairs is crowded with the general collections, and contains, in addition, an important section of the South American stamps (unavoidably crowded out from the lower gallery), the exhibits of the Colonial Governments, and many frames of stamps, in addition to Messrs. Perkins and Bacon's original perforating machine, and many other objects of interest. The *tout ensemble* of the Galleries, with their apparently interminable series of brightly-coloured exhibits and throng of interested spectators, presents alike a pleasing and an impressive appearance.

DINNER OF THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF LONDON, AND OTHER ENTERTAINMENTS.

The presence of so many visitors at the Exhibition has naturally formed the basis of many extremely pleasant reunions, and we can but regret that the demands on our space preclude anything more than a passing reference thereto, premising that in all cases the *camaraderie* of Philately, regardless of all national distinctions, was never more delightfully and strongly evinced.

The dinner of the London Philatelic Society, which had been purposely adjourned until the Exhibition fortnight, was held at the Café Monico on Tuesday the 27th, and was very largely attended, nearly one hundred gentlemen being present, including many of those whose names we have cited, and many well-known members of the London Society and their guests. Among the more important guests may be named M. P. Mahé, M. H. Breitfuss, Dr. H. Fraenkel (Judges of the Exhibition), Mr. J. S. Purcell, C.B., and Mr. Maitland Burnett (ex-Secretary London Philatelic Society). The Vice-President, Mr. M. P. Castle, occupied the chair, and in proposing the Royal toasts called especial attention to the great service rendered to Philately by the President of the London Society, H.R.H. the Duke of York. The enthusiasm with which these remarks were received was redoubled when, during Mr. Tilleard's reply to the toast of the Philatelic Society, that gentleman announced the receipt of a telegram from H.R.H. at Goodwood wishing success to the dinner. The Chairman, in proposing the toast of the evening, called especial attention to the fact of there being so many distinguished and welcome guests present, dwelling upon the great success achieved by the Exhibition, and thanked all those who had assisted in the work, notably Messrs. J. A. Tilleard (the Secretary) and Mr. Gordon Smith, both gentlemen being received with an ovation on rising to respond to toasts. "The Officers and Council of the Society" was proposed in eloquent terms by Mr. Maitland Burnett, ex-Secretary of the Society, who also met with a great and deserved reception. Several other toasts, an excellent selection of music, and a *recherché* dinner, combined to render the evening thoroughly enjoyable.

Favoured by delightful weather, an absolutely perfect day's enjoyment was that of Saturday, the 24th July, when some fifty gentlemen travelling to Taplow in special saloons, proceeded in a launch to Clieveden Wood, thence returning to the residence of Mr. W. B. Avery, Oakley Court, Maidenhead, where they were sumptuously entertained by Mr. and Mrs. Avery, and after several hours passed in the lovely grounds of Oakley Court, where every possible form of recreation had been lavishly provided, were conveyed in the launch to Windsor, and thence entrained to London. "Nothing more delightful could have been conceived," was the expression of the many foreign visitors who were present, and Mr. and Mrs. Avery were again and again thanked for their great hospitality and courtesy.

An evening concert and conversazione was held at St. Martin's Town Hall on Thursday, July 29th, which was largely attended by the Philatelists and visitors present at the Exhibition. The function was graced by the

presence of many ladies, and a pleasant and enjoyable evening was passed, thanks to the Entertainment Committee, whose forethought had secured the invaluable services of Mr. Ridpath and his Philatelic Lantern Exhibition, which was much appreciated by all present, and the especial points of which were described by members of the London Philatelic Society. Mrs. Hunt's charming ladies' orchestra, Mr. G. Robins' vocalism, and Mr. Chas. Capper's marvellous whistling, combined to render the conversazione successful in every respect.

The interchange of hospitalities among the Philatelists and visitors present was so continuous as to verify the Chairman's remark at the dinner of the Philatelic Society, that an exhibition necessitated, in addition to other virtues, the digestion of an ostrich on the part of the participants. Among a few of the pleasant evenings passed we may cite—a splendid dinner at the Hotel Cecil on the 26th, given by Mr. C. J. Phillips to the judges, visitors, and other gentlemen ; a dinner, given to the judges and other gentlemen, by Mr. M. P. Castle, Chairman of the Executive, at the Sports' Club, on the 28th ; a dinner at the Café Royal, given by Messrs. Breitfuss and Fraenkel, on the 30th, to their *confrères* and other gentlemen ; and yet another, given by Mr. W. H. Peckitt, at the Trocadero, on the 3rd August. Each and all of these functions were productive, in the opinion of all who partook therein, of many pleasurable hours, the hospitality being as lavish as the names of those present were distinguished in the Philatelic world. Dinners were also given by Mr. J. N. Luff, Mr. W. T. Willett, Mr. R. Ehrenbach, and many others; and it is safe to say that when the Exhibition closed each and all departed with the happy conviction that much had been done to entwine still closer the bonds of Philatelic friendship in its most cosmopolitan aspect. Mr. C. J. and the Misses Phillips entertained a large party of ladies and gentlemen at Amyand House, Twickenham, on the 3rd August, a delightful excursion being made on the river up to Sunbury, brilliant weather and unbounded hospitality combining to perfect everyone's enjoyment.

VISITORS TO THE EXHIBITION.

The attendance of Philatelists and the general public has perforce been so extended and varied from day to day that a record of all who have passed the turnstiles is practically unattainable. Independently of the Royal visitors, the judges, collectors, and dealers residing in or near the Metropolis, the members of the General and other Committees, the presence of the bearers of many well-known names can be cited, *e.g.*, The Baron and Baroness de Worms and Baron A. de Worms, Baron A. de Reuterskiöld, Dr. Stanley Taylor, Messrs. J. S. Purcell, C.B., P. Mirabaud, Thos. De La Rue, W. Thorne, H. K. Sanderson, J. N. Luff, E. Smith (Mass.), Th. Lemaire, A. Rosenberg, T. Brück, Van Hoek, S. de Wilde, H. Duveen, W. B. Avery, W. W. Blest, H. Buckley (Norway), O. Wheeler, H. L. Hayman, W. Beckton (sen.), Vernon Roberts, A. W. Harrison, Stanley Castle, C. Willadt, C. J. Lambert, R. Friedl, W. T. Willett, K. W. F. Schäfer, E. Sohn, Maitland Burnett, E. Fino, H. Kühnle, J. H. Smythe (Sydney), F. Bang, J. Bernichon, and many others.

THE BROAD RESULT.

Demands upon time and space preclude anything at present beyond the briefest *résumé* of the results attaching to the London Philatelic Exhibition of 1897. The financial results have necessarily yet to be ascertained, but the augury is favourable, and beyond this there can be no two opinions as to the absolute and unqualified success of the undertaking. It has been clearly demonstrated that Philately has made enormous strides, and that the specialised collections shown in 1897 are, as a whole, far in advance of any that have preceded them, whether in the choice and wealth of specimens, or the Philatelic knowledge displayed. In the case of Great Britain the extraordinary displays of Mr. White, the gold medallist, Messrs. Willett, Selby, Eliot Levy, and others, show how enormously risen is the estimation of the stamps of our own country; and while the displays of Messrs. de Worms, Duveen, Avery, Blest, and many others, have worthily maintained the prestige of the British Colonial Stamps, the status of the stamps of Europe and America has been materially enhanced by displays such as those of Messrs. Oldfield, Hall, Duveen, Ginn, Ehrenbach, Rosenberg, Castle, and many others.

The general arrangements of the Exhibition have elicited unstinted praise from all present, and the labours of Mr. Tilleard, Mr. Gordon Smith, and the members of the Executive Committee, great as they have been, are appreciated at their fullest. The arrangements for the Dealers' Stalls seem to have given general satisfaction, and the gallery devoted to them formed an important and attractive feature in the Exhibition. The Catalogue, with its beautifully designed cover, printed in an admirable manner by Messrs. Perkins, Bacon, and Co., Ltd., reflects great credit to the Committee, and will be an abiding memento of the Philatelic Exhibition of the Diamond Jubilee year.

THE EXHIBITS.

No amount of description can accurately represent the *tout ensemble* of the magnificent array of stamps shown. Taken as a whole, whether as regards quantity, condition of specimens, or Philatelic arrangement, the Exhibition of the Diamond Jubilee year must be held to have quite eclipsed anything that has preceded it. So many were the stamps submitted that in some cases the Hanging Committee were unable to display more than a portion of the exhibits, and several countries which had been proposed to be represented *hors concours*, with a view to a Philatelic representation of every kind, were entirely absent, owing to the repletion of the Galleries. We append a list of the more striking exhibits under their several classes, following the order of the Catalogue.

CLASS I. GREAT BRITAIN.

*Exhibits which were entered as "not for competition" are distinguished by a label to this effect, and are marked *.*

DIVISION I.

Adhesive Postage Stamps, Unused.

THE GRAND PRIZE (SPECIAL GOLD MEDAL) .	H. J. WHITE.
GOLD MEDAL	H. J. WHITE.
SILVER „	W. T. WILLETT.
BRONZE „	E. H. SELBY.

WHITE, H. J.—This exhibit, by a peculiar coincidence, not only occupies the first number of the Catalogue, but has obtained the GRAND PRIZE of the Exhibition —the Special Gold Medal—with unanimous approval. The stamps shown included: 1d., black, V.R., block of four with margin showing "A"; 1d., black, six blocks, showing Plate numbers; ditto, red, blocks, many with Plate numbers, the perforated series being also fully represented by blocks and specimens of all shades and varieties; ditto, with letters in all angles, forty-nine blocks with margins showing the Plate number; 1½d., Plate 1, error of lettering, in lilac-rose and in rose-red; 2d., without lines, including two pairs and a strip of three; ditto, Small Crown, perf. 14, blocks of six and ten, and six single specimens; ditto, Large Crown, perf. 16, two of Plate 5 and one of Plate 6. Octagonals: 6d.—thirty-one, including four pairs and a block of six; 10d.—twenty-six, including one without die number, two pairs and two blocks of four; 1s.—twenty, including a block of eight and a pair; 2½d., pairs or larger blocks of all Plates in lilac-rose (except No. 9), and ditto, blue, all Plates; 3d., small letters, blocks of nine and four, and two pairs; large letters, pairs or larger blocks of all Plates (except 7 and 8); Plate 4, Spray, a complete pane of twenty; also panes of Plates 5, 6, 11, 18, 19, and 20; 4d., Small Garter, a pair and two singles; Medium Garter, on blue, three, and on white, two strips of three; Large Garter, two blocks of four and one of eight; 4d., small letters, blocks and pairs of each Plate, including a pair of Plate 3 with marginal number; large letters, pairs or larger blocks of all Plates except No. 8, and many with marginal number; 6d., pairs or blocks of all Plates (including Plate 6, Spray) and complete panes of Plates 5, 9, and 12 (grey). 9d., pairs of both small and large letter varieties, and also a specimen of Plate 5; 10d., pairs and block, and a copy of Plate 2; 1s., no letters, block of six and three pairs, and all later Plates in pairs or blocks, panes of Plates 4 (both watermarks), 7, 11, 12 in green, 13 (both watermarks) and 14 in brown; 2s., blue, many shades, in pairs and blocks, and brown, a complete pane of twenty; 2s. 6d., 5s., and 10s., blue, large number of shades; 10s., Maltese Cross, a pair and two singles, and Anchor, two; £1, Maltese Cross, three, and Anchor two, and the oblong stamps in both watermarks, and the £5 on blue paper. All later values amply displayed. In addition to the regular issues is a complete set of all values and Plates from the *imprimatur* sheets, many colour trials, and imperforate varieties, die proofs (in black), besides many interesting varieties of surcharged stamps which were proposed but never adopted. The official issues of Government Parcels, I.R. Official, etc., are also completely represented. Postal Fiscals include some of the scarcer varieties of the 3d. and the embossed series, a pair of the 1s., pink (with border), imperf., *tête-bêche*.

Most of the Official Telegraphs are exhibited also in Division III., unused; also a set of the Government Telegraphs cut from the approved sheets. The display of the 2d, perf. 16, Large Crown, Plate 6, needs strengthening; but apart from this there appear to be only two stamps wanting—the 9d., hair-lines, and the 2½d., with error of lettering, on Plate 2. We mention this as corroborating the universal opinion which has been expressed as to the exceptional character of the exhibit. Such a collection of Great Britain has never before been accumulated, and is undoubtedly unique.

WILLETT, W. T.—A beautiful exhibit, in mint condition. V.R., 1d., black, a magnificent pair with marginal Plate-letter "A." Early issues, shades of all varieties of the 1d. value, inclusive of a pair of Plate 116, imperforate. Twopence, water-

mark Large Crown, perf. 16, with thin lines (a grand strip of three); ditto, Small Crown, perf. 14, a pair, and all other varieties of this value. The embossed head series comprise 6d. (eighteen), 10d. (eighteen), and 1s. (sixteen). Five shades of the 4d., Small Garter, two of the Medium on *bleuté* and three on white paper. Of subsequent issues a wide range of shades, all in magnificent condition. The 2s. 6d., 5s., 10s., and £1 in both watermarks, and there is a £5 on bluish paper.

Selby, E. H.—This is another grand show, and well deserves its awards. 1d., black, V.R., a fine block of four, "Archer" roulette, block of four, and pairs of most of the 1d. varieties. 2d., no lines, block of six, Small Crown, perf. 14, a pair, and a single of the Large Crown, perf. 15. Octagonals: 6d, ten, including a block of three and a pair; 10d., thirteen, including a block of eight; and 1s., three specimens; 4d., Small Garter, and ditto, Medium Garter on white, three copies; 6d., Emblems, Plate 6, block of four; 5s., Plate 4, three on bluish, one on white paper. Watermark Maltese Cross, 10s., three, £1, two; watermark Anchor, 10s., one. Nearly all varieties illustrated by at least five specimens, in many cases in pairs and blocks. There was also shown in Division III., in Telegraph stamps, the Government issues complete up to the 3s., in unused condition, both Plate numbers and watermarks being represented, also a fine lot of "Specimen" sets, etc.

Morley, W.—A well-selected and difficult exhibit of Fiscal Stamps available for postage. 1860, embossed, imperf., 2d., 3d. (four), 6d., 9d., 1s., and 2s. 6d., and perf., 2d. and 2s. 6d.; 1875 issue, imperf., 2d., 9d., 1s., and perforated, 1s. and 2s. 6d. All the surface-printed stamps, including the various watermarks of the 3d. and 6d., as well as the small 1d., showing all the alterations of the die, all varieties of the large Receipt stamps in blue and brown, together with a set of imperforate specimens.

Division II.

Adhesive Postage Stamps, Used.

SILVER MEDAL . . . . F. West.

West, F.—Specimens of all the Plate numbers, many shades and specimens of all values, including ½d., Plate 9, a desirable strip of three. Octagonal issue, 1s., thirty-six; 10d., sixteen; 6d., thirty-six; all picked copies, with good margins. Among the 6d., Plate 12 in dark brown, and Plate 13 in brown, are noticeable; and 2½d., Plate 2, error of lettering. The quality of this collection is of a very high order, and demonstrates that used stamps afford opportunities for the display of judgment and taste in the retention of really fine copies.

Division III.

Telegraph Stamps.

SILVER MEDAL . . . Gordon Smith.
BRONZE „ . . . W. Matthews.

Smith, Gordon.—A representative collection of the Private Companies' stamps, and a fine accumulation of the Government Telegraphs.

Matthews, W.—A series of the Private Companies' stamps, including the 1s. 2d., 2s. 3d., and 2s. 9d. of the South-Eastern Railway, as also a general lot of the Government Telegraphs, etc., which has obtained the Bronze Medal.

Sandars, E. T.—The Government Telegraphs, the specimens comprising chiefly die proofs, and specimens cut from the approved sheets.

Special Awards.

For Unused Postage and Telegraph Stamps of Great Britain. Presented by W. H. Peckitt, Esq.

GOLD MEDAL . . . H. J. White.
SILVER „ . . . E. H. Selby.

For the best Exhibit by an amateur not a member of the Philatelic Society, London. Presented by the Society.

GOLD MEDAL . . . W. T. Willett.

CLASS II. BRITISH EMPIRE.

SECTION A.

GOLD MEDAL	. .	W. W. BLEST (New South Wales).
SILVER „	. .	H. J. DUVEEN (British Guiana).
BRONZE „	. .	Dr. F. BOWERS (New South Wales).

New South Wales.

BLEST, W. W.—A brilliant lot of unused "Sydney Views," including 1d., Plate 1, seven, and Plate 2, six; the 2d., Plate 1, three; Plate 2, nine; Plate 3, one; Plate 4, four; Plate 5, three; and 3d., four—thirty-six in all. The "Laureated," unused, include two copies of the 1d., on laid paper; two of the 2d., with stars in corner; two each of the 6d., Plates 1 and 2; and one of the 8d. and one of the 3d., watermark "2." In the 1855 issue the 6d. and 1s., with error of watermark "8"; the complete series perforated 12; and all subsequent varieties, are to be noted. The registered stamps, imperforate, a block of eight, and three unused, with orange centre (perf. 12). The first two issues of this Colony are also represented used by selected copies of all plates, shades, and varieties. This exhibit was deservedly much admired, *the* gem being a matchless 3d. of Issue I.

British Guiana.

* AVERY, W. B.—The issues of 1850, 1852, 1853, 1856, and 1862 only. There are thirteen specimens of the first issue, including one of the 2 c., and one of the 4 c. (cut square), on *pelure* paper. The 1852 stamps unused and used, and eight copies of the 4 c., 1856 issue, two of which are on the blue-surfaced paper. The 1853 issue unused and used, including an unused specimen of the 4 c., with line round the figures of the date, with grand margins, and the stamps of 1862, besides the separate specimens, in complete sheets.

DUVEEN, H. J.—1850–51 "Circular" 2 c., rose, a magnificent pair on original letter; the 4 c. and 8 c. together, and 4 c. on *pelure*, both on original letters; four copies of the 12 c., including one on "sugar" paper; 1852, 1 c., magenta, unused, and a pair used and four of the 4 c., blue; 1856 issue, 4 c., magenta, three, and 4 c., blue, two; of the provisional issue of 1862, unused and used examples of the prominent varieties; and all other issues from 1860 downwards, including the surcharged provisionals of 1878 and 1881 in an unused state, amongst them being the 24 c., perf. 12, on thick paper, and the 4 c. of 1876, watermark Cr. CC, perf. 12½.

The later issues leave room for improvement, but the first is very strong, nearly all the specimens being cut square, and several remaining on their original covers.

Cashmere.

HANCOCK, Capt. F. H.—A selection of the rarer stamps of this country, including ½ a., green, and 1 a., purple, and 1 a., red, of the first type circulars; three specimens of the ½ a., black, 1294, single type; seven of the ½ a., and five of the 1 a., 1294 issue, in black, and a pair of the 1 a., in blue; a fine exhibit.

New South Wales.

*AVERY, W. B.—Sydney Views, unused; 1d., Plate 1, three; Plate 2, five, including a pair on blue paper. The 2d., Plate 2, two. There are reconstructed plates of the 1d., two plates of each (four in all), in which unused specimens may be found, and nine of the 2d., illustrating the various stages of the plate and papers employed; and of the 3d., two plates. In "Laureated" there are a strip of ten of the 2d., Plate 1 (unused), the 3d., a block of six, also unused; and the 6d., coarse background, a magnificent block of two horizontal rows of five, with full gum; and two singles unused. Among the reconstructed plates of this type is one of the 2d., watermarked (containing only one used specimen), in which is a block of thirty; and also one of the 8d. and of the 2d. stars in corners. In the large square stamps are three pairs of the 8d., and an unused block of four of the 1s., watermark "8." In the "Diadem" issue is a pair of the 3d., watermark "2." Subsequent issues are represented, with four specimens of the embossed letter sheet of 1838. A superb exhibit!

Bowers, Dr. F.—Plates of the Sydney Views: 1d., Plate 1, two plates complete on different papers. Plate 2 on bluish and on "laid" paper, the latter complete save Type 20; 2d., Plate 1, and the same retouched, both complete; Plate 2 on soft paper complete, and on hard bluish paper, 18 types; Plate 3, first retouch, on hard and on laid paper, 22 types, and on bluish 19 types; Plate 3, second retouch, on hard paper complete, save Type 9; and on laid paper, 13 types; 3d., on bluish wove paper complete, and partially constructed plates on laid and two other varieties of paper. The plates of the Laureated issue are complete as regards the unwatermarked 1d. and 2d. (Plate 1), and are partially constructed as to all the remaining values and varieties of paper. The Registered Plate imperforate is complete.

Mauritius.

*Avery, W. B.—The famed pair of the "Post Office" 1d. and 2d. unused are here, these stamps naturally being the lion of the Exhibition. Specimens of the "Post Paid" in both values are found on the various papers, and in different states of the plate, including a number of unused copies of each value; also a reconstructed plate of the 2d. value; eleven specimens of the "Large Fillet," including one unused. The "Small Fillet" and the "Greek borders" in shades, both used and unused. In the "Britannias" there are three unobliterated copies of the rare surcharged 4d. and 1s., green, perforated, unused. The later issues are present in numerous shades and varieties, but leave some room for improvement, both as to their condition and variety.

Victoria.

*Avery, W. B.—The first issue is amply displayed, and includes many unused. Subsequent issues are represented in both conditions in a large variety of specimens; and a copy of the 6d. (beaded oval) unused (though somewhat cut) is to be seen, as also a used specimen.

Section B.

GOLD MEDAL . . .	Baron A. De Worms (Ceylon).
SILVER „ . . .	W. W. Blest (New Zealand).
SILVER „ . . .	Gordon Smith (South Australia).
SILVER „ . . .	F. Ransom (Trinidad).
BRONZE „ . . .	W. Hadlow (Queensland).

De Worms, Baron A.—This beautiful exhibit, in the opinion of many, came close to the Grand Prize, and constituted one of *the* attractions of the Exhibition. Amongst the unused stamps: First issue, 1d., block of 12; 5d., 10d., and 1s. 9d., pair of each; several 6d., 1s., and 2s.; and two each of the 4d., 8d., and 9d. Perforated, watermark Star, a pair each of the 4d., two shades; 8d., brown and mustard; and 6d.; a block of four of the 1s.; and two copies of the 9d., lilac; no watermark, pairs of the 1d., 5d., 6d., and 1s. Watermark CC, three copies of the 2d. in the colour of the "Star" issue, and a large number of pairs and blocks of the other values. Watermark CA, 16 c., two; 24 c., plum, one; the 32 c., perf. 14 by 12½; and the 2 r. 50 c., perf. 12½. Amongst the used, a pair of the 4d. (unique), 1s. 9d., and 2s., imperf., as well as a large number of pairs of the other values, the condition of all stamps being of superlative excellence.

Pimm, W.—First issue represented by used copies of the 4d., 9d., 1s. 9d., and 2s., and among the subsequent issues are included the scarce varieties, some of which are unused.

Canada—British Columbia and Prince Edward Island.

Duveen, H. J.—In Canada, unused, 1857, laid paper, 3d. pair, 6d. pair, and four singles, and the 12d., used. Wove paper, pairs of the ½d., 6d., and 10d., and ribbed paper, ½d. and 3d. pair. The finest thing in this exhibit, despite the 12d., is in our opinion the pairs of the 6d., laid, and thin wove, unused. Perforated, 6d., two, and ½d., on ribbed paper. The used specimens of the "pence" issues include 12d., laid, and wove, 7½d., pair; 10d., strip of three, and 6d., on thick paper, strip of three. In the "cents" issue the 10 c. in many shades, including

the black-brown, and the 5 c. with double frame. In British Columbia and Vancouver Island, specimens of the 5 c. Vancouver, imperf., unused and used, and in the last set the 10 c. and 1 dollar, perf. 14, also unused. In Prince Edward Island, halves of the 2d., perf. 9, and the 6d., perf. 11, used, on parts of the original covers.

India.

HYNES, G. J.—A unique uncut sheet of 120 of the ½ anna, red, with 9½ arches; three sheets of the ½ anna, blue, with different dates of printing; two sheets of the 1 anna; two sheets of the 2 annas; proof sheets in black and in red of the ½ anna with 8 arches, and reprints of two of the 4 anna sheets, one with twelve and the other with twenty-four stamps; subsequent issues being shown in one volume, under Class IV.

*H.R.H. THE DUKE OF YORK, K.G.—A complete collection of the stamps of the De La Rue series, represented by imperforate copies from each plate registered on being put to press, and including the new 6 a. stamp prepared many years ago, but not yet issued.

Natal.

*AVERY, W. B.—A representative exhibit of the first issues only, unused and used.

New Brunswick, Newfoundland, and Nova Scotia.

*AVERY, W. B. New Brunswick, the stamps of the first issue only and the 5 c. "Connell" and 12½ c. There are numerous specimens of the first issue unused and used, including nine of the 1s., two of these being unused, with fine margins, and several varieties of the bisected stamps. The "Connell" is represented by three unused copies, and there is a complete sheet of the 12½ c., blue. Only the pence issues of Newfoundland are exhibited; amongst these will be found two 2d. and two 6d. of the scarlet-vermilion series, unused, as well as three 4d., seven 6½d., and one 1s., all unused. There are also numerous postmarked specimens of all the values, and the same stamps in orange. The 1862 issue, with the exception of the 2d., is shown in complete sheets. As in the other two cases, only the pence issues of Nova Scotia are shown. All the values are unused and used, and include ten specimens of the 1s., five of them being unused, in brilliant colour and condition.

DUVEEN, H. J.—A remarkably fine exhibit. New Brunswick, unused: 6d., yellow, seven; and 1s., four, the latter all different shades, and the 5 c. (Connell), used; 1s., five, and several examples of bisected stamps on original covers. Newfoundland, unused, a complete set of the scarlet-vermilion, including two each of the 2d. and 4d.; the orange-vermilion issue (also unused) is represented by two each of the 2d., 4d., and 6d., and specimens of the 6½d. and 1s., and 1s. on laid paper. Half of the 8d., cut diagonally, on the entire original. In Nova Scotia, unused, the 6d. in the two scarce shades, two of each; and the 1s. in two shades, five in all; and of the latter stamp, used, seven specimens. The "split" stamps include halves of the 3d. and 6d., and also of the 2c. and 10c., all on original covers or portions of them.

New Zealand.

BLEST, W. W.—Another exhibit which may be classed amongst the pick of the Exhibition. Amongst the unused stamps are the following: First issue, printed in London, 1d., three; 2d., one; and 1s., three; and also one copy of the 2d. and two of the 1s. values *bleuté*. The series on blue paper includes 1d., five; 2d., one pair, and strips of three and four; and 1s., two, the latter being exceptionally fine and rare. A splendid range of the 1s. values will be found in succeeding issues on thick unwatermarked paper, and also on the paper with Star watermark. In the issue on *pelure* paper, the 1d., 2d., and 1s. imperforate, and the 2d., 6d., and 1s. perforated, more than one of each value.

In the used stamps, 1d., London print, six; pairs of the 1s., thick paper, in both shades; a strip of five of the 1d. on blue paper; and a copy of the 2d. with value omitted. In the 1872 issues there are two copies of the 1d., brown, with NZ watermark.

Queensland.

BLEST, W. W.—Another collection of the highest order, practically complete. The first issue, imperforate, unused, includes 1d., four; 2d., one and strip of three; and 6d., three. In the issue of 1860–1, watermark Star, rough perf.: the 2d., imperf. horizontally. The series for 1868–74, with truncated Star, perf. 12, is largely represented, and includes an unused strip of three of the 6d., dark green. Amongst the used stamps are two pairs of each of the 2d. and 6d., imperforate, and several varieties imperforate vertically, etc.

H. GREY, a general collection of this country; and W. HADLOW, fine copies of all issues, in singles, pairs, and blocks; the later issues being represented by blocks showing the various types and plates.

South Australia.

SMITH, GORDON.—An exceedingly choice exhibit of a very difficult country, nearly everything being unused, and approaching completeness—high praise in such a category. First issue, London print, 1d., a pair and two; 6d., pair and four; 1s., violet, one; Colonial print, 2d., two, and used, 1d., two pairs; 6d., a pair, unused, and five, used, pairs; 1s., two pairs. Of the rouletted issues, blocks of 1d., 2d., and 6d., and two of the latter value in Prussian blue, and a strip of three of the 4d. and the 10d., with blue surcharge, the six types in both colours; the 1s., yellow, two, with perfect gum. Perforated by roulette, 4d., pair, used; 6d., three pairs and four singles; 10d., three; and 1s., four. Early perforated, 1867–1870, 1d., pale green, one; 2d., two, used; 6d., sky-blue, two; 1s., chestnut, two. The 2d., second type, with watermark Crown and SA, includes the following: Perf. 10 by roul., pair and two singles; perf. 11½ by roul., one, used, surcharged P; perf. 11½, strip of six; and with Star watermark, perf. 11½ by roulette, two, used. The 10d., with black surcharge, rouletted, one; perf. 11½, three; perf. 11½ by 12, one; and the 9d., perforated 11½ and rouletted, one unused. Among the O.S. surcharged, the 4d., perf. 10, two, used; and many unused of all issues, including 8d. and 9d., with varieties and errors.

HARRISON, W.—The stamps for Departmental use, unused, among which may be noticed the following: C.D., in red, on the 4d.; D.B., in black, on the 1d. perf. 12½—this stamp is only known surcharged; C.T., on the 1s.; G.S., on the three values; N.T., in black, on several values, including the 3d. on 4d., in black; P.S., in black, on 3d. on 4d., in red; S.M., in blue, on the 2d., Type 1; T., in red, on the 4d., perf. by roul., V.A., on the 2d., Type 2; and many other rarities. Mr. Harrison's stamps are well known as being the finest collection of unused Departmentals extant.

Trinidad.

CHAMBERS, A. W.—Of the lithographed series, four copies of the blue, and one of the red, used. The stamps printed by Messrs. Perkins, Bacon & Co., in most of the varieties, and in the later printings of the same type by Messrs. De La Rue, all perforations being represented. The later varieties in perforations, watermark, and surcharge.

RANSOM, F.—The issues of 1851 to 1859, imperforate, used and unused, of the lithographed stamps; a grand block of fifty-four of the 1d., red; used copies of the same value; four pairs and twenty single specimens of the 1d., blue, and grey-blue, exhibiting the different impressions and states of the plate. The subsequent issues in many shades and varieties of perforation, principally used, and two copies of the "Lady McLeod" local.

Western Australia.

*AVERY, W. B.—Issue 1, a used specimen of the 4d., with centre inverted, of the highest degree of rarity. Among the 2d., eight unused, and of the 6d., three; used pairs of all values, and a used block of the 1s. The various roulettes in all values of the first and also the succeeding issue. 6d., *bleuté* (seven unused); 2d., error, in lilac (eleven), unused, and all later issues. The copies throughout are very numerous (in some cases almost redundant) and very choice; this is, doubtless, one of Mr. Avery's most complete exhibits, and is prominent even among his many treasures.

Section C.

SILVER MEDAL	. .	W. T. Willet (Nevis).
SILVER „	. .	Baron A. de Reuterskiöld (Turks Islands).
BRONZE „	. .	Leslie L. R. Hausburg (Grenada).
BRONZE „	. .	Dr. R. Stanley Taylor (Grenada).
BRONZE „	. .	Vernon Roberts (St. Lucia).

Barbados.

Chambers, A. W.—A desirable show of all issues, unused and used; amongst the unused may be noted the 4d., compound perf.; the 1d. on half of 5s. unused (with comma) and used.

Cape of Good Hope.

*Avery, W. B.—A very rich show of the triangular stamps only. Of the first issues there are numerous unused blocks of the 1d., 4d., and 6d., and an unused pair of the 1s., dark green. The provisional stamps are strongly represented in pairs and blocks, and the unused specimens include one of the 4d. in the dark blue colour. The variety of the 4d. with straight lines in the right corner represented in a pair, and the 1d. error, blue, *se tenant* with a 4d., as well as a single specimen, and there are two used copies of the 4d. error, red.

Fiji.

*Avery, W. B.—"Fiji Times Express" on both papers, and many varieties of the V.R., surcharged in Roman and Gothic types, with later issues.

Grenada and Jamaica.

Hausburg, Leslie L. R.—First issue, unused, 1d., block of four; 6d., six, Small Star watermark, the three colours of the 6d. in various shades; Large Star, 6d., seven; the errors of the 1s. and ½d., with watermark Broad-pointed Star, several of each value, including the 2½d., claret, and a block of six 4d., unused. In the provisional issue the 4d. with upright "d" in a strip of three, unused; 1d. on 2s. without "Postage and," used, and unused sheets of some of the other surcharged values.

Jamaica, blocks, pairs, and single copies, unused, of the first stamps watermarked "Pineapple," including the 1s., yellow-brown, two; and all the other issues are represented by singles, pairs, and blocks of four; an excellent show.

Taylor, Dr. R. Stanley.—Grenada, the earlier issues of the 1d. and 6d. in blocks of four. With the watermark Broad-pointed Star, the 2½d., plum, one; claret, one; 4d., block of four; and a single, are all unused. In the fiscal stamps surcharged for postage the 4d. on 2s., with upright and italic *d*, a pair unused; amongst the used specimens of the "Postage" in manuscript, two in black and one in red. Most of the varieties of surcharge on all values are included. Jamaica, unused pairs of the Pineapple series, and many shades of subsequent issues, unused and used. Several specimens of the bisected 1d. on original, and also fiscal 1s. in similar condition.

Both of the preceding exhibits are marvellously complete and representative of modern Philatelic high watermark!

Nevis.

De Reuterskiöld, A.—A superb exhibit of these popular stamps, even the rarest stamps being daringly plated! Issue 1 contains reconstructed plates of the 1d., 4d., 6d., and 1s., used and unused. The 1867 issue engraved has the 1d., 4d., and 1s., used and unused, and the 1s. in yellow-green, complete, used, and ten varieties of the types unused. The lithographed issue of 1874 includes the 1d., 4d., 6d., and 1s. complete, unused; the 1d. and 4d. complete, used; nine varieties of the 6d.; ten of the 1s., light green; and seven of the 1s., dark green. The 1d., perf. 11½, used and unused, and the same stamp imperforate in eight varieties of type, besides two copies used. The later issues include all the varieties, and many bisected specimens; but the 1s. on laid paper is lacking.

WILLETT, W. T.—A brilliant and select collection of this country, all stamps represented being in the very finest condition. First issue *bleuté*, two copies of the 1s., and also reconstructed plates and shades of each value, unused. Second issue (perf. 15), entire sheets of the 4d. and 1s. (many shades of each value), with eight of the 1s., yellow-green, all unused, and a specimen of the 1s. on laid paper, used. The lithographed issue (perf. 15) includes an entire sheet of the 1d. (showing Type 1 retouched), an entire sheet of the 4d., a reconstructed sheet of the 6d., and entire sheets of the 1s. in light and dark shades, all unused.

St. Vincent and St. Lucia.

PIMM, W.—St. Vincent, the first issue, without watermark, used and unused; and numerous copies of the different perforations, including seven of the 4d., blue. The issues of 1871–77 (watermark Star) include most varieties, used and unused. The provisional stamps, 1d. on 6d., dark green (pair); ½d. on 6d., yellow-green; and "ONE PENNY" on 6d., are also shown; and a number of copies of all subsequent issues. St. Lucia, general issues, used, with some unused.

ROBERTS, VERNON.—A very fine collection of the stamps of St. Lucia, including blocks of the first issue, unused; a good range of shades, unused and used, of all issues; with twelve specimens of the 1s. of 1883 and six specimens of the 4d., perf. 12. The two varieties of die found amongst the stamps of Messrs. De La Rue & Co.'s design are fully represented with six of the 1s.; also fiscal stamps used for postage. We are delighted to see Mr. V. Roberts' return to the fold, and congratulate him on his success.

Straits Settlements and Dependencies.

BECKTON, W. DORNING.—In addition to the first issue, a collection showing untiring effort in accumulating the many errors and varieties of surcharge. Complete panes of the more ordinary surcharges are shown. Among the rarities may be noted the errors "UNJOG," "FERAK," and "PREAK." Very complete, scientific, and a model of neatness in its arrangement.

Turks Islands.

DE REUTERSKIÖLD, A.—A specimen of the 1s. value in prune, and shades of the unsurcharged series. The different settings and types of the surcharges of the ½d., 2½d., and 4d. values, including copies of the 2½d. on the 6d., black, with small fraction, and also with the large square-based "2" in the three types; ten varieties of the 2½d. on the 1s., blue; a block of thirteen 2½d. on the 1d., red, and fifteen of the 2½d. on the 1s, prune; a block of six of the 4d. on 6d., black, and the ½d. on the higher values in blocks of six and fifteen. In the issue of 1893 twenty varieties of ½d. on 4d., grey, in strips, showing the different settings, as also six specimens used on letters; altogether a collection of this country which it would be difficult to duplicate.

SECTION D.

SILVER MEDAL	. .	Baron A. DE WORMS (Gambia, Gold Coast, etc.).
BRONZE „	. .	J. N. MARSDEN (Gibraltar, Gold Coast, etc.).
BRONZE „	. .	ELIOT LEVY (British South Africa, etc.).

VAN KINSCHOT, C. P. L.—British Bechuanaland, Gold Coast, Lagos, Leeward Islands, Virgin Islands, and Zululand.

LE CRONIER, H.—An entire sheet, unused, of the half-penny on Three Pence; British Bechuanaland stamp, showing the whole arrangement of the setting of the surcharge.

JORDAN, T. G.—Falkland Islands, Gibraltar, Leeward Islands, Montserrat, Oil Rivers and Niger Coast, St. Helena and Seychelles.

DE WORMS, Baron A.—Gambia, Gold Coast, Lagos, St. Helena, Sierra Leone, most of the various issues being represented by three or four shades of each variety, unused. St. Helena, blocks of six of the 6d., 1d., and 4d., imperf., as well as a similar block of 1d., showing different lengths of the surcharge; a fine lot.

MARSDEN, J. N.—Gibraltar, Gold Coast, Lagos, Sierra Leone, Tobago, and British Consular Mail, Madagascar, including Gold Coast 2os., both varieties, unused; Lagos,

first issue, 2s. 6d., 5s., and 10s., unused; Tobago, first issue, Crown CC, 5s., used, and £1, unused; and two specimens of the 1d. provisional on half of 6d. British Consular Mail labels of Madagascar, mostly used.

ADAMSON, Mrs. H. S.—Antigua, St. Christopher, and Leeward Islands used copies, except in the Leeward Island series, which include unused copies.

BRAMAH, J.—British South Africa, mostly in entire sheets illustrating the varieties of paper, including two of the 2d. and one of the 4d., perf. 12½, on thick wove, as well as two of the 1d. on thick unwatermarked paper.

British South Africa, British Central Africa, and British East Africa.

LEVY, ELIOT.—British South Africa, first issue, all values, unused, up to £10, and the £5, postally used; the provisionals of 1896, unused and used; British Central Africa, first issue, all values, unused and used up to £2, and the later issues, complete; British East Africa, complete, including imperforate pairs, unused and used. The 1891 and 1895 provisionals, with surcharge in manuscript, and also with handstamp, include the 1 a. on 4 a., unused and used; the ½ a. on 2 a., in both varieties, used. All the 1896 provisionals, unused, in pairs, including the 2½ on 1 a. 6 pies, and the 1897 surcharges on the Zanzibar stamps.

SPECIAL AWARDS.

For Collections of used British Colonial Stamps. Presented by the City of London Philatelic Club.

GOLD MEDAL . . . Baron A. DE WORMS.
SILVER „ . . . Baron A. DE REUTERSKIÖLD.
BRONZE „ . . . W. W. BLEST.

For Collections of "Sydney Views," New South Wales. Presented by Messrs. G. Callf & Co.

SILVER MEDAL . . . Dr. F. BOWERS.

For the most complete Collection of Queensland. Presented by W. Hadlow, Esq.

SILVER MEDAL . . . W. W. BLEST.

For Departmental Stamps of South Australia. Presented by Gordon Smith, Esq.

SILVER MEDAL . . . W. HARRISON.

For Collection of Straits Settlements (including Native States). Presented by W. Brown, Esq., and S. C. Skipton, Esq.

SILVER MEDAL . . . W. DORNING BECKTON.

EUROPE.

DIVISION II. SECTION A.

GOLD MEDAL . . R. EHRENBACH (Austria).
SILVER „ . . ADOLF ROSENBERG (Heligoland).
SILVER „ . . GEO. F. JACKSON (Spain).
SILVER „ . . R. DREYFUS (Switzerland).
BRONZE „ . . JULIUS LOSSAU (Hamburg).
BRONZE „ . . ERNEST PETRI (Parma, Tuscany, etc.).
BRONZE „ . . Dr. YERSIN (Switzerland).

Austria, Austrian Italy, Hungary, and Bosnia.

EHRENBACH, R.—A very complete and rich assemblage of all the many shades and varieties comprised in the issues of the Dual Empire, which well deserved the recognition it has received at the hands of the judges. Austria (Issue of 1850): Full sets and ranges of shades on thick and thin paper, including the 1 kr. printed on

both sides, and the two types of the 9 kr. 1858: Full sets, including five copies of the 2 kr., orange; a set of the Mercuries; complete sets of the small perforated stamps of the 1867 and 1883 issues. 1886: Levant, Three Para, local surcharge, three. Lombardy, 1850: Sets of this issue on thick and thin paper, including the 5 centes. printed on both sides, and both types of the 45 centes. 1863: Five copies of the 10 soldi, perf. 15. Hungary, ranges of shades of lithographed issue.

Germany.

Van Kinschot, C. P. L.—Bavaria, German Confederation and Empire, and Hanover.

Lossau, Julius.—Hamburg only, but exceedingly choice and complete, both unused and used, the latter including all known varieties and combinations of postmarks, and numerous blocks and pairs in both states; there is also a pair of imperforate 4 sch. on original.

Hunt, G. H.—Baden, Bavaria, Brunswick, German Confederation, Hamburg, Hanover, Mecklenburg-Schwerin and Strelitz, Oldenburg, Saxony, Schleswig-Holstein, Thurn and Taxis, and Wurtemberg.

Rosenberg, Adolf.—An extensive and choice collection of Heligoland only. All issues are represented used and unused, the former showing the various local obliterations such as Hamburg, Geëstemunde, Cuxhaven, etc., and the latter including blocks and sheets which, with single specimens, include the several printings of the various issues. Prominent among the unused may be mentioned blocks of four of the first issue, rouletted, of the $\frac{1}{2}$ and 1 sch.; and among the used the same values with the 6 sch. (in the rouletted issue); of the perforated set, the $\frac{1}{4}$, light green and carmine-red; the $\frac{1}{4}$, red, and the same with colours reversed; and the $1\frac{3}{4}$ sch.

The five mark, perforated 11 to $11\frac{1}{2}$, and obliterated with postmark of July 22nd, 1880. Specimens of the Hamburg stamps, 2 sch., red, and 3 sch., blue, are also exhibited on letters having duly paid the postage from Heligoland before the issue of especial stamps for the island. The remainder of the collection, consisting of the various Berlin, Hamburg, and Leipzig reprints, forgeries, and false postmarks, etc., for purpose of comparison, were shown in a volume. This collection of Heligoland is undoubtedly *finer* than any ever seen in this country.

*Castle, M.P.—Hanover: Four copies of the 1 s.g, blue, of 1851; three of the one-tenth of 1856; and the deep shades of the Head issue of 1859–63. Blocks and strips in nearly all the issues. All the stamps are unused. Thurn and Taxis: First issue on coloured paper, shades of all values, and pairs and blocks of most, inclusive of a block of six of the 3 kr., grey-blue; a pair of the dark blue; a pair of the 1 s.g.; and a block of four of the 6 kr.; the subsequent issues in like manner including a pair of 9 kr., yellow on white; specimens of the 1862 series on toned paper, and a block of the 3 kr., rose, roul., both in plain and coloured lines, all being unused. Wurtemberg: Issue 1, the 9 kr. (three), 6 kr. (seven), 3 kr., orange (two), all arranged according to the three upper inscriptions, differing in length The second issue, with silk threads, include the 1 and 6 in the pale shades. The third issue, without threads, on thick paper (imperf.), includes the 6 kr. in pale and in yellow-green, and later (perforated $13\frac{1}{2}$) comprises shades of all four values, twenty-two in all. The 1 kr. and 6 kr. are exhibited on medium thick paper, followed by the issue on thin paper, which includes blocks. All subsequent issues in shades, inclusive of the two official series and the reprints of 1864. All the stamps are unused, and the exhibit may be considered, as regards difficulty of acquisition and of Philatelic study, to be fully representative of Mr. Castle's well-known European collection.

Italy.

Petri, Ernest.—Parma, Sicily, and Tuscany: Specimens of almost all the stamps of Parma, used, and also on original covers, including the provisional issue. Tuscany, the following are to be noticed: 60 c. (one), and 2 soldi (two pairs), 1 soldi (many shades) and the other values in shades; all used. Sicily both unused and used in singles and blocks.

Naples, Parma, and Tuscany.

*Castle, M. P.—Naples: The issue of 1858 in shades, pairs, and blocks, unused. The provisional ½ T. of November, 1861, two unused and seven used specimens, including a pair on Journal of November 16th, 1860. The issue of the following month, with the Savoy Cross, includes nine unused and forty-one used specimens, showing the variations of the types and the occasionally defective erasure of the Arms. Tuscany: The issues of 1851 on paper, varying from blue to almost white, in shades, pairs, etc., unused, including three copies of the 2 soldi and two of the 60 crazie. The issue of 1853 includes four copies of the 9 crazie and several blocks of other values. The provisional issue of 1860 contains blocks and strips, including 1 c. (26, and a block of 8), 5 c. (14, and a block of 4), 10 c. (20, and a block of 9), 20 c. (24, and a pair), 40 c. (12), 80 c. (6), and the 3 lire, unused (one) and used (two), all in specially-selected shades. Parma: First issue, unused, including two entire sheets, and showing the various stages of printing. The provisional issue of 1854 is displayed used and unused, there being thirty-eight of the latter, all of which are rare stamps, notably the 25c., brown; marked variations in thin and thick impressions will be seen amongst the used.

Chapman, J. H.—Roumania and Moldo Wallachia: Later issues, in which the various shades and varieties of perforation are extensively shown.

*Avery, W. B.—Of the first Moldavians, 81 p. (two) and 108 p. (three), unused; 27 p., three specimens and a pair; 54 p. (six), 81 (two), and 108 (five), used, including varieties of obliteration and copies on the original letter, all in superb condition, only one specimen appearing cut round. All these are known to be valuable, but the unused are really rare in addition.

Russia, Finland, Russian Levant, and Poland.

*Castle, M. P.—Want of space forbids a fuller description of these countries, the collection of the exhibitor being practically complete in unused condition.

Spain.

Jackson, Geo. F.—An excellent general collection of Spain, almost all values being present unused and used. To be noted are 1850, 10 r., green, strip of three, used; 1850, 2 r., red, unused, and pair used; 1851, 2 r., red, unused, and a pair used; 1853, 2 r., red, unused; 1853, 3 cuartos, bronze, unused and used; 1855, error, 2 r., blue, attached to the 1 r.; 1865, twelve, blue and rose, used, imperforate and perforated; the several nineteen cuartos and all later issues, including "Don Carlos" and official stamps.

Switzerland.

Yersin, Dr.—Used stamps only, specimens of the following Cantonal issues: Geneva, 10 cent in three varieties; Vaud, 4 and 5 cents; Neuchâtel, 5 cents; Zurich, 4 and 6 rappen; Winterthur and Basle, stamps of the Federal Administration of 1850, reconstructed. Plates of the forty varieties of the 2½ rappen, Orts Poste and Poste Locale, and of the higher values; a specimen of the latter with framed cross; and a representative selection of all subsequent issues

*Avery, W. B.—Cantonal stamps of Geneva with the first Federal issue only. Amongst the 10 c., Geneva, an unused block of six and three halves—much admired, and we might also say envied, by the Philatelic visitors—with part of top marginal inscription; also nine used pairs, two being on envelopes and three used half stamps. Of the 5 c., large Eagle of 1847, an unused block of twenty stamps, which form the two top rows of the sheet, with the full top marginal inscription; a used pair on the letter of the 4 c., Local Post of 1849 (Vaud). The first Federal issue in numerous reconstructed sheets, there being two of the 2½ rappen Orts Poste, one without frame to the cross, beautifully reconstructed.

*Castle, M. P.—The Cantonal issues only—unused. Included are two of the 4 r. and four of the 6 r., Zurich, with vertical lines: and with horizontal lines, four of the former and nineteen of the latter, inclusive of two strips of the five types unsevered, one of which shows the retouched variety; Winterthur, five copies of the 2½ r.; Geneva, 10 c., three shades, and one specimen wrongly divided;

5 c., blocks of all varieties; 4 c., Vaud, two; 5 c., Vaud, fourteen specimens; 5 c., Neuchâtel, six; Basle, seven shades, and unissued variety with scarlet background. The 15 r. with small figure and the 15 c., red, both unused, the latter being of extreme rarity. A small exhibit in one case, but not the worst in the Exhibition.

Dreyfus, R.—Geneva, 10 c., three copies on originals, one cut wrong way, and two halves; the cut envelopes, two specimens. Vaud, 4 c., four copies, two being postmarked on same letter. Winterthur, in pairs. Zurich, 4 r., the five types horizontal and vertical lines, mostly on letters; the 6 r. in types also. Basle, several examples, including a pair on letter. Plates of the Orts Poste, with and without border, and the Poste Locale with border; a constructed plate of the 5 r., blue on white, unused. Plates of all the other varieties, as also a strip of three of the 10 r., with cross framed on the original letter, with many varieties of obliteration, both of this and the succeeding issues, including among the issue with silk thread a number of bisected stamps. Among the Unpaid Letter stamps, complete sets of the blue and blue-green on granite paper. An interesting collection, including many specimens on entire letters.

Belgium.

Ehrenbach, R.—One of Mr. Ehrenbach's favourite countries, very complete, with scarcely anything wanting, excepting one or two shades in the second issue. First issue, including pairs and blocks, in shades; also the 20 c. in the very pale blue shade; issue of 1850 (LL in frame), on thick and thin paper; and 1851 (LL no frame), full ranges on various papers.

France and Monaco.

Hunt, G. H.—French Republic and Empire, principally in used condition.

De Pfeil, Miss Feyl.—France: About 650 specimens, used and unused. Among the latter will be found 1849, 15 c., green, and 1 franc, vermilion; 1853, 1 franc, carmine; and 1876, 10 and 15 c. (error), *se tenant.*

Van Hoek, Anton.—France: Blocks of the 1849 issue of all values, the stamps of the Presidency and Empire imperforate; of all subsequent issues, including the French Levant and Unpaid Letter stamps, etc. etc., chiefly unused.

* Castle, M. P.—This exhibit, being the only comprehensive one of France, attracted considerable attention, and consisting entirely of unused, found many admirers. The 1849 Republic, shades and pairs, or blocks of all values; nine specimens of the 1 fr., vermilion, three used, and a strip and block of six of the 15 c.; as also the *tête-bêche* of the 10, 20, 25 c., and the 1 fr., and a series of reprints. The issues of 1852 Presidency and 1853 Empire are similarly represented, inclusive of shades, in the latter; of the 10 c., yellow, 20 c., sky-blue; and blue on blue paper *tête-bêche*, etc. The subsequent issues include shades of all, and blocks of most values.

Section B.

GOLD MEDAL . . .	W. Dorning Beckton (Greece).
SILVER „ . . .	Hubert Buckley (Norway).
SILVER „ . . .	R. Ehrenbach (Sweden).
BRONZE „ . . .	A. H. Harrison (Norway, etc.).
BRONZE „ . . .	J. N. Marsden (Portugal),

Greece.

Beckton, W. Dorning.—A remarkable collection of this country which has secured the gold medal of the section, an example of diligent and successful research into a difficult, though interesting country. The Paris Prints: In addition to a large number of single specimens unused and used of each value there are blocks of seventeen of the 1 lepta, three of fifteen and one of twenty of the 2 l., nine of the 5 l., three and pair 10 l., and a pair of 10 l. without numerals, pairs of the 20 l., and a strip of three with marginal inscription, block of eight of 40 l., block of twenty, and other large blocks of 80 l. In the Athens Prints all the values unused in the different printings, including large blocks and entire sheets of the 1 l., (two), 2 l., 40 l., and 80 l. The following are

also noticeable: 1 l., first Athens (three); Early Athens on ribbed paper (block); 10 l. without numerals on back, and 10 l. on azure paper, unused; 20 l. without numerals on back, and 20 l. on greenish paper, on blue paper, and the deep Indigo on thin paper, all unused; 40 l., solferino, unused; green on greenish, block (31) unused; 80 lepta in pale rose on white paper, three unused; 30 l., Paris, seven unused, including strip of three; 60 l., Athens, seven unused. All the subsequent issues of the first type of head in the various printings unused in large blocks, and entire sheets of the 5 l. in both shades. The Unpaid Letter stamps in various perforations and errors, practically complete, including 10 l., with figures on the face, 40 l., double figures, and with 40 and 20; also 20 l., with 80 on the back.

Holland and Luxemburg.

VAN KINSCHOT, C. P. L.—The stamps of these two countries in used condition, including shades and varieties of most values.

Luxemburg.

SMITH, GORDON.—A practically complete collection of the stamps of this country, both general issues and officials. In the first are a pair and six singles of the black and eight of the red, the latter in three shades, all unused. The second issue, imperf., contains pairs of all values (except the 40 c.), including a strip of three of the 1 fr. on $37\frac{1}{2}$ c., the centre stamp with the error "Pranc." Later issues in all varieties of perforation, etc., are fully shown. In the officials both types of the "OFFICIAL," the "S.P." in its various types, including the slanting type on the 5 fr. and many varieties of perforation and surcharge. All the stamps in the finest possible condition.

Norway, Denmark, and Iceland.

DEANE, HERMANN F. W.—The Danish stamps include the 2 r.b.s., blue, and the 4 r.b.s., yellow-brown, unused, and the subsequent issues in shades, principally unused. The Iceland stamps embrace the several shades and perforation, used and unused. The first issue of Sweden, seven specimens, unused; the seventeen, grey, of 1886, and the "Tretio" error, red, both unused. The remaining issues, both perforations, in many shades and printings, used and unused. Norway includes the 4 sk. of 1854, unused, and pairs, blocks, and unused specimens of the 1856, 1863, and subsequent issues, as also several entire sheets.

BUCKLEY, HUBERT.—A Norwegian exhibit of a high order of merit. Amongst the unused stamps will be found blocks of the three lower values of each of the issues of 1856 and 1863, including one showing the four dies of the 2 sk. of 1863; whole sheets of some and blocks of others of 1867 issue; a whole sheet of the first printing of the 1 sk., dark green, of 1872; and an imperforate specimen of the 7 sk. of the same issue; two sheets of different printings of the 5 öre; and a block of twenty-five of the 25 öre of 1877, the 3, 5, and 10 öre of 1883, in blocks, showing different shades; a pair of the 10 öre and a block of ten of the 20 öre, blue, both imperforate. A small collection of Denmark, chiefly unused, and a collection of unused stamps of Iceland in blocks of four.

HARRISON, A. H.—Norway: The first issue includes pairs used, and shows the varieties of the die; and the second and third issues are shown unused and used, with many blocks, the respective types being all noted. The succeeding issues all include many shades, both used and unused, and in most instances blocks or portions of sheets, the shade of colour in the later issues being very extended. In the issue of 1883–4 the 12 öre, green, is to be noted by a pair and two single copies; the 20 öre, brown, in a block of six; and the 25, unused, on a portion of the sheet. Unused specimens predominate, most values being in pairs or block, in addition to single, and occasionally used specimens.

Denmark: The earlier issues are principally represented by postmarked copies, but include the 4 r. 6 s., unused; and in the later issues blocks of unused and single specimens, in addition to the used shades.

The above three exhibits all show the vast strides which have been made of late years in the research into Scandinavian countries.

Portugal.

MARSDEN, J. N.—A fine collection of used and unused stamps together, followed by an unused series of all issues. The specimens of the first issue include two of the 50 r. and three of the 100 r., all unused, and blocks of six and eight copies of the 100 r., used. The 5 r., of 1855, with "straight hair," unused, and the five varieties of type of this stamp are exhibited used. All the subsequent issues complete, unused and used. Although a fine exhibit, it was expected there would be a more extended display of this country.

Sweden.

EHRENBACH, R.—A remarkably complete exhibit of a very difficult country, wanting only in shades of the first issue, which are universally scarce. Issue 1, on thick and thin paper, 3 skill., nine copies; 4 skill., fourteen; 6 skill., eleven; 8 skill., sixteen; 24 skill., eight; 1866, seven copies of the 17 öre, grey, shades; 1872, shades of the 6 öre, grey; two copies of the error "Tretio"; one copy of the 1 rigsdaler, perf. 13; 1889, official stamp, 10 öre, blue, reversed surcharge.

Representative collections were also exhibited by H. Buckley and J. Matinheiki.

SPECIAL AWARDS.

For Exhibits of European Stamps. Presented by M. P. Castle, Esq.

GOLD MEDAL . . . R. EHRENBACH.
SILVER „ . . . W. DORNING BECKTON.

For Exhibits by Continental Collectors. Presented by R. Ehrenbach, Esq.

SILVER MEDAL . . . ADOLF ROSENBERG.
BRONZE „ . . . R. DREYFUS.

ASIA AND AFRICA.

DIVISION III. SECTION A.

GOLD MEDAL . . . . T. WICKHAM JONES (Japan).
SILVER „ . . . Capt. F. H. HANCOCK (Afghanistan).
SILVER „ . . . . R. PEARCE (Transvaal).
BRONZE „ . Baron A. DE REUTERSKIÖLD (Philippine Islands).
BRONZE „ . . . . Major R. DAY (Afghanistan).

Afghanistan.

HANCOCK, Capt. F. H.—Made-up sheets of the four plates of 1288, including many pairs and blocks; nine specimens of the 1289 issue, of which seven are used; 1293 "Tablet" issue, made-up plate, complete with the exception of two types of the 1 shahi, the order having been carefully worked out by Capt. Hancock; 1293 (second issue), a large number of the higher values in various colours; the later issues are also fully represented.

DAY, Major J.—1288, reconstructed sheets of the four plates, wanting only two types of Plate A, and two of the shahi, Plate D; the four types of 1289; reconstructed sheet, in purple, of 1292; twenty copies of the "Tablet" issue of 1293; reconstructed sheets of 1293 (second issue), and sets of various colours; and most of the varieties of the 1294 and 1295 issues.

CHAMBERLAIN, Col. NEVILLE.—A few rarities consisting of unused portions of sheets of some of the postage stamps of Ameer Sher Ali Khan.

LINCOLN, WILLIAM S.—A collection of complete sheets, blocks, pairs, etc., of the issues of 1288 (1871) to 1295 (1878).

Azores and Madeira.

MARSDEN, J. N.—The stamps of these two countries are mostly used. Among the Azores will be found a specimen of the imperforate 5 r., first issue, and all the subsequent issues of this country and most of those of Madeira are complete. A separate exhibit includes the other Portuguese Colonies, all evincing a due Philatelic knowledge and research in these countries.

French Colonies and Possessions.

HUNT, G. H.—The various Colonial issues of France, partly unused and partly used.

Japan.

BECKTON, W. DORNING.—The first issue includes single specimens in shades and six entire sheets, one of which is on wove paper. Of the second issue there are entire sheets of the ½, 2, and 5 sen, and fifteen entire sheets among the stamps of the following issues: Specimens of nearly every syllabic character known for the issues of 1874 and 1875, as well as the numerous varieties of perforation found amongst these stamps and also amongst those of the subsequent and current issues.

JONES, T. WICKHAM.—Another example of deep and successful research into a most interesting country. The exhibit includes an entire sheet of the first issue, 500 mons on wove paper, and nine entire sheets of the various values on laid paper, with a block of twenty-five of the 500 mons in the pale yellow-green shade. The ½ sen of the second issue, on wove paper, an entire sheet, and four entire sheets of the ½ sen and 2 sen on laid paper. Of the 6 sen of January, 1874, on laid paper, there are fifty-eight specimens, including several of the Plate numbers unused, and a used block of nine of Plate 7, and a used strip of eight of Plate 9. The various Plate numbers of the other issues are almost complete used, and most of them unused as well; included in these is an unused specimen of the 20 sen on laid paper, Plate 3, and an unused copy of the 10 sen, blue, Plate 5. The later issues are represented in all the numerous varieties of perforation.

Philippine Islands.

DE REUTERSKIÖLD, A.—An exhibit of a very high order of Philatelic merit. The first issue includes partially completed and fully constructed plates of the four values of 4 c. types, both with the fine and coarse-lined background, comprising many blocks and strips of both unused and used, the total number of specimens being 273; also the types of the lithographed 5 c. of 1855. A block of thirty-two of the 5 c. of 1859; the 1863 issue, the same surcharged "Habilitado"; and the subsequent issues, inclusive of the numerous surcharges, are also fully represented.

Portuguese India.

MARSDEN, J. N.—First issue on thin paper, the 10, 20, 40, and 200 reis, used; on the thick paper two of the 10 reis, and one each of the 20, 200, and 300 reis, also used. The 900 r., Type 1 of 1873, is shown with double numerals of value; and a specimen of the 20 r., Type 1, with small figures of 1875. The numerous varieties of the subsequent surcharged issues are fully represented.

Transvaal.

PEARCE, R.—Issues of the First Republic, the period of British Occupation, and of the Second Republic, with notes and details. First Republic, *tête-bêche* pairs of the 6d. and 1s. values of the first local printing, and of the later 6d., with dark brown gum; wide roulettes of the 1d. value, on *pelure*, on thick, soft, and on hard-surfaced paper, as well as other rouletted stamps. The period of British Occupation includes the variety with "V.R." and "Transvaal," printed wider apart in all four values. Of the same issue, the 3d., with double surcharge, black and red; and the 1s., black surcharge, with fine roulette, unused, and also used, with inverted surcharge. There is also a pair of the same 1s., *tête-bêche*, unused, rouletted 6½ on one side. Copies of the 6d., blue on rose, with overprint omitted, and of the 3d., lilac on buff, with overprint inverted. The error "Transvral," 1d., red on blue, unused; the 6d., blue on blue, with the surcharge omitted, with fine roulette. Numerous other varieties of the roulettes and variations of printing in the several issues. Among the entire sheets is one of the 1d., on hard-surfaced paper, and one of the 3d., violet on green—the latter with the variety small T to Transvaal. The stamps of the Second Republic include an unused pair of the 1s., of 1883, perf. 12, one being *tête-bêche*, and an unused block of four of the same value, surcharged "Halve Penny," one stamp *tête-bêche*. The 2d. provisional of 1887, on the type of 1885, and the 1d. provisional of 1893, with double surcharge.

In such a difficult country it is impossible to mention more of the varieties exhibited in the collection, which is of great beauty and variety, and richly deserved the medals awarded.

Section B.

SILVER MEDAL .	. H. Cantel (Bey), (Egypt).
SILVER „ .	. T. Wickham Jones (Shanghai).
BRONZE „ .	. J. Hamish Wilson (Egypt).
BRONZE „ .	. C. P. L. van Kinschot (Dutch Indies and Orange Free State).

Egypt and Suez Canal.

Wilson, J. Hamish.—All varieties of watermark, perforation, and postmarks of all the issues of the country, with essays, proofs, Fiscals, etc.

Cantel, Henri (Bey).—The first issue (1866) includes all values in shades and varieties of perforation, as well as imperforate specimens and varieties of obliteration. To be noted also are used and unused copies of the 5 piastres, rose, with the surcharge of the 10 p., as also the 2 p. bisected. In the 1867 issue, varieties and errors of perforation in addition to the four types of each value. The 1872 issue on thick and thin paper, including also *tête-bêche* and inverted surcharges. The later issues are also represented. The Suez Canal stamps, all four values, used, unused, and in blocks. This seemingly official exhibit is practically complete, and shows remarkable taste in the mounting. It is to be hoped that it may never be broken up.

Shanghai and China.

Jones, T. Wickham.—Shanghai: All the varieties of paper, and nearly all the numerous types. There are nine specimens of the 4 cand. with the error "mace," two of which are used, and five examples of the 8 can. with the same error. The various surcharged stamps of 1873 to 1877 are strongly represented, and include the 1 cand. and 3 cand. on 16 cents; the 1 cand. on 3 cand., yellow; the 1 cand. on 3 cand., rose on rose; the 1 cand. on 12 cand., grey-brown; and the 6, 9, and 12 cand. of 1876 with the same surcharge. There is an imperforate and also a perforate specimen of the 1 cand., rose (error), of 1876, and the subsequent issues include all the varieties of perforation and shade, some of the provisionals of 1893 being in blocks and entire sheets. The stamps of China complete. An exhibit of exceptional merit in the untiring interest and knowledge evidenced by the collection.

Van Kinschot, C. P. L.—An exhibit of Dutch Indies and Orange Free State.

Special Awards.

For Collection of Transvaal. Presented by W. S. Lincoln, Esq.

GOLD MEDAL . . . . R. Pearce.

For Collection of Shanghai. Presented by David Benjamin, Esq.

GOLD MEDAL . . . . T. Wickham Jones.

AMERICA.

Division IV. Section A.

GOLD MEDAL .	. H. J. Duveen (United States).
SILVER „ .	. F. R. Ginn (United States).
SILVER „ .	. T. W. Hall (Colombia).
BRONZE „ .	. Dr. G. Michelsen (Colombia).

United States of America.

Duveen, H. J.—Commencing with the Postmasters' stamps there are two of the 5 c., Baltimore, on blue and on white; Brattleboro', on the original envelope; Millbury and St. Louis, two reconstructed sheets, one the first issue on greyish paper, and the other showing the plate altered by the substitution of "20" for "5" in the two upper 5 c. stamps on grey-lilac paper, two single 10 c., one 5 c.,

another 5 c. on original, and a 10 c. on *pelure*. In general issues, three blocks of four of the 5 c. and a strip of four of the 10 c. of the 1847 issue. In the 1851 issue are blocks of four of all values (except the 24 c., of which there is a single specimen), and in the same set perforated of 1855 are similar or larger blocks of all values, the prominent varieties of engraving or shade being shown. In the 1861 set are six of the "Première Gravure," and blocks of four of all values (except the 12 c.), including the 3 c., pink, and 5 c., ochre. A specimen of the 3 c., scarlet, is also shown here. In the same types with grille are unused copies of the 3 c. with grille all over, and grilles 13 × 16 mm. and 12 × 14 mm.; also the 2 c. with the latter. All values with the 11 × 13 mm. are found in blocks of four (or larger), except the 2 c., of which there is a pair. Blocks of six distinguish the 1869 issue, but the 15 c. with frame is in a block of four. There are also used specimens of the three values with inverted centres, and the original set without grille only wants the 6 c. In the printing of the National Company is a 24 c. with grille used, most of the other values being represented in blocks of four at least. In the Continental Company's reissue of 1875 is a complete set of the four values, and the American Company's reissued set of four of 1880 is also complete. Sets on the experimental papers, namely, lilac-laid, chemically-toned, and double or split paper complete the exhibit. Between the two exhibits of U.S. it is a difficult task to appraise the relative merits, both being universally recognised as *tours de force* in every way.

Ginn, F. R.—This collection, well known as being the patient work of many years, was admired exceedingly. The specimens include Government issues from 1847 to 1895, an exception being made in the case of the 5 c., black, of New York, of 1842, specimens of which are displayed showing varieties on the plate. The issue of 1847 includes numerous copies of the 5 c., in pairs, etc., and five of the 10 c. In the 1851 issue the three types of the 1 c., five copies of the 5 c., the three varieties of the 10 c. and the 12 c., inclusive of three pairs, are to be found. In the 1853 issue the three types of the 1 c. are shown in blocks with other specimens; two copies of the 5 c., brick-red, and all subsequent varieties thereof; a block of four of the 24 c., with numerous shades; as also of the 30 c. and 90 c. The "Premières Gravures" of the 1, 3, 10, 24, and 30, and the Government reprints, are also exhibited. The 1861 issue includes shades of the 5 c., yellow-brown, and 24 c., purple, all values with grille and the reprints. The 1869 issues include all shades with and without grille. The 1870 and subsequent issues emanating from the various printers, and also with the various grilles, are exhibited in numerous shades. The departmental stamps include the high values of State, and all the subsequent issues are represented by numerous specimens. All stamps in this exhibit are unused. The used portion of the collection also includes practically all the foregoing, inclusive of many blocks, strips, varieties of postmark, and the 15 c. and 24 c. of 1869, with centres inverted.

Colombian Republic and States.

Michelsen, Dr. G.—An exhibit comprising in eight volumes the issues of 1859 and 1860, including blocks of the 10 c., unused, of the former, and shades of all values, used and unused, and blocks of the 5 c. of the latter. In 1861 will be found a strip and a pair of the 1 peso, unused, with numerous shades of all values. In 1862 are exhibited 10 c., eleven; 20 c., seven; 50 c., twenty-seven; 1 peso, thirteen. 1863 includes the 50 c., red, error; 1864 includes a sheet and blocks of the 50 c. and 1 p.; 1865 includes a sheet of the 50 c. and blocks of other values; 1867 includes sheets of the 20 c., 50 c., two shades, and 1 p.; also sheets of the 10 c., 20 c., and 50 c., in several shades, and ditto of the 5 p. Subsequent issues present similar features. Antioquia, first issues, 2½ c., one, unused; two, used; 5 c., three, used; 10 c., two; and 1 p., five—all the specimens of the last two values having pen cancellations. The prominent varieties of the later issues are all represented. Bolivar, 10 c., four specimens, used; Cundinamarca, Panama, etc., are fully shown. Tolima, 5 c. on blue laid, three sheets of ten each; 5 c. on white, four blocks of six; 5 c. on blue wove, two sheets of ten, all unused. Two reconstructed sheets of the 5 c. on blue, and three of the 5 c. on buff; and the succeeding issues, unused, mostly in blocks and pairs. It was thought probable

that if the early issues had been stronger unused it might have been given a higher place by the judges.

HALL, T. W.—A series of shades of the issues of 1859 to 1864, including the original 50 c., slate, error, of 1860 (5 c. altered), and a pair of the 20 c., red, of 1862. In the 1876–84 issues various coloured papers are shown, as also errors of the 1881 issue and a pair of the 1890, unpaid, on laid *batonné*. Amongst the States the noticeable stamps are: Antioquia, first issue, complete set, with duplicates of most values, and 1889–90 provisionals, in entire sheets. Bolivar, most issues complete. Tolima, seventy copies of the type-set issues of 1868, including entire plates of the 5 c., black or buff, on white, and on *quadrillé* papers—an exhibit expressing due Philatelic knowledge, which received a well-deserved Silver Medal.

Confederate States.

*AVERY, W. B.—The locally issued stamps of these States include Athens, 5 c., five and a pair; Baton Rouge, 2 c.; green Columbia (envelope), 5 c., three; Charleston, 5 c., two, and envelope; Canton, two; Danville, three; Fredericksburg, 5 c., three; 10 c., one; Goliad, 10 c.; Knoxville, 5 c., black; 5 c., red, in blocks and shades; Lynchburg, 5 c., blue, three; 10 c., black; 5 c. (oval), black; Lenoir, 5 c., two; Marion, 2 c.; Madison, 3 c.; Montgomery, 5 c.; Livingstone, 5 c.; Macon, 5 c., green; 5 c., yellow, three; Memphis, 5 c., two; 2 c., block of 46; Mobile, 2 c., 5 c.; New Orleans, Nashville, Petersburg, Ringgold, Rheatown, Pleasant Shade, pair; Telico Plains, two pairs; Raleigh and Salem. Many of the specimens are on the original covers, and include shades and varieties of impression. The general issue also in all shades and varieties, used and unused. Mr. Avery's collection of the Confederate States is well known as being one of the finest in the world.

Hawaii.

*AVERY, W. B.—First issue, a 5 c. and the two types of the 13 c.; in the 1853 issue the 5 c. and the 13 c. on thick paper, used.

Mexico.

FRENTZEL, R.—First issue, 1856, used and unused, with and without surcharge, also some "Habilitados" and other varieties. The 1861 issue contains errors of the ½ real and 1 real. The 1863 issue contains, besides several surcharged, two stamps postally used. The Eagle issues are shown in great variety, a large number unused, including 3 centavos (two) and one used copy of the same stamp. The Maximilian series and the issue of 1868 comprise most of the varieties. In the 1872 issue "watermarked" specimens, as also three stamps on laid paper. The 1874–77 and 1878–83 issues are fully represented with some uncatalogued surcharges. In the 1879 issue are many "Habilitados." The later issues are all fully represented in used and unused specimens. Only a small portion of the exhibitor's extensive collection was displayed in the cases, owing to want of space.

SECTION B.

GOLD MEDAL	H. R. OLDFIELD (Bolivia).
SILVER „	ALPH. BRÜCK (Brazil).
BRONZE „	T. W. HALL (Peru).

Bolivia.

OLDFIELD, H. R.—An extensive collection of much merit, comprising large series of the Eagle issue; in the 5 centavos value, various blocks in the yellow-green shade, complete sheets of all the plates, including an unused sheet and one made up of the lilac stamp, as well as single specimens showing the varieties peculiar to each plate and those to be found on the different plates, with strips and single stamps occupying the same position on each, showing the retouches and alterations. There is also a made-up plate of the 10 centavos value, complete except for one stamp; two complete plates of the 50 and 100 centavos; used and unused copies of the 50 centavos, blue, and of the 100 centavos, green, including a partially reconstructed plate of the latter. In the 1867 and 1871 issues are several used and unused copies of the 500 centavos, nine stars and eleven stars, with complete sets of the later issues, used and unused, and a set of the Interior stamps, used, on original envelopes.

Argentine Confederation and Republic, Corrientes and Cordova.

Brazil Section of the Berlin Philatelic Society.—The several issues of the Confederation and Republic, for the most part in blocks, unused. The Society also sent a representative collection of Brazil, but all arrived too late for display.

Brazil.

Ehrenbach, R.—Among the stamps here shown are the 1843 issue in various states of the plates on both greyish and yellowish paper; 30 reis, twenty-two unused copies, including block of four and a pair; 60 reis, twenty-one; 90 reis, fifteen, all unused; and the 1844 issue in various states of the plates on various papers, including 180 reis, four; 300 reis, four; 600 reis, seven, including a strip of four, all unused.

Brück, Alph.—A superb exhibit of Brazil, unused and used in blocks, pairs, and on original letters. The first issue includes fourteen copies of the 90 r., and others in blocks and on letters. In the issue of 1844, with slanting figures, will be found 180 r., nine; 300 r., fourteen, including a block of six unused; and 600 r., five; and used specimens showing shades and varieties of paper. The perforations of the succeeding issues, as well as the variations of shade, paper, etc., are illustrated by numerous specimens, used and unused; also a practically complete collection on "entires."

Buenos Ayres.

Ehrenbach, R.—Mr. Ehrenbach's Naval Review attracted almost as much attention as that held at Spithead, and included upwards of one hundred and twenty-five stamps of the "Ship" issues, unused, in a large variety of shades, comprising: Dos Pesos, eighteen; Tres Pesos, eleven; Cuato Pesos, red, five; Cinco Pesos, five, including the chrome-yellow; Cuato Pesos, brown, twenty-two; In Pesos, brown, thirteen, including a double print; To Pesos, blue, fourteen, including a pair; In Pesos, blue, nine, including a double print. Of this value there are also forty-eight stamps, of which more than half are unused, which represent the varieties on the sheet. The issue is also exhibited in used specimens, one hundred and sixty, among which are two copies of the To Pesos, blue, with the word "Cuato" unerased or only very faintly. The Head issues include fine and coarse printings, used and unused in numerous shades.

Oldfield, H. R.—A general collection of this country.

Pacific Steam Navigation Company and Peru.

Hall, T. W.—Six postmarked copies of the 1 real, blue, inclusive of two used by the Company, three at Lima and one at Callao; also postmarked specimen of 2 reals, red. The 1858 issues, used and unused, including a pair and seven singles of medio peso, yellow (two unused), and two of the medio peso, rose. Originals and re-engravings of 1 peseta and 1 dinero of 1860. Pair and two singles of 1 dinero 1860, with Arms reversed. The series of Chilian stamps with Peruvian postmarks includes the 1, 2, and 5 c. of 1878. The various triangular and oval surcharges of 1883–4 and nearly all the town surcharges, as well as many curious varieties, including forgeries, etc., for comparison, will be noted. A very strong collection.

Uruguay.

Ehrenbach, R.—"Diligencias," including the second type of the 60 centes. Among the block letters there is a block of the 240 cent, with a white space in centre in lieu of a stamp, and likewise the 120 cent in a *tête-bêche* pair. The issues of 1859 and 1860, with thin and thick figures, are represented by full ranges of shades.

Section C.

SILVER MEDAL . . . R. Meyer (Chili).
BRONZE „ . . . E. S. Davidson (Cuba and Porto Rico).

Chili.

Meyer, R.—Issue 1 includes shades of the 5 and 10 c. on blue paper, unused, as also all other values, showing the large and small watermarks, in many cases in pairs, etc., unsevered, unused and used. A block of the 5 c. on rough paper, with a

watermark of the Chilian Arms in the centre of the sheet, is also exhibited. The succeeding issues include both used and unused, in many shades, and several specimens of the 10 c. of Issue 1 bisected on the original covers.

Cuba and Porto Rico, and Fernando Po.

DAVIDSON, E. S.—The issues used primarily for Cuba in conjunction with Porto Rico and subsequently for the former alone, both unused and used. Among the early Cuba will be found several copies of the stamps surcharged "Y¼."

VAN KINSCHOT, C. P. L.—Curaçao and Surinam. The several issues of these two countries in shades and varieties, many of the specimens being unused; also entire sheets of some of the Unpaid Letter stamps.

SPECIAL AWARDS.

For Collection of Colombia and States. Presented by M. Giwelb, Esq.

GOLD MEDAL . . . . . T. W. HALL.

For Collection of Mexico. Presented by W. T. Wilson, Esq.

GOLD MEDAL . . . . . R. FRENTZEL.

For Collection of Peru. Presented by Buhl & Co., Limited.

GOLD MEDAL . . . . . T. W. HALL.

CLASS III.

COLLECTIONS OF RARE STAMPS.

GOLD MEDAL	. . .	W. THORNE.
*GOLD	„ . . .	HARVEY R. G. CLARKE.
SILVER	„ . . .	M. GIWELB.
*SILVER	„ . . .	A. S. TOMSON.
BRONZE	„ . . .	H. R. OLDFIELD.

* **Presented by W. H. Peckitt, Esq.**

THORNE, W.—Mr. Thorne's selection of 100 rare stamps was confessedly unrivalled in this class, several of them being "semi-unique." *The* stamp is the 4 c., British Guiana, of 1856, indigo, paper coloured on both sides, which is a grand "four-square" copy, and probably is not excelled by any other like specimen extant. The 27 para, Roumania, is also a great rarity unused. In addition to these were included Vancouver Island, 5 c., rose, imperf.; British Guiana, 1850, 4 c., pale yellow, on *pelure* paper; 1856, 4 c., crimson, 4 c., blue, paper coloured on surface only; Canada, 12d., black; Reunion, 15 c. and 30 c., black on blue, the former unused also; Dominica, 1d. on 6d., green; Ceylon, 4d. and 8d., imperf.; Great Britain, £1, watermark Anchor, unused; ditto, watermark Cross; Hawaii, 13 c., Type II.; Indian, 4 a., red and blue, with head inverted; Newfoundland, 1s., carmine-vermilion, unused; Straits Settlements issue, 12 c., green, with double surcharge; Tuscany, 3 lire; U.S., the Brattleboro' local stamp (with engraver's inscription at base, especially interesting in this condition); 1869, the series with inverted centre, including a block of four of the 24 c. (this represents the apotheosis of bloating!); Virgin Islands, 1s., with figure omitted; Spain, 12 c., rose and blue, imperf., a pair, one with frame inverted; and other rarities in European, United States, and Colonial issues.

CLARKE, HARVEY, R. G.—St. Vincent, 6d., yellow-green, clean-cut perf.; pairs of the 1s., rose (shades), including the compound perf.; Mauritius, 2d., large fillet (two used), and the 2d., "PENOE"; New South Wales, Sydney Views, several, including the 2d., violet-blue, Plate 4; 3d., "Laureated" and "Diadem," each with error watermark "2"; Ceylon, 4d., 8d., 9d., and 2s., imperf.; the 9d., perf., in the rare shade, and the later 24 c., plum; Newfoundland, 6d., orange-vermilion, and 1s. in each colour; Canada, 12d., used; Nova Scotia, 1s. (two copies); Vancouver, 5 c.,

imperf.; British Guiana, some of the "Circular" issue, including the 6 c., green (cut square, used); the 4 c., 1852 (one copy); six of the 4 c., blue, provisional of 1862; and the 4 c. of 1853 with framed corners. A very choice selection.

Giwelb, M.—The pink of condition was the characteristic of Mr. Giwelb's stamps, which included Austria, "Mercury," yellow; Buenos Ayres, 4 p., vermilion; India, long service, set of 2 a., 4 a., and 8 a.; Lagos, 1887, the 2s. 6d., 5s., and 10s.; St. Vincent, 4d. on 1s.; Spain, the 2 reales of 1851, 1852, and 1853, and the 3 c., bronze, Madrid and Trinidad, the "Lady McLeod" stamp, all unused. Amongst the used stamps are Antioquia, a set of the four values of the first issue; Ceylon, 8d., imperforate; New Brunswick and Nova Scotia, 1s.; Roumania (1854), 54 and 108 para; Suez Canal, an entire envelope with two copies of the 20c.

Tomson, A. S.—New Brunswick, "Connell"; Barbados, 1d. on 5s., strip of three, and three pairs, showing various types; St. Vincent, the 6d., yellow-green, clean-cut perf., and a pair of 1d. on 6d.; Turks Islands, several of the 2½d. on 1s.; British Columbia, 10 c. and 1 dollar, perf. fourteen; Canada, 6d., perf., unused; United States, 3 c., grill all over; Newfoundland, 1s., in both colours, unused, and the 2d., carmine-vermilion, unused; several good Nevis; Tobago, 6d., CA, etc.

Oldfield, H. R.—Although limited to the one continent, Mr. Oldfield's stamps were extremely well selected and of fine quality, including: America only, the "Lady Macleod"; six of the 1s. values of New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, and Newfoundland; Colombian Republic, stamps of the 1861 and 1862 issues, with the error 50 c., red, of 1863, and high values of later issues; the 4 and 5 pesos of Buenos Ayres; Antioquia, first issue, 2½ c., two, and 5 c., three, one unused; Bolivar, first issue, green, two; Pacific Steam Navigation Company, the two values used and unused; Peru, medio peso, rose, three; and some Uruguay and Venezuela stamps.

Fabri, Pio.—New Brunswick, 5 c., "Connell"; Canada, 12d.; Ceylon, first issue, 8d., unused; India, 1854, pair of 4 a., first setting with the blue line frame, unused; Western Australia, first issue, 4d., with frame inverted, literally a *rara avis;* Spain, 2 reales, 1851, 1852, and 1853, and Madrid, 3 curatos, all unused; Switzerland, Geneva, 10 c., Vaud, 4 c., all unused; Tuscany, 60 crazie, pair of 2 soldi, strip of five, 1 soldo on bluish, all unused, and 3 lire, used; Russia, 1858, 10, 20, and 30 kop., with wmk., unused; Russian Levant, 1865, strip of three (2 kop.), blue and brown; Finland, 8 pen., black on green, small serpentine, perf. 10½, of the highest rarity, and error 10 pen. on wove, unused; Oldenburg, $\frac{1}{15}$ thaler, $\frac{1}{3}$ gr., 2 gr., on coloured paper, all unused; Buenos Ayres, 4 ps. and 5 ps., the latter unused; Colombian Republic, 1862, 20 c., unused; Antioquia, first issue, 2½ c., unused; New South Wales, Sydney, 3d., unused. Fine undoubtedly as were the stamps shown here, the exhibit was unfortunately marred by several specimens of doubtful origin.

*Avery, W. B.—Great Britain, V.R., a block of 20; a series of American Locals, amongst which are some 5 and 10 c., St. Louis; a Brattleboro' 5 c., and the Millbury; two sets of Reunions; the 3 lire, Tuscany, used and unused; the St. Helena, 6d., carmine; and a block of eight Naples Cross, etc. It is almost to be regretted that the Confederates were separated from Mr. Avery's splendid exhibit hereof.

*H.R.H. the Duke of Saxe-Coburg and Gotha, K.G.—Austria, second issue, 2 kr., orange, unused; Moldavia, 54 par.; Naples Cross, unused; Spain, some of the 2 reales, and the 3 c., bronze, Madrid; Sweden, 24 skb., unused; Switzerland, Neuchâtel, 5 c., unused; Wurtemberg, 18 kr., silk thread, unused. Great Britain and Colonies the V.R. (two); Canada, 12d.; Hongkong, 96 c., yellow-brown, unused; several unused Nevis, including the 6d., lithographed, and the 6d., green; New Brunswick, 3d., yellow, unused; New South Wales, 1d., Sydney, Plate 1, and 6d., laureated, both unused; New Zealand, 1s., imperf., NZ, unused; St. Christopher, 1d., lilac-rose, CA, and 4d., blue, CA, both unused; St. Vincent, 5s., Star, unused; and Sierra Leone the first 6d., imperf.; Brazil, "slanting figures," 300, unused; Buenos Ayres, 4 ps., red; some of the Philippines of the first and second issues, mostly unused; and U.S.A. (1856), perforated, 5 c., red-brown, and 90 c., blue. The public will appreciate the unabated interest shown by H.R.H. in Philately, as evinced by this present exhibit, which was specially selected by H.R.H. personally, and, as will be seen, includes many fine and rare stamps.

*H.R.H. THE DUKE OF YORK, K.G.—Great Britain and Colonies, including all unused, unless otherwise stated: Great Britain, 6d., octagonal strip of four—a brilliant row, and worthy to be incorporated in the exhibit Class I. No. 1, which has obtained the Exhibition Gold Medal. Ceylon, ½d., on bluish paper, rouletted, and 24 c., plum; Straits Settlements, 12 c., with double overprint; Barbados, 1d., on half of 5s.; British Columbia and Vancouver Island, a pair of the 2½d., imperforate—this pair is unique, and a single copy of the same in the darker shade, and the 5 c., rose, imperf., used; British Guiana, 1860, 8 c. and 12 c., perf. 15; Canada, 6d., perf.; New Brunswick, 3d, yellow; St. Vincent, a number of the scarcer stamps, including 4d. on 1s., the 4d., blue in several shades, perforations and watermarks among them; the 4d., CA. dull blue; Trinidad, ½d., black on lilac, CA; Turks Islands, 1s., prune, several varieties of the 2½d. on the 1d., 6d., and 1s., in both colours, including that on the 6d., with small fraction; Lagos, the first 2s. 6d., 5s., and 10s.; Mauritius, 1s., "Britannia," green, perf.; New South Wales, 3d., laureated on blue paper; and 8d., orange (large square), imperf.; New Zealand, 1d., NZ, rouletted, used, 6d., NZ, perf.; Tasmania, 1d., first issue; Victoria, several varieties of the 2d. and 4d. "emblems," 5s., blue on yellow, etc. etc.

The President of the London Philatelic Society has once more shown his abiding interest in Philately by exhibiting a few gems from his now exhaustive and important collection of the stamps of the British Empire.

LAMPLOUGH, E. S.—Fifty-five stamps, including "Suez Canal" (some on three original envelopes); Pacific Steam Navigation, three used, 1 rl., and blocks of four unused, 1 and 2 rls. on blue paper; New Brunswick, "Connell"; Mauritius, "large fillet"; Great Britain, V.R.; Western Australia, 6d., bronze, and the same stamp rouletted; New South Wales, 2d.; "Sydney View," on entire envelope, with letter posted on the first day of issue, 1st January, 1859 (the letter being dated in error 1st January, 1849).

HOMERSHAM, W. C.—British and British Colonial stamps, with a few of the United States and other countries, an unused 6d. octagonal of Great Britain, and a pair of the 10d., and a 90 c., Lincoln, U.S.A., unused, are amongst the most noticeable stamps.

HYNES, G. J.—Moldavia, 80 para, on blue paper, unused; a set of early Afghans of all values; a series of Nevis, and the Finland error 10 pen., brown-lilac.

BECKTON, W. DORNING.—The 50 grana, Naples; the 3 cuartos, Madrid; the 1 and 2 reales second issue Philippine Islands; the 6½d., orange-vermilion, of Newfoundland. Amongst the used copies are: The Naples Arms, blue; the 2 soldi and 60 crazie of Tuscany; Spain, 2 reales, of 1851, 1852, and 1853, and the 1 reale of 1854, light blue, and of 1865, the 12 cuartos with inverted head; Mauritius, the 2d., blue, large fillet, and the 2d., blue, of second issue, error "PENOE"; the 1s. of Newfoundland, New Brunswick, and Nova Scotia; and Vancouver Island, the 5 c., rose, imperf., and a pair of the 10 cent.

LINCOLN, W. S.—Ceylon, 8d., imperf.; Oldenburg, $\frac{1}{10}$th, yellow, unused; New South Wales, 2d., Sydney Views (two), unused; New Brunswick, 1s. (two shades), and the "Connell" stamp; Portugal, 1853, 50 r., unused; Turks Islands, 1s., prune; Zurich, 4 rappen, horizontal lines; Western Australia, 2d., brown on red, printed on both sides, unused, and the same stamp and the 1s, brown, rouletted, the latter unused; Lagos, 10s., brown; St. Vincent, 4d. on 1s., unused and used; Mexico, 3 c., brown, eagle, with surcharge, unused; Transvaal, error "Transvral"; and other rare stamps of many British Colonies and other countries.

WRIGHT, F. A.—First issue of Western Australia, of Mauritius, Post Paid 2d., and a 6d., orange-vermilion, Newfoundland. Representative stamps from the West Indies and other British Colonies. Buenos Ayres, 4 p., red, and 5 p., yellow; Antioquia, first issue, 2½ c., blue, and 5 c., green; Spain, 2 r., 1851; Zurich, 4 r.; Tobago, 6d., ochre, watermark Cr. & CA; Turks Islands, 1s., prune; Great Britain, 10s. and £1, watermark Anchor, unused; Canada, 12d., black; New Brunswick and Nova Scotia, 1s., violet; Ceylon, 8d., imperf., etc.

CLASS IV.

Division I.

COLLECTIONS (without limit as to number).

GOLD MEDAL	W. D. Beckton.
SILVER „	Mrs. Hetley.
BRONZE „	W. Cowland.
BRONZE „	A. H. Dingwall.
BRONZE „	H. L. Hayman.

The entries for this class were very numerous, hence the competition very keen. Collections of varying interest were shown, of which those rewarded by the judges were assuredly the most meritorious.

Beckton, W. Dorning.—No less than twenty-four volumes were shown. Each of the five continents were represented by many stamps of considerable scarcity, and the collection numbers upwards of 20,000. Used and unused specimens, and there are a large number of unused pairs and blocks. Switzerland, many of the Cantonals, including the double Geneva; Poste Locale without border, etc. In Asia, Ceylon, 8d., 9d., and 2s., and an unused pair of the 1s. 9d. The Roumania Book is very fine, consisting principally of ususued, and alone would have been a powerful agent in the obtaining of the prize.

Hetley, Mrs. H.—Five volumes, containing a collection of the stamps of the West Indies, some of the Australian Colonies, and Japan. In South Australia the 1d. imperf. and the series of the first issue complete; the 3d., red, surcharge of 1870; the 4d. of 1871, watermark V and Crown. In Trinidad singles and pairs of unused, two of the lithograph stamps, and the 1d., 4d., and 6d. of the $11\frac{1}{2}$ perf. In St. Vincent there are the 4d., yellow; 1s., brown and vermilion; and several of the 4d. values of different perfs. and watermarks, all unused, and the provisional 4d. on 1s. The Australian Colonies are well represented all round, also other British Colonies. Amongst the stamps of Japan there is a large number of unused in large blocks and pairs—an exhibit well deserving of the Gold Medal, as it evinced great Philatelic knowledge applied to a large area of collecting. The Medal of H.R.H. could not have been more appropriately awarded.

Cowland, W.—Gibraltar, first issue, 1s.; Oldenburg, 1858, $\frac{1}{3}$ gr., green; the Hanover ten groschen; Spain, three cuartos, Madrid, and the two reales of 1851–52 and 53; the Tuscany three lire; the Brazil three high values in slanting figures. Bolivia, 500 c., with nine and eleven stars. Buenos Ayres, three, four, and five pesos; Newfoundland, $6\frac{1}{2}$d. and 1s., vermilion; St. Vincent, 4d. on 1s., and the 5s.

Dingwall, A. H.—Great Britain stamps used abroad, illustrating the use of the stamps in foreign countries and the British Colonies and provinces, before the latter had a separate postal service.

Hayman, Harry L.—In this fine general collection of 22,500 stamps, comprised in twelve volumes, the stamps are mostly shown both unused and used. Some of the chief stamps represented are: Great Britain, 1d., V.R.; Finland, 10 p., error, and block of three errors, $3\frac{1}{2}$ roubles; used Bergedorfs; British Guiana, 1853, 1 c. and 4 c., unused, in pairs; Virgin Islands, 6d., imperf., pair, and 1s., brown, used; Cape of Good Hope, seventy-seven wood-blocks, unused and used; Egypt, the errors of the first issue, unused; Mauritius, $\frac{1}{2}$d. on red on 9d., lilac, unused; British Central Africa Protectorate, the set up to £25, unused, etc. etc.

Hayman, Mrs. H. L.—Two volumes, comprising about 11,200 stamps. Amongst the principal items are: Great Britain, 1s., 5s., 10s., and 20s. I.R., official; France, one franc, orange; Tuscany, one soldo, unused; Cape wood-blocks, five; Lagos, 1885 issue, 2s. 6d. and 5s.; Gold Coast, 20s., carmine and green; British East Africa Company, the set to five rupees, used; British Guiana, 1 c. and 4 c. of 1853, unused; and 4 c., 1851, used.

Lincoln, William S.—A general collection in a "Lallier" Album, consisting of over 4000 postage stamps, mostly unused, and a large number of proofs, etc. Amongst the most noticeable unused stamps are a sheet of New Caledonia; Great Britain, 1d., black, V.R.; 2d., blue, without lines, and 1d., red, Archer roulette; Bergedorf, 1860, ½ sch. (black on violet), and three (blue on rose); Spain early issues, 1851, 2 and 10 reales, 1853, all values, and Madrid 1 and 3 cuartos, bronze; Greece, Paris prints; Hanover, 1850 to 1864, all values; Oldenburg, all values; Saxony, 3 pfg.; Swiss: Zurich, 4 r., Basle, and Winterthur; Ceylon, set of envelopes; India, ½ anna, red; Cape wood-blocks; Mauritius "Post Paid" and early issues; Western Australia, Sydney Views; Philippine Islands, 1854; Brazil, all the large figures and italic figures; sets of Nevis, 1861 issue; Newfoundland, 1862 and 1863; United States, 1851, 1857, etc. etc. Although it will be seen that there were many fine stamps here, the collection was marred by the admission of many unnecessary specimens (such as "Hamburg Locals"), and there were also included many forgeries, some of an egregious nature.

Reichenheim, F.—Baden, 1851–3, 3 kr., yellow, 1 kr., white, 3 kr., blue, and 3 kr., green, unused; Hamburg, 9 sch. imp., used; Mecklenburg-Schwerin, ¼ sch., rouletted; Saxony, 3 pf., red, and Tuscany, 3 lire, and the "Basle," unused. India, the top row of the sheet of 2 anna, green (1854); Cape of Good Hope, 1d. and 4d. "wood-blocks"; Canada, 7½d. and 10d.; and West Australia, 6d., bronze, all used. Nevis, 1s., green, 1867, unused, and some good United States. Entire envelopes of Poland, 10 kop., black, 1860, and the 1820 Sardinia letter sheets.

Collections of varying interest were also shown in this division by Miss Feyl de Pfeil, Miss M. Hayman, P. Arnhold, Captain A. H. Terry, Mrs. G. Max Müller, Mrs. W. Blake Fisher, Mrs. F. P. Leay, Dr. Heurtley Sankey, Mrs. Russell-Ferguson, Mrs. Davidson of Tulloch, Mrs. Livingston, and Mrs. E. F. Green.

Division II.

COLLECTIONS (not exceeding 4000 in number).

SILVER MEDAL	. . . .	Eliot Levy.
SILVER „	. . . .	S. M. Castle.
SILVER „	. . . .	F. Bang.
BRONZE „	. . . .	Mrs. Potts.

Levy, Eliot T.—The adhesive postage and telegraph stamps of Great Britain, unused, including essays, in two volumes. In the 1d. value will be found the V.R. (three) and the whole of the plate numbers in blocks and strips, nearly all the 2d. pairs of the embossed series, and also the 5s., 10s., and £1 in both watermarks. This exceedingly choice lot of our country's stamps was worthy of being exhibited *in extenso*, and it is to be regretted that it could not have been so shown.

Castle, S. M.—A fine collection of the stamps of the United States of America, in three volumes, of about 4000 stamps, including departmentals, but not periodicals or Unpaid Letter stamps, comprising: New York, 5 c., pair, used; 1847, 10 c., black, five unused and pair used; 1855, several of the 5 c. and 30 c. and six of the 90 c.; 1861, 10 c., "première gravure," used; 90 c., eight unused; 1862, 5 c., chestnut, six unused; 1868, 5 c., grille, 9 by 13, unused; 24 c., ditto, pair used, and 90 c., unused; two complete sets of the reissue of the 1869 stamps, all unused. The remaining general issues fully represented. The departmentals arranged according to the various printings, including Executive, two sets unused; and sets of Justice, Navy, and Agriculture: fine condition throughout.

Bang, Ferdinand.—A really beautiful collection of European stamps, used, selected with the greatest discrimination. The various countries and states are fully represented, some of the chief items being: 3 pf., Saxony; double block of four of the ¼ sch., roul., Mecklenburg-Schwerin, on original; Oldenburg, 1858, ⅓ sgr., and other values; Schleswig-Holstein, 1860, 1 and 2 sch.; Bremen, complete, including 7 grote, perf., on letter; Lübeck, complete; Bergedorf, 3 sch.; Switzerland: Zurich, 4 rap.; Basle, 2½ rap.; Winterthur; Geneva, double stamp on letter, etc.; Spain, the 2 reales of 1851–52–53, and 12 c., imperf., inverted frame; Naples, the trinacria; Tuscany, 2 soldi, etc.

Potts, Mrs.—An ancient collection, apparently undisturbed either by recent issues or modern knowledge, containing some forgeries, but many scarce stamps, *e.g.*, a page of the early Spanish stamps (some of the 2 real stamps being unused), the 4d. error, Cape of Good Hope, wood-block, early Buenos Ayres and Granada Confederation, a medio peso pink Peru, and some rare Trinidad and San Domingo stamps.

Collections were also shown by Miss S. Dalbiac, Mrs. M. C. Weston, J. S. Soul, C. S. Dudley, Mrs. C. G. Kekewich.

Division III.

COLLECTIONS (not exceeding 2000 in number).

SILVER MEDAL	L. H. Walter.
BRONZE „	G. J. Hynes.
BRONZE „	G. B. Duerst.
BRONZE „	B. P. Rodd.

Walter, L. H.—Two volumes of unused and used stamps of the United States of America, amongst which are the 10 c. of 1847; 1857, 5 c., 10 c., and 12 c. (pairs); 1856, 5 c., red-brown, and Types 1, 2, and 3 of same value; a 5 c., mustard, of 1867 (all being unused); a series of the grilled issues of 1868 to 1870, including 90 c.; the issues of 1872 to 1893, without grilling, on different kinds of paper; most of the official issues, both used and unused; and a series of newspaper and postage due stamps. Many splendid stamps were shown here, but the system of mounting them might be improved upon.

Hynes, G. J.—A collection of Indian stamps in one volume, supplementing the exhibit in Class II., comprising the De La Rue issues, in which are included the unwatermarked and watermarked series, also the provisional "Service" stamps, amongst which are varieties of surcharge on the $\frac{1}{2}$ anna, the 2 a., 4 a., and 8 a. (long), unused, and a set of the official imitations, a block of four of the 6 a. 8 p., with "Service" in the larger type. There are also three varieties of the Scinde Dawk stamp.

Duerst, G. B.—A special collection of the issues of Roumania from 1862 to 1893, in most cases used and unused, in many shades and printings, including blocks and strips, showing the small varieties on the plates of the issues 1869–1872; the 5 bani, blue, error; and also the later issues with compound and simple perforations. Although not inclusive of any great rarities, Mr. Duerst's exhibit worthily represents the best class of Philatelic research, as it was upon the lines of his collection as shown, that in conjunction with Mr. W. D. Beckton he produced the article on these stamps that has lately appeared in the *Philatelic Journal of Great Britain*, and in a German contemporary.

Rodd, B. Plashett.—A special collection of the stamps of Heligoland, in three volumes. The issues are represented used and unused, the latter showing the various postmarks, etc. Many of the used stamps on entires, and the various envelopes, cards, etc.

Baynes, Mrs. C. A.—A special album of the stamps of Greece, containing a representative collection of all issues, used and unused, with full sets of Paris and Athens prints, including many of the prominent varieties.

Although this collection is not of an extensive nature, it probably represents the most consummate Philatelic research ever shown by a lady collector, every variety, however minute, being properly classified, and the greatest taste and discretion shown in the choice of copies. There can be no doubt whatever that the display of such qualities richly deserved the Silver Medal of His Royal Highness.

Other exhibits included those of Mrs. Badgley, F. Donie, and C. Steele-Perkins (both under sixteen years of age), Mrs. M. Bond, and C. Ulbrich.

Special Awards.

For Collections exhibited by Ladies. Presented by H.R.H. Duke of York.

GOLD MEDAL . . . Mrs. Hetley.
SILVER „ . . . Mrs. Baynes.

For Collections not exceeding 2000 varieties, exhibited in Albums of English Manufacture, by Collectors under sixteen years of age. Presented by Messrs. Butler Bros.

BRONZE MEDAL . . C. Steele-Perkins.

For Collections in Albums of British Manufacture. Presented by Stanley Gibbons, Ltd.

(*a*) Containing over 8000 varieties.

GOLD MEDAL . . . H. L. Hayman.
SILVER „ . . . Mrs. H. L. Hayman.

(*b*) Containing less than 8000 varieties.

SILVER „ . . . Mrs. Davidson of Tulloch.
GOLD MEDAL . . . F. Reichenheim.

CLASS V.

Division I.

ENTIRE ENVELOPES AND WRAPPERS.

SILVER MEDAL . . F. Ransom (Germany).
SILVER „ J. R. Hesketh (Mulready Envelopes and Letter Sheets).

The display of envelopes was unfortunately by no means representative, and it is to be regretted that some of the finer German collections were not shown, as they would undoubtedly have secured high prizes.

Germany and States.

Ransom, F.—Entire envelopes of the Empire and various States of Germany. Most of the earlier issues are represented, notably those of Thurn and Taxis, Mecklenburg-Schwerin, Saxony, and Oldenburg. Also assortment of the North German provisionals.

Hesketh, J. R.—An interesting display, being a collection in an album, consisting of about 130 varieties of the Mulready envelopes and covers, unused and used, arranged in order of their plate numbers, and also two frames of entire sheets, Collections of envelopes were also shown by W. C. Homersham, J. Bramah, and F. L. van Dieten, jun.

Division II.

SILVER MEDAL . B. Plashett Rodd (Australian Colonies).

Rodd, B. Plashett.—A collection in six albums of the envelopes and wrappers of New South Wales, New Zealand, Queensland, South Australia, Tasmania, Victoria, and Western Australia. The cards, etc., of the same countries are also contained in the same books. New South Wales, 1d. wrapper on wove and laid, entire, unused; a proof, in black, of the 1d. (De La Rue type) on wrapper; and two used letter sheets of 1838; and South Australia, 1d. post card with O.S., two specimens.

CLASS VI.

DIVISION I.

POST CARDS, Etc.

SILVER MEDAL	. . .	T. RIDPATH & Co.
BRONZE „	. . .	S. C. SKIPTON and W. BROWN.

RIDPATH, T., & Co.—Cards of Mexico shown in an album containing most of the varieties of this country.

RIDPATH, T., & Co.—Cards of Roumania, several varieties of the first issue, July, 1873, on buff card, and a specimen of the same, on white card, June. The issue of 1877 includes specimens of the 5 c., brown on cream, and of the reply card, on buff. The later issue includes numerous shades.

SKIPTON, S. C., and BROWN, W.—The cards of Mexico. In this collection of about two hundred and fifty cards most of the minor varieties were shown, as well as errors, including the issue of March, 1882, without stamp, etc., and the 1890 letter card, 10 c., on white.

DIVISION II.

SILVER MEDAL	. . . . .	B. PLASHETT RODD.
BRONZE „	. . . . .	R. MEYER.

RODD, B. PLASHETT.—Cards of New South Wales, New Zealand, Queensland, South Australia, Tasmania, Victoria, and Western Australia.

MEYER, R.—This exhibit included the provisional cards 3 c., yellow, and 5 c., lilac, on blue, of Hongkong; the provisional 2 c., red surcharge, of the Straits Settlements; the two first-issued cards of Grenada, and a number of other West Indian countries.

RIDPATH, T., & Co.—Five albums, containing the cards of Ceylon, Queensland, Victoria, Belgium, Servia and Spain. Among the Ceylon cards issued in 1880 should be mentioned the 8 c. surcharged "*viâ* Marseilles," in two types; the error "Ceylon"; and the 12 c., "*viâ* Brindisi," with the like error.

SKIPTON, S. C., and BROWN, W.—A general exhibit, containing many specimens from all countries.

ELLIS, DOUGLAS.—Cards of Great Britain, Malta, Cyprus, etc.

CLASS VII.

EXHIBITS BY STAMP ENGRAVERS AND MANUFACTURERS OF POSTAGE STAMPS AND TELEGRAPH STAMPS.

GOLD MEDAL	. . .	PERKINS, BACON & Co., LIMITED.
SILVER „	. . .	THOS. DE LA RUE & Co., LIMITED.
SILVER „	. . .	WATERLOW & SONS, LIMITED.
SILVER „	. . .	BRADBURY, WILKINSON & Co., LIMITED.

PERKINS, BACON & Co., LIMITED.—Two original water-colour drawings of the Queen's head, the larger of the two being that used for the stamps of Ceylon, and the other that for the stamps of Natal, etc., and an original drawing of the design for the 5s., New South Wales stamp. A frame containing an entire sheet of the 1d., Great Britain (1855), printed in black, being the one-millionth impression taken from the plate. One frame of proofs, in black, of various Colonial stamps. Cards of proofs in black and sundry colour trials of various English and Colonial stamps printed by the firm, including a proof in black from the original die of the 1d. stamp, engraved by Mr. Frederick Heath, March, 1840. The original steel plate of the 1s., first issue, of Newfoundland stamps, the original engraved die

from which the plates were constructed, and the steel plate of the 2 reales Pacific Steam Navigation Company's stamps. The first perforating machine used for the perforation of stamps. This machine was worked by hand, a system which was soon superseded by steam machinery. Original letter from Sir Rowland Hill to the late Mr. Bacon, dated 1840, stating that the Queen approved of the design for the first postage stamp. A frame containing a letter, dated August 26th, 1856, from the Tasmanian Government with sketches of 6d. and 1s. stamps, and specimens of the 1d., 2d., and 4d. stamps of the colony printed by the firm. Also a letter, dated November 11th, 1854, from the Inland Revenue, Somerset House, approving of the retouched steel die for the 1d. stamp of Great Britain. A similar frame containing a memorandum from Mr. R. P. Raymond, Inspector of Stamps, New South Wales, and an estimate for 1d. and 3d. stamps, with specimens of these values of the "Laureated series" attached. Memorandum dated December 31st, 1858, as to the gumming of French postage stamps.

Thomas De La Rue & Co., Limited.—Fourteen frames of stamps prepared by the exhibitors, containing entire sheets of some of the postage stamps of Great Britain; sheets of several values of the Indian stamps; a sheet of 1s. Hospital stamps, printed in the presence of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales and signed by him, and a sheet of the 2s. 6d. value of the same; six values, 1s. to £5, of the stamps of the Tati Concessions, Limited; and complete sets of Zanzibar and new Tonga stamps; also a frame of plate and die proofs of stamps manufactured by the exhibitors; a frame containing a number of water-colour drawings of designs for stamps is also shown.

Waterlow & Sons, Limited.—Two large frames containing specimens of the work of the exhibitors in the postage, telegraph, and other stamps of various countries, including: Niger Coast, 1894 issue; Uruguay, 1889, 1893, and 1895; Siam, Indore, Liberia, Congo, North Borneo, Sirmoor, Costa Rica, Nicaragua, Peru, etc.

Bradbury, Wilkinson, & Co., Limited.—A frame containing chiefly proofs of original dies and stamps and essays produced by the exhibitors, comprising amongst others: Deccan, 1870 issue, seven values; Spain, 1876, nine values; Formosa; Queensland, 1882, five values; Argentine Republic, 1882; British South Africa, two; British East Africa, four values and essay; Chili Telegraphs, five values; Pernambuco, five values; Bolivia, 1893, seven values; Tromso by-post; Mexico, essay plate of ninety-six stamps; and sundry other essays.

CLASS VIII.

FOR PHILATELIC LITERATURE AND WORKS.

Division I.

CURRENT PHILATELIC JOURNALS.

SILVER MEDAL	.	Buhl & Co., Limited.
SILVER ,,	.	Stanley Gibbons, Limited.
BRONZE ,,	.	W. Brown.

Buhl & Co., Limited.—*The Philatelic Record and Stamp News.*

Stanley Gibbons, Limited.—*The Monthly Journal.*

Brown, W.—*The Philatelic Journal of Great Britain.*

Gill, L. Upcott.—The Philatelists' Supplement to *The Bazaar.* Scott Stamp and Coin Company, Limited.—*The American Journal of Philately.* *Philatelic Society, London, The.—*The London Philatelist*, the journal of the Society. Huehn, Paul A, and De Billido, R.—*O Colleccionador de Sellos.*—Krötzsch, H.—*Deutsche Briefmarken-Zeitung.* Ewen, L. L'Estrange.—*The English Specialists' Journal.* Durani, Vittorio & Co.—*San Marino Corriere dei Franco-bolli.* La Sociedad Filatelica Argentina.—*Revista de la Sociedad Filatèlica Argentina.* Brück, Alph.—*Revista Filatelica de Brazil.*

Division II.

PHILATELIC WORKS PUBLISHED SINCE 31st OCTOBER, 1890.

SILVER MEDAL	.	Dr. Emilio Diena.
SILVER „	.	Hugo Krötzsch (for the first and third items in Exhibit 223).
BRONZE „	.	L. Upcott Gill.
BRONZE „	.	Scott Stamp and Coin Co., Limited (for items 1 to 5 in Exhibit 211).
BRONZE „	.	V. Suppantschitsch.

THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY'S MEDALS AWARDED TO AUTHORS OF WORKS IN THIS CLASS.

SILVER MEDAL	. .	E. D. Bacon.
SILVER „	. .	F. H. Napier.

Diena, Dr. Emilio.—*I Francobolli del Ducate d'Modena* (1894).

Krötzsch, Hugo.—*Handbuch der Postfreimarkenkunde*, comprising seven volumes on the Stamps of the German Empire and States, and one volume on the Stamps of Russia. *Illustrierter ausführlicher Katalog über deutsche Postfreimarken. Die Briefumschläge der deutschen Staaten.* In two volumes. By C. Lindenberg. The same in twelve separate parts. *Die Briefmarken von Baden.* By C. Lindenberg. *Die Postwertzeichen Spaniens und seiner Kolonien.* By Rudolf Friederich.

Gill, L. Upcott.—*Postage Stamps and their Collectors.* By Oliver Firth. *The Adhesive Postage Stamps of Europe.* By W. A. S. Westoby.

Scott Stamp and Coin Co., Limited.—*Catalogue for Advanced Collectors*, Part 1 to 11. *The Stamps of Mexico. The Revenues of the United States. Russian Rural Stamps. The Envelopes, etc., of the United States. Postage Stamp Catalogue*, 57th Edition.

Suppantschitsch, Victor.—*Bibliographie der deutscher Philatelistischen Literatur.*

Stanley Gibbons, Limited.—*Stanley Gibbons' Priced Catalogue*, 1897 Edition. *Stanley Gibbons' Philatelic Handbook of Portuguese India.* By Gilbert Harrison and F. H. Napier. *Stanley Gibbons' Philatelic Handbook of South Australia.* By F. H. Napier and Gordon Smith. *Stanley Gibbons' Philatelic Handbook of Shanghai.* By W. B. Thornhill. *Stanley Gibbons' Philatelic Handbook of St. Vincent.* By F. H. Napier and E. D. Bacon. *Stanley Gibbons' Philatelic Handbook of Barbados.* By E. D. Bacon and F. H. Napier. *Stamps and Stamp Collecting.* By Major E. B. Evans. *Album Weeds; or, How to Detect Forged Stamps.* By the Rev. R. B. Earée. *The Mulready Envelope and its Caricatures.* By Major E. B. Evans. *Postage Stamps of the British Empire, with Notes.* By H. Mackwood Millington and Gilbert Lockyer.

Ewen, H. L'Estrange.—*Catalogue of British Stamps.* Editions 1 to 5.

Hinton, T. H.—*Hints on Stamp Collecting; an A B C of Philately.*

Brown, William.—*The Stamps of the Malay States of the Straits Settlements*, illustrated with autotypes and a number of entire panes.

Morley, W.—*Handbook of Revenue Stamps of Great Britain and Ireland. Catalogue of Great Britain* (1895) *Postage and Revenue Stamps, etc. Catalogue of Great Britain* (1896) *Postage and Revenue Stamps, etc. Catalogue of Colonial Revenue Stamps.*

Bright & Son.—*The A B C Descriptive Priced Catalogue of the World's Postage Stamps.*

Melillo, Enrico.—*La Posta nei Secoli. Le Poste nel Mezzogiorno d'Italia.*

Dieckmann, Carl.—*Postgeschichte deutscher Staaten seit einem halben Jahrtausend.*

Le Gros, Eugène.—*Les Timbres for Ever!* and *Une Erreur de Daudet.*

*Mahé, P.—*Le Questionneur Timbrophilique.*

Hall, W. J.—*How to Deal in Foreign Stamps.*

*Philatelic Society, London, The.—*The Stamps of Tasmania.* By A. F. Bassett Hull. *The Stamps of the British Colonies in the West Indies, with British Honduras and the Colonies in South America. The Stamps of British India and Ceylon.* Supplement to same. By J. A. Tilleard. *The Stamps of the British Colonies, etc., in South Africa.* Part I.

Dupino, Giacomo.—Italian Philatelic Literature.

Gussoni, Giovanni.—Italian Philatelic Literature.

CLASS IX.

ALBUMS.

Division I.

ALBUMS FOR SPECIAL COLLECTIONS.

BRONZE MEDAL	. . .	H. L'Estrange Ewen.
BRONZE „	. . .	W. Brown.

Ewen, H. L'Estrange.—An Album for *British Stamps* (1st Edition, 1896).

Brown, William.—*The British Empire Postage Stamp Album.* By S. C. Skipton. (For British Empire Adhesives only.) In Two Volumes.

Matthew, R.—A Collection of the Stamps of France, specially ruled up for spaces for stamps on the right-hand side, and a list of varieties intended to be shown on the left-hand side.

Brück, Alph.—A Special Album for the Stamps of *Brazil* in Portuguese.

Division II.

ALBUMS FOR GENERAL COLLECTIONS.

BRONZE MEDAL	. .	Scott Stamp and Coin Co., Limited.
BRONZE „	. .	R. W. Stevens.
BRONZE „	. .	Stanley Gibbons, Limited.
BRONZE „	. .	Dr. Emilio Diena.
BRONZE „	. .	Whitfield King & Co.
BRONZE „	. .	C. F. Lücke.
BRONZE „	. .	Hugo Krötzsch.
BRONZE „	. .	W. S. Lincoln.
BRONZE „	. .	W. T. Wilson.

Scott Stamp and Coin Company, Limited.—*International Postage Stamp Album;* do. (abridged edition). *The Nonpareil Improved Album.*

Stevens, R. W.—The *Desideratum* Philatelic Albums with moveable leaves.

Stanley Gibbons, Limited.—The *Imperial* Albums. The *Strand* Albums. The *Improved* Albums.

Diena, Dr. Emilio.—An Album with Interchangeable Leaves (New System).

King, Whitfield, & Co.—The *Interchangeable* Albums.

Lücke, C. F.—Various Albums. Senf's Illustrated Postage Stamp Albums in the *Imperial, Permanent, Large Fancy, Large Amateur*, and *New Medium* Editions. New (8th) Edition for 1898. The *Victoria* Edition of Schaubek's Postage Stamp Albums, in a large variety of styles and bindings, etc., and albums for all countries in French, Spanish, and Italian.

Krötzsch, Hugo.—*Permanent* Album in box. Box for ditto in book form. Self-binding Covers for Album Sheets.

LINCOLN, WILLIAM S.—The *Lincoln* Stamp Album and Catalogue. The One Shilling *Lincoln* Stamp Album. The *Lincoln* Postage Stamp Album, oblong edition and fourth edition, illustrated. Album for Postage, Revenue, and Duplicate Stamps, etc.

HINTON, T. H.—The *Queen* Postage Stamp Album. The *Empire* Postage Stamp Album.

WOOD, T. W. & Co.—The *Mammoth* Album.

BUTLER BROTHERS.—*Excelsior* Stamp Albums.

BUHL & Co., LIMITED.—Albums with Moveable Leaves.

WILSON, W. T.—Albums with Moveable Leaves.

DIVISION III.—*No Award.*

BOOKS, METHODS, OR SYSTEMS FOR ENVELOPES, WRAPPERS, CARDS, Etc.

PHILLIPS, Mrs. L.—Volume containing "Entires," showing the Method employed.

LÜCKE, C. F.—Various Albums for Post Cards and "Entires," and nine Albums for Post Cards.

LINCOLN, WILLIAM S.—The *Lincoln* Post Card Album in various sizes.

CLASS X.

ACCESSORIES AND APPLIANCES FOR USE BY COLLECTORS.

BRONZE MEDAL	. . .	STANLEY GIBBONS, LIMITED.
BRONZE „	. . .	HUGO KRÖTSZCH.

This class includes the sundry appliances required by collectors, and exhibits including notably various forms of stamp mounts were shown.

STANLEY GIBBONS, LIMITED.—Maps, Magnifying Glasses, Surcharge Measures, Philatelic Tile for examining Watermarks, Perforation Gauge, Tweezers, and Duplicate Books.

KRÖTZSCH, HUGO.—The "Exact" Perforation Gauge, Presser, Tweezers, Duplicate Books, Transparent Envelopes, Stamp Mounts, and various other appliances.

LINCOLN, WILLIAM S.—Stamp Pocket Book, Perforation Gauges, Hinges, Magnifiers, Special Mount for Hospital Stamps, etc. MEYER, Dr. L. F.—"Godets Philateliques," for soaking off stamps, finding watermarks, and measuring perforations; and "Filogramoscopes," for showing watermarks in "entires," etc. BUTLER BROTHERS.—"Excelsior" Stamp Mounts. BROWN, WILLIAM.—"Ideal" Stamp Mounts, Perforation Gauge, and Approval Sheets. KING, WHITFIELD, & Co.—"B" Quality Stamp Mounts. GRAF-KRUSI.—Stamp Mounts. BENHAM, Dr. F. LUCAS.—A new form of Perforation Gauge, designed by the exhibitor. HALL, W. J.—Duplicate or Stock Books.

CLASS XI.

GENERAL OBJECTS OF PHILATELIC INTEREST. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENTS OF STAMPS, Etc. Etc.

SILVER MEDAL	. . .	J. R. F. TURNER.
SILVER „	. . .	W. MORLEY.
BRONZE „	. . .	S. C. SKIPTON and W. BROWN.
BRONZE „	. . .	H. J. WHITE.
BRONZE „	. . .	C. F. DENDY MARSHALL.
BRONZE „	. . .	W. RUTLEY.
BRONZE „	. . .	F. C. SMITH.

The exhibits in this class included the following, and many others of interest, of which the names of exhibitors only can be given.

TURNER, J. R. F.—A collection of the Oxford and Cambridge College stamps, envelopes and cards.

MORLEY, W.—A collection of telegraph stamps of Austria, Belgium, Bavaria, Ceylon, Hungary, Jamaica, Spain, and other countries, principally cancelled. A very fine lot, and worthy in every way of its recompense.

WHITE, H. J.—A collection of 5s. stamps of the British Empire, and a few of other countries. It commences with those of Great Britain, and includes blocks of British Central Africa and British South Africa, Cape of Good Hope and Griqualand, and all other British Colonies which have issued this value, as well as those of the New Republic, Swazieland, Samoa, and Orange Free State. Those of the Australian Colonies, in all varieties of shade, watermark, and perforation, as well as officials. There are very few used specimens, and many of the unused, in pairs and blocks.

SMITH, F. C.—Metal bits for making watermarks in paper, prepared by the exhibitor at different periods since the invention by his father of the method of production. Amongst them will be noticed the old "Garter," used for watermarks in some of the early stamps of Great Britain; as well as the "Heraldic Flowers," the "Crown," and some of the designs for fiscal stamps; the "Crown and CC" of various colonies, the "SA and Crown," "Q and Crown," the "Pineapple" of Jamaica, etc., etc.

RUTLEY, WILLIAM—Postman's Bell, formerly rung in the streets for the collection of letters. A small case containing Medal struck on the Queen's visit to the City in 1837 by William Wyon—Her Majesty's profile thereon being that chosen for the original Postage Stamp. Franks of Postal Reformers—Josh. Hume, Robert Wallace, Henry Warburton. Four framed large caricatures of the Mulready Envelope by Leech (plain and coloured), John Doyle, and Henry Heath. Seven sheets containing thirty smaller ditto, and *fac-simile* of Thackeray's caricature, etc., etc.

MARSHALL, C. F. DENDY.—Twenty-one frames containing reconstructed sheets of used stamps of Great Britain of different values from 1d. to 5s.

* EVANS, Major E. B.—This tasteful collection of the Mulready Envelope and its caricatures was shown on the revolving screen in the Central Gallery, and formed, in the eyes of many of the Philatelic visitors, one of the greatest attractions of the Exhibition. Major Evans is to be congratulated upon having gathered together an apparently complete series of these now historical sketches, which it is to be hoped may never be broken up. Collection of Mulready Envelopes, etc., illustrative of the introduction of cheap postage, including: Essays (a sheet of eight). Proofs on India paper, etc. Official circular, dated April, 1840. Specimens of the covers and envelopes as issued in May, 1840, including an unsevered pair of the 1d. covers, a strip of three, and a block of four of the 1d. envelopes, and a pair of the 2d. envelopes. Imitations and adaptations of Mulready's design. Caricatures of the design, by John Leech, "Phiz" (H. K. Browne), "H. B." (John Doyle), "H. H." (Henry Heath), and others. Sets of caricature envelopes, published by W. Spooner, Southgate, etc. *Punch's* Anti-Graham envelopes and wafers, published in 1844 (the envelope was drawn by Leech). Comic envelopes drawn by Richard Doyle and his brother James in 1840 (Doyle was at that date a boy of fifteen, and these are almost his earliest published works). Various other comic illustrated envelopes. A collection of illustrated envelopes, published about 1850 to 1854, advocating Universal Penny Postage; Abolition of Slavery; Peace and Arbitration; Free Trade; Temperance, etc.

LINCOLN, WILLIAM S.—A large exhibit of considerable interest. Fifteen frames containing stamps of various countries, many of them in sheets, blocks, strips, etc., and mostly unused. Many interesting stamps will be found in these frames, notably several issues of Great Britain, New Zealand, Bremen, South Australia, Egypt, France, Schleswig-Holstein, St. Vincent, St. Lucia, Western Australia, Newfoundland, Transvaal (including a sheet of 1d., in black, on 6d.), etc.

*THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY, LONDON.—Original dies of the 1d., 2d., 3d., and 9d., and of the 1 c., 3 c., 4 c., and 6 c. of the stamps of Prince Edward Island, together with the electrotype plates of the 2d., 4d., 3 c., and 12 c. The original engraved plate of the head employed for the pence issue, and an engraving on wood, with a reproduction on copper, of the head used for the cents issue. The original die of an unused design. Proofs in black from all the above-mentioned dies and

plates. Two dies of the first essay (lion and palm tree) for the ½ anna stamp of India. A series of cancellation stamps, of which impressions of design are shown, submitted for approval to the Treasury by Mr. Whiting, in 1839, with some explanatory notes by Mr. Whiting, and an autographed memorandum of Sir Rowland Hill returning the stamps. Two framed sheets of the 4 a. stamp of India, 1854, reprinted on the original watermarked paper. Album containing reprinted sheets of the 1d. and 4d., both plates, in colour, and of plate 2 of the 4d., in black, of the first issue of Tasmania.

*H.R.H. THE DUKE OF YORK, K.G.—Two silver-point sketches for the ½ a. and 1 a. stamps of India, originally proposed to be employed, and a few essays of other proposed Indian stamps. The designs of the Queen's head for the current 2 r., 3 r., and 5 r. stamps, and for the current wrappers of India. A series of thirty colour trials of the 2 r., 3 r., and 5 r. values. An envelope dated in 1841 addressed in the handwriting of the great Duke of Wellington. Two coloured sketches for the first 1d. and 2d. stamps of Great Britain, as submitted to the Chancellor of the Exchequer, and colour trials of the same values submitted to him September 1, 1840. An original sheet of "Beaufort House" essays for Great Britain stamps, by C. Whiting. The "Silvier" design, with printed description, etc., of stamp proposed. Two proposals for stamped covers of letter-sheets: the one without stamp was submitted to the Chancellor of the Exchequer May 14, 1840, as a suggestion in lieu of the Mulready cover, "to allow of greater space for the address by introducing the red ['Dickenson'] threads across the face, the latter would serve as lines for writing on—no trifling matter to many writers." A small selection of stamps not usually found imperforate, including Malta, 4d., C A, pair; British Bechuanaland, £1 and £5, lilac; Mauritius, De La Rue type, no watermark, in pairs, and also watermark Cr. CC; St. Helena, Cr. CC; Ceylon, ditto; Hongkong, ditto; Bahamas, Bermuda, British Honduras, Jamaica, Pineapple and Cr. CC; St. Lucia; Tobago; Western Australia, Swan watermark, the five values usually perforated, in pairs.

Other exhibits in this class included those of A. Maury, Gordon Smith, F. West, G. Mackey, Miss Preston, W. C. Homersham, A. Monnier, A. Reyler, A. Joessel, E. H. Selby, Miss P. Aganoor, Miss S. A. Blackburne, L. Gibb, J. R. Henderson, Messrs. Bartlett and King, S. C. Skipton and W Brown, Robt. Lyon, The Fiscal Stamp Exchange Club, J. H. Daniels, G. Gaffe, Col. Badgeley, W. J. England, J. P. Way, H. Le Bas, T. H. Hinton, Miss Evans, W. Bradley.

GOVERNMENT AND OFFICIAL EXHIBITS.

HER MAJESTY'S COMMISSIONERS OF INLAND REVENUE.—A series of impressions from all the plates from which the postage stamps of Great Britain have been printed, as registered and preserved at Somerset House, inclusive of the Fiscal stamps available for postage.

HER MAJESTY'S POSTMASTER-GENERAL.—Stamps, chiefly of the British Colonies, arranged in various designs, and comprising: Newfoundland, Bahamas, and Bermuda; Great Britain; Canada; Orange Free States, Sierra Leone, Gambia, and Cape of Good Hope; Straits Settlements and Cyprus; Ceylon; West Indies; East Indies; India; Lagos; Malta; Western Australia; British Guiana; India and States; Tasmania and New Zealand. A proof sheet of the 1d. (black) stamp without letters. A framed painting of a London postman, 1830, from the sketch by Welch. *The London Directory*, 1836. The first postal guide. Printed notice of 25th April, 1840, sent to postmasters as to obliteration of stamps. Similar notice of 29th April, 1840, sending specimens of stamps to postmasters. Another notice of 7th May, 1840, sending specimen of the V.R. stamp. A notice of the same date in reference to the placing of stamps on covers. Notice dated June, 1840, in reference to the "Mulready" covers and envelopes, stating that the covers only are to be sold, the envelopes not being supplied by the Post Office. Notices of rewards for mail robberies. A mail bag stolen from the Selby and York post-boy in 1798, and found in the roof of an old house on its demolition in 1876. Obliterating machine in use at Manchester prior to the introduction of the "Pearson Hill" machine in 1867. Books of curious addresses on letters sent through the post and deciphered by Post Office officials.

By the kind permission of the Postmaster-General an officer from the General Post Office was in attendance to show and explain these books to visitors to the Exhibition.

The Secretary of State for India.—Sets of Postage, Service Postage, Revenue, Telegraphs, Special Adhesive Share Transfer, Foreign Bill, and Court Fee Stamps of India.

The Agent-General for the Cape of Good Hope.—An exhibit of recent issues of Postage Stamps. Card of Wrappers of the Colony of the Cape of Good Hope.

The Agent-General for New Zealand.—Specimens of some of the issues of this Colony.

The Crown-Agents for the Colonies.—Stamps printed by Messrs. De La Rue & Co., comprising: 1. Issues of British Guiana, British Honduras, and Barbados. 2. Ceylon, Hongkong, and St. Helena. 3. Straits Settlements and States. 4. British Central Africa and British East Africa Protectorates. 5. Gibraltar, Malta, Mauritius, and Seychelles. 6. Grenada, Turks Islands, and St. Lucia. 7. Lagos, Gold Coast, Gambia, and Sierra Leone—stamps and cards. 8. Natal Postage, Revenue, and Telegraph Stamps, Cards, and Wrappers.

The High Commissioner for Canada.—A single volume containing specimens of Canadian Postage Stamps.

The Council of the Prince of Wales's Hospital Fund for London.—A copy of each value of the stamps as issued. The three original plates from which the stamps were printed, as defaced in the presence of H.R.H. the Duke of York. The two steel dies from which the plates were made and the matrix from which the surface of the design was obliterated. One of the files (weighing 16 lbs.) used in defacing the plates. The original certificate of destruction signed by their Royal Highnesses the Duke and Duchess of York and others. A sketch of the ceremony of destruction made by the artist of the *Daily Graphic*.

Special Awards.

For Exhibits in any Class by Members of the Manchester Philatelic Society. Presented by W. Dorning Beckton, Esq.

SILVER MEDAL	G. B. Duerst.
BRONZE „	Vernon Roberts.

The judges found themselves unable to award certain of the Special Medals.

The Prince of Wales's Hospital Fund for London.

VISIT OF T.R.H. THE DUKE AND DUCHESS OF YORK TO THE BANK OF ENGLAND.

THIS afternoon (Friday, July 9th), soon after one o'clock, their Royal Highnesses the Duke and Duchess of York visited the Bank of England to witness the destruction of the plates from which the stamps issued for the benefit of the Prince of Wales's Hospital Fund were printed. It will no doubt be remembered that as soon as the printing of the stamps was completed, the plates were consigned to the strong-rooms of the Bank, under the official seals of the Governor and Chief Cashier, which were affixed in the presence of several of the Honorary Officials of the Fund, until a convenient opportunity presented itself for their destruction. At this function H.R.H. the Duke of York, who as President of the London Philatelic Society takes a great interest in the matter, graciously signified his willingness to be present.

Their Royal Highnesses, who were attended by Sir Charles Cust and Lady Mary Lygon, on arrival at the Lothbury entrance, were received by the Governor, Mr. Hugh Colin Smith; the Deputy-Governor, Mr. S. Steuart Gladstone; the Chief Cashier, Mr. H. G. Bowen; and the Acting Secretary, Mr. Kenneth Grahame, of the Bank of England; and also by the following members of the Organising Committee of the Prince of Wales's Hospital Fund: Lord Rothschild, Lord Rowton, Sir Henry Burdett, K.C.B., the Right Hon. C. Stuart Wortley, Q.C., M.P., Sir Savile Crossley, and Mr. J. G. Craggs.

There were also present Mr. J. S. Purcell, C.B., Controller of Stamps at Somerset House; Mr. Thomas De la Rue, of Messrs. De la Rue & Co., who carried out the printing of the stamps, and who so kindly prepared the design, engraved the plates, and presented them to the Fund free of charge; Mr. G. H. Miles and Mr. Joseph Shaylor, of Messrs. Simpkin, Marshall & Co., the wholesale distributors of the stamps, whose task in dealing with the issue has been anything but a light one; and Mr. S. G. Wilkinson, of the Oxford Bible Warehouse, who have used a very large number of the stamps in their Commemoration Bibles and Prayer Books; and representatives of the various Philatelic Societies.

The Royal party were at once conducted to the Printing Department, which they entered by a private passage through the Branch Banks Office, where they were met by Mr. W. J. Coe, the Superintendent of the Department.

Passing through the machine-room, where all the account books of the Bank are printed, and where, by the way, is the first machine from which the postal orders were printed, and also a fine Middleton gripper machine, which prints both sides of the paper at once, the Royal party reached the Die Sinking Department, where the destruction of the plates was to take place.

In this room, which is under the charge of Mr. F. C. Smith (who has been in the service of the Bank over forty years), all the dies and water-

marking plates are designed and made for the bank notes, postal orders, Indian notes, Exchequer bills, and any other papers requiring a watermark, and Mr. Smith takes a pride in showing a paper mould (from which the watermark is impressed upon the paper whilst in course of manufacture) of a fine Damascus pattern, the process for making which was patented by his father, Mr. John Smith, in 1849, the mould being shown at the Great Exhibition of 1851.

At the benches in this room were stationed in readiness three expert workmen, each provided with an enormous two-inch file or rubber, weighing 16 lbs., and as soon as the seals of the plates, which had previously been brought from the strong-rooms under the charge of the Bank Officials, had been broken by the Governor, the steel plates were fixed in position on the benches, and the workmen set to work with a will to obliterate every line of the delicate tracery constituting the design of the plates. With the powerful tools at hand even the hard surface of the three steel plates from which alone the stamps had been printed soon had to yield, and after about ten minutes or a quarter of an hour's hard work the surface of the plates was utterly defaced. The destruction of the steel plates being complete, the attention of the workmen was then directed to the original matrix and die, the raised surface of the designs upon which, being too hard to be much affected by the powerful files which had been used upon the printing plates, were then applied to a grindstone, which stood ready at hand, and in a short space of time the designs were ground level with the surfaces of the matrix and die.

The defaced plates and dies were once again consigned to the charge of the Bank Officials.

Their Royal Highnesses then proceeded to the Governor's room, where the official certificate of the destruction of the plates was signed by their Royal Highnesses the Duke and Duchess of York; Mr. H. C. Smith, the Governor of the Bank of England; Mr. J. S. Purcell, C.B., Controller of Stamps; and the following members of the Organising Committee of the Prince of Wales's Hospital Fund: Lord Rothschild, Lord Rowton, Sir Henry Burdett, K.C.B., the Right Hon. C. Stuart Wortley, Q.C., M.P., Sir Savile Crossley, and Mr. J. G. Craggs.

The certificate is as follows:—

"BANK OF ENGLAND.

"Certificate of the destruction of the Dies and Plates employed in the production of the Prince of Wales's Hospital Fund Stamps.

"We, the undersigned, hereby certify that the whole of the Dies and Plates used in the production of these stamps were this day destroyed in our presence."

Here follow the signatures as above.

The Governor of the Bank then said: "On behalf of the Committee of the Prince of Wales's Fund, I beg to thank your Royal Highness and the Duchess for coming here to-day to see the plates destroyed. Perhaps you will kindly certify to those present that you are quite satisfied that no more stamps can be printed from the plates."

The Duke of York replied: "It has interested both the Duchess and myself a great deal to come to-day and see the destruction of the dies and

plates of the stamps which are issued in connection with the Prince of Wales's Hospital Fund, and I trust that the remainder of the stamps will be soon sold, as I think there can be no more appropriate souvenir of Her Majesty's Diamond Jubilee than these stamps."

His Royal Highness added that the defaced plates and dies might form an interesting exhibit at the forthcoming Philatelic Exhibition, which he is to open in London on the 22nd inst.

The Royal party afterwards made a tour of the Printing Department of the Bank, where they were much interested in inspecting the details of producing the bank notes, postal orders, cheques, etc. etc.

Philatelic Notes.

NOTE.—*The co-operation of Philatelists is invited in order to make this column of a varied and interesting nature.*

GREAT BRITAIN. POST CARDS—VARIETIES OF THE "ARMS."

MR. C. F. DENDY MARSHALL calls attention in the *English Specialists' Journal* to the varieties of the "Arms" on the post cards of Great Britain. These are known to many, but, as he says, have seldom been described.

"In the first type the tail of the lion touches his shoulder. This is only found, so far as I am aware, on cards with a border.

"In the second type the tail does not touch. The lion might be said to have a 'Dundreary' head. The 3d. cards were always, as far as I know, printed with this type.

"In type three the tail does not touch. The right paw of the lion slightly overlaps the band round the shield."

SIERRA LEONE, 1884. 5/- *ON* 1/-, *GREEN, WMK. CR. C C.*

MESSRS. WHITFIELD KING & CO. have sent for our inspection a notice relative to the provisional 5/– stamp, which was issued in May, 1884, the 1/–, green, wmk. Cr. C C, being surcharged with this value. This stamp has, up to the present, been looked upon as a Revenue stamp *only;* but the notice referred to contains a letter from the Postmaster-General of Sierra Leone, which would seem to alter the opinion which has hitherto been expressed regarding this provisional.

"No. $\frac{347}{1897}$. GENERAL POST OFFICE, SIERRA LEONE,
April 10th, 1897.

"SIR,—In reply to your letter of the 7th instant, I have the honour to inform you that there was issued in May, 1884, a 1/– stamp surcharged 5/–. The Honourable the Acting Treasurer has informed me in regard to it, that, so far as he can gather, the stamps were for postage, and not postage and revenue.

"I am, Sir, your obedient Servant,

"(Signed) J. CLEUGH, *Postmaster-General.*

"To W. H. HALL, Esq.,
"*Freetown, Sierra Leone.*"

Occasional Notes.

IMPORTANT TO MEMBERS OF THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY, LONDON.

THE Society's Rooms at Effingham House will, by order of the House Committee, be CLOSED from August 8th to August 31st, inclusive.

WE are desired to state that the Expert Committee of the London Philatelic Society cannot undertake any work during the months of August and September, as its members will be scattered during that period. After that stamps for examination should be sent, as hitherto, to Major Evans, Longton Avenue, Sydenham, S.E., with the fee—*2s. 6d.* for a single stamp, or *2s.* each for two or more stamps sent together.

SUNDRY PHILATELIC PUBLICATIONS.

MR. J. CANSINO sends us a *Directory of Collectors*, published by M. Lyon-Claesen, of Brussels, classified under the respective countries and their towns in alphabetical order. The idea is good, and the clear typography, with margin for notes against each name, is to be commended. The British division is remarkably inaccurate and incomplete, and the lists of Berlin and Paris omit a large proportion of the best-known names—hence a thorough revision will be required to make the *Directory* of any service.

Mr. C. Stewart, of St. Paul, Minn., forwards a *Guide to Colours of Postage Stamps*, the feature of which is a classified list of shades, with the name of the stamp on which it will be found, and a space for the insertion of each specimen so designated. Only common stamps are selected for this purpose, but a great mistake is made in recommending used specimens. The only undoubted shades of true colour are those found in stamps that are in prime unused condition. The idea is, however, ingenious and novel; but how far any guide to colour can be made practicable is a question that the nineteenth century has not yet solved.

ITALIAN FORGERIES OF THE 3 LIRE, TUSCANY.

WE have to acknowledge—thanks to the energetic and praiseworthy intervention of Dr. E. Diena—the receipt of specimens of the 3 lire of Tuscany, which constitute the most dangerous imitation of this rare stamp that has yet appeared. The two "stamps" kindly furnished by our correspondent are of an ochre-yellow shade, rather more sombre than the darker colour of this stamp that is generally known; they are (naturally) beautifully margined, and bear portions of the obliteration in horizontal lines of Roman capitals PER CONSEGNA, the one having this legend in one line and the other in two. The design of these fabrications, the paper (duly watermarked), and the obliteration, all fail to tally with the originals,

although in general appearance and without forewarning almost anyone might be deceived therewith. We do not, however, in the interests of *MM. les faussaires*, deem it advisable to enter into particulars more closely. We shall, however, be pleased to give an opinion on any specimen that may have been recently purchased from Italy if forwarded to the Editor of this Journal, and Dr. E. Diena kindly offers to examine such, his address being 57, Campo Marzio, Rome.

Not content with the issue of these used specimens, the originators of this fraud had produced an unused horizontal strip of these specimens with "original gum and in brilliant condition," with which they proposed to create a sensation in the Philatelic world. Happily, however, these have also been nailed to the counter, and we have once more to acknowledge the timely and valuable assistance rendered to Philately by one of the most esteemed members of the London Philatelic Society—Dr. Emilio Diena.

THE PHILATELIC CONGRESS AT HAMBURG.

PRESSURE on our space precludes more than the mention that this now well-known function was held at the shipping metropolis of Germany, was numerously attended, and productive of great enjoyment to all who showed therein. The principal Philatelic feature, as we are informed by several gentlemen who attended, was the remarkably few fine unused stamps on offer, and the equally remarkable high prices demanded for them. The "slump" apparently has not travelled by the celebrated express train from Berlin to Hamburg!

New Issues.

NOTES OF NEW, AND VARIATIONS OF CURRENT, ISSUES.

(Varieties of Obsolete Stamps, and Discoveries, will be found under "Philatelic Notes."

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.

Members of the London Philatelic Society, and other readers generally, are invited to co-operate with us in making the columns as interesting as possible. Our foreign readers can especially help us in this direction, by sending copies of any official documents relative to changes in the current issues, or early intimation of any new issue, accompanied, when possible, by a specimen; such information will be duly credited to the correspondent, and, if desired, the specimen promptly returned. Address: EDITOR "LONDON PHILATELIST," EFFINGHAM HOUSE, ARUNDEL STREET, STRAND, LONDON, W.C.

BRITISH EMPIRE.

BRITISH BECHUANALAND.—The illustration annexed is that of the stamp described on page 134.



BRITISH HONDURAS.—The *M. J.* describes a Frank stamp similar to those of the Australian Colonies. It has the arms in the centre, surrounded by the words, "Governor—British Honduras," within a single-lined circle. It is applied by means of a hand stamp.

CANADA.—We illustrate the Jubilee issue on an enlarged scale, which we described last month. From the reception which these stamps have already been given, it would be

useless to attempt any remarks on the issue which would detract from their popularity, but we are of impression that a permanent set would have been a more creditable means of celebrating the Diamond Jubilee on the part of our leading Colony. Speculation has been rampant on the ½ c. and 6 c. values, despite information which is in our hands from a high official source that, to guard against this, the Post Office Department had so ordered that these values were



only to be sold with complete sets. We would advise our readers to give due consideration before paying extortionate prices for certain values which show evidence of being "cornered," and, if possible, rest content with a single specimen, which will illustrate the whole set. They may readily go the way of the 75 c. Monaco! The *A. J. of Ph.* informs us that owing to the similarity of the 8 c. to the colour of the 10 c. the former value has been withdrawn. The stamps are printed by the American Bank Note Co., and printed upon white wove paper, perf. 12.

Adhesives. ½ c., black.
1 c., orange.
2 c., green.
3 c., bright rose.
5 c., deep blue.
6 c., rich brown.
8 c., violet-brown.
10 c., brown-violet.
15 c., steel blue.
20 c., vermilion.
50 c., ultramarine.
$1, red.
$2, dark purple.
$3, yellow-brown.
$4, purple.
$5, olive.
Post Card. 1 c., black on *buff.*

INDIAN NATIVE STATES.—*Las Bela.*—The *M. J.* announces a ½ anna stamp for this State, which, after a diligent search, we have failed to locate on our map. From an illustration in *Le T. P.* we learn that the labels are square shaped, inscribed "Las Bela" at top, "State" at base, with native inscriptions at the sides, and on a lozenge in the centre. The sheets contain 20 stamps, four horizontal rows of five stamps each, perforated.

Adhesive. ½ anna, black.

Duttia.—The *Ph. J. of India* adds the following to our list on page 98, all of the Type 1 described:

Adhesives.

½ anna, black on *light blue green; thin wove paper; Type* 1.
1 ,, ,, *white; thin wove paper; Type* 1.
2 ,, ,, *yellow; thin wove paper* ,,
4 ,, ,, *rose; thin wove paper* ,,

These stamps are printed in strips of eight—down one strip and up the next, so that in horizontal rows every second stamp is *tête-bêche.*

MAURITIUS.—We have the single and reply 8 c. post cards bearing the "Arms" stamp, to add to our list of last month; we also learn that there are two sizes of each of the 18 c. and 36 c. envelopes.

Post Cards. 8 c., rose on buff.
8+8 c ,, ,, (reply).

NEWFOUNDLAND.—A new issue of decidedly patriotic and commemorative intent has made its appearance here, and if the inscription 1497–1897 contained in the designs is to be read literally, we regret that the action of this sister Colony should have so palpably resembled that of Portugal and other flagrant money-making countries, which have received such severe condemnation and contempt from stamp collectors. In the present instance the designs are handsome, and to some extent singularly appropriate; but apart from this we can say no more, and must wait for further news as to the standing of the issue. That a British Colony or Colonies should stoop to such action as the present case suggests is to be greatly regretted, and we only hope the stamps may turn out to be permanent.

NEW SOUTH WALES.—Just as we go to press we have received important news from Mr. A. F. Bassett Hull regarding the three stamps issued in honour of the Queen's Diamond Jubilee, as also a most unpalatable scheme for Hospital stamps, to which we will refer in our next issue.

SIERRA LEONE.—The colour of the new 5d. adhesive should be lilac and *black*, not violet, and the *M. J.* is informed that the 2s. Fiscal stamp was also converted into a 2½d. postage stamp, by the addition of the usual surcharge. Only 240 of these stamps,

however, are said to have been issued, and perhaps with very good reason.

Adhesives. 5d., lilac and black.
2½d., in black, on 2s., lilac, fiscal.

STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.—*Native States.—Pahang.*—On page 19 we referred to this State as having only one value of the tiger's head stamps in use—the 3 c. A 5 c. has now been issued in the following colours :

Adhesive. 5 c., lilac and olive-yellow.

EUROPE.

BELGIUM.—A change has been effected in the colour of the 50 c. stamp, *grey* occupying the place of bistre-brown.

Adhesive. 50 c., grey.

GERMANY.—*Le T. P.* illustrates the current 10 pf. post card, the stamp on the same being surcharged "Nur für Marine-Schiffsposten" in a semicircle, signifying for naval use only.

Post Card. 10 pf., carmine on *buff*, black surcharge.

HOLLAND.—We have good information to the effect that there is no truth in the statement which has been made that a new issue is impending.

ITALY.—From the same source. The 7½ × 7½ c. and 10 c. cards are now dated '97.

SWITZERLAND.—There is a slight modification of the 5 c. wrapper stamp, the arms of the 5 having been redrawn, similar to the post cards.

AMERICA.

ARGENTINE REPUBLIC.—A new value, 1 peso 20 c., has been brought into use for prepayment of the postage on packets weighing from two to five kilos.; wmk. Sun, perf. 11½, type of the 1 peso (portrait of San Martin). *Adhesive.* 1 p. 20 c., black.

BOLIVIA.—More worthies have been trotted to the front, framed as 1, 5, and 50 c. and 1 boliviano values, while the 2 bolivianos has been reserved for the national Coat of Arms.

Adhesives. 1 c., pale yellow-green
5 c., dark blue-green.
50 c., orange.
1 boliviano, violet on bluish.
2 ,, black.

OTHER COUNTRIES.

CUBA.—*Le C. de T.-P.* adds to the current set,

Adhesives. 40 c. de peso, red.
80 ,, bistre.

EGYPT.—Mr. H. Edgar Weston informs us as to some further values of the current set which have been surcharged "*Soudan*"; these are the 10 paras and the 2, 5, and 10 piastres.

Adhesives. 10 paras, green ; black surcharge.
2 piastres, orange-brown ; black surcharge.
5 ,, rose-carmine ,,
10 ,, violet ,,

In addition to the above, we understand that a grand supply of envelopes, post cards, postage due stamps, etc., has also been doled out with the same surcharge.

FERNANDO POO.—The 2 c. has been surcharged "5" "Cen" in an oval.

Adhesive. 5 c. on 2 c. de peso, rose ; blue surcharge.

PHILIPPINE ISLANDS.—The 1 c. has changed colour, and the two values added to Cuba have also been supplied here.

Adhesives. 1 c. de peso, carmine.
40 ,, violet.
80 ,, carmine.

PORTO RICO.—We hear of the following addition :

Adhesive. 80 c. de peso, black.

Philatelic Societies' Meetings.

BIRMINGHAM PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

President—W. T. Wilson, Esq.
Hon. Sec. and Treas.—Mr. G. Johnson, B.A.,
208, *Birchfield Road, Birmingham.*

May 6th.—Messrs. F. Neck (London), G. E. D. Morey (Tasmania), J. Esterellas y Carbonell (Spain), were unanimously elected members.

Mr. W. B. Avery then gave his display. The stamps of Great Britain were taken first. They included a special official collection of imperforates—one from every plate that has been printed from. They were specially interesting as showing the fine colours and beautiful engraving of the early stamps before the plates became worn. Many of the copies, although they had never been gummed, showed very fine "ivory heads," showing most conclusively that the oft-repeated nonsense about the action of the gum causing this appearance is absolutely wrong. Then came the general collection of Great Britain, containing all the rarities *unused*, among them being such trifles as a block of 23 V.R. 1d., black; 9d., wmk. "emblems," Plate 5; the 2½d. error; complete panes of 3d. with white dot (Plate 3); 1s. with hair-line (Plate 3); and most values on trial safety paper.

Africa was shown next, including several pages of shades of Cape wood-blocks—one page being devoted to the errors, singles, and pairs; Boer Republic, complete; several grand pages of Post Paid Mauritius, followed by a profuse display of the rarities of the subsequent issues; Sierra Leone and Lagos were very fine. Indeed, in all countries it was noted that in almost every case the rarer the stamp the greater was the number shown, the finer the range of shade, and, generally speaking, the greater attention evidently paid to it.

British Asia followed with a very fine lot of Ceylons, which included, with one or two exceptions, full range of shades in used and unused. The rarities of India and Straits had also been well looked after.

German States then received the attention of the members, and some who were endeavouring with difficulty to fill up spaces with unused were surprised to see such stamps as the early issues of Baden, etc., shown by the half-sheet (2 panes) of each value. With the exception of two of the rare Wurtembergs, all varieties were shown, used and unused, by shades.

Spain and her Colonies came next. In these, again, there were far more of the unused rarities of the early issues than the common varieties. The early issues of Spain and Philippines were exceptionally fine, and can only have been obtained by patient search and waiting, in addition to the other necessaries for such a display. The inverted frames were shown used and unused, the errors in the original blocks and used on part of original envelopes along with others. Many of the medium varieties were shown in half sheets.

Then came two fine volumes of the stamps of Greece, most carefully arranged, and containing varieties of printing, misprints, etc., that were new to most members present.

South America followed. This included a grand lot of Buenos Ayres, with a profusion of fine shades and many pairs. As the evening was now getting late, and carriages had long since been announced, there was only just time for a hasty glance at one of the divisions of West Indies—Nevis to Virgin Islands. If the members had seen nothing else, there were enough rarities displayed in this section to satisfy for many a day. In Nevis, unused sheets were shown of all varieties except 1s., yellow-green, and 1s. on laid; reconstructed sheets of used stamps were shown of nearly all varieties. Altogether there were three complete sheets of the rare 6d., litho.

The early issues of St. Vincent, with their fine range of shade, occupied some time.

A very hearty vote of thanks was given to Mr. Avery for so kindly bringing his stamps and explaining them to the members. His very kind response terminated one of the most enjoyable and instructive meetings we have had.

BRIGHTON AND SUSSEX PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

President—M. P. CASTLE.
Hon. Secretary and Treasurer—BARON A. DE WORMS.
Assistant Hon. Secretary—W. T. WILLETT, West House, Brighton.

THE eleventh meeting of the season was held at Markwell's Hotel, Brighton, on Tuesday, March 9th, at 8.15 p.m. Seven members and one visitor were present. The Vice-President in the chair. After the minutes of the previous meeting had been read and confirmed, a letter from a member tendering his resignation was read, and directed to be accepted. A display of the stamps of Ceylon then took place. Specimens of every variety, both used and unused, were shown, and in most cases several shades of each value. Among the rarities shown may be specially mentioned unused copies of the imperf. 4d., 8d., 9d., 1s., and 2s.; pairs of imperf. 4d., 5d., 10d., 1s. 9d., and 2s.; of perf. 4d., 6d., 8d., 9d., 10d., and 2s.; a block of seven 5d. C C, brown, unused; 24 c., plum. The condition of all the stamps shown was exceptionally fine.

THE twelfth meeting was held on Tuesday, March 23rd. The Vice-President took the chair, supported by five members. The Chairman exhibited his fine collection of Belgium and Luxemburg, describing all the principal varieties of the different issues. The collection was replete with blocks, pairs, and many shades of each variety. In Mr. Redman's opinion the majority of the errors in the official stamps of Luxemburg were mainly made for collectors only. A hearty vote of thanks to Mr. Redman for his interesting paper and display was unanimously carried.

THE COLLECTORS' CLUB,

351, FOURTH AVENUE, NEW YORK.

President—WILLIAM HERRICK.
Vice-President—CHARLES GREGORY.
Secretary—J. M. ANDREINI, 29, W. 75th Street.
Treasurer—JOHN W. SCOTT, 40, John Street.

NINTH meeting of the Board of Governors held at the Club House, 351, Fourth Avenue, April 12th, 1897. Vice-President Chas. Gregory in the chair. Present: Messrs. Luff, Lynde, Scott, and the Secretary.

Called to order at 8.10 p.m. Minutes of previous meeting read and approved.

The Secretary read a letter of thanks from the Secretary of the Staten Island Philatelic Society, also a letter from the Chairman of the Literary Committee advising receipt of Philatelic literature donated to the Club Library by Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., London, to whom a vote of thanks was tendered.

The Governors extended their thanks to the J. W. Scott Co., Ltd., for bound volume of *Metropolitan Philatelist* and two books of reference received for Club Library, to John W. Scott for loan of handsome clock for Assembly Room, to John N. Luff for loan of bronze ornament for the same room, and to the Secretary for gift of foreign Philatelic papers.

The Treasuer's report was then received, showing a balance in bank of $992.96.

The Chairmen of House and Amusement Committees made their reports, which were received.

The Treasurer reported that stockholders J. V. Painter, Cleveland, O., and Ed. Kelly, Temple Court, New York, had duly qualified.

The Secretary read a letter from Mr. Pray, executor of the will of Wm. Theo. Curtis, announcing his death on March 30th, 1897, and the Secretary was directed to convey to Mr. Pray, as executor, the expression of the Governors' grief at the sad loss of their friend and fellow-member.

Upon ballot the following candidates for subscribing membership were unanimously elected: August Lehmann, jun., 188, Tyler Street, Paterson, N.J.; Chas. H. Mead, 37, W. 42nd Street, New York; Monson Morris, 14, E. 63rd Street, New York; and they were thereupon declared duly elected.

Adjourned at 9.35 p.m.

J. M. ANDREINI, *Secretary.*

The Market.

MESSRS. VENTOM, BULL, & COOPER.

Sale on June 16th and 17th.

	£	s.	d.
Great Britain, "I. R. Official," 5/-, rose	2	0	0
Ditto, 10/-, blue	2	12	6
Ditto, £1, green	3	7	9
The Levant, 1865, 2 kop., brown and blue, on original	6	15	0
Ditto, 20 kop., blue and red, on original	7	0	0
Johore, 2 c. on 24 c., green, error "CENST"	3	5	0
United States, 1870, 24 c., violet, with grille	8	10	0
Barbados, imperf., 1/-, black, unused block of 4	6	0	0
Campeche, 50 c, blue, on piece of original	7	10	0
Peru, 1857, provis., 1 real, blue	4	4	0
Ditto, 1858, ½ peso, rose-red	12	5	0

Sale on July 1st and 2nd.

	£	s.	d.
Tuscany, 9 crazie, on white, unused (no gum)	7	0	0
United States, "Columbus" issue, complete, unused	3	3	0
New South Wales, laureated, 3d., green, error, wmk. 2, unused (no gum), and cracked across	11	0	0
Queensland, imperf., 2d, blue, strip of 3, used on original	22	10	0
Ditto, wmk. script, sq. perf., 1d., orange, unused strip of 3	11	0	0

MESSRS. PUTTICK & SIMPSON.

Sale on June 15th and 16th.

	£	s.	d.
Heligoland, perf., ¼ sch., error, frame in red	3	6	0
Switzerland, Basle, 2½ rappen, blue and scarlet, unused	6	0	0
Ditto, Geneva, double stamp unsevered	25	10	0
Ditto, Geneva, envelope, small size, 5 c., green	7	0	0
Ditto, Zurich, 4 rappen, vertical lines (Type I.)	20	0	0
Ditto, ditto, ditto, horizontal lines (Type III.)	15	0	0
Ditto, ditto, ditto, ditto (Type IV.)	13	0	0
British East Africa, surch. on Company's stamps, ½ a. to 5 rupees, set of 15	14	0	0
Canada, imperf., 7½d., green, unused	10	10	0
Nevis, 1/-, yellow-green, on laid paper	45	0	0
South Australia, imperf., 1d., green, London print, strip of 4 unused, no gum	36	0	0
British Guiana, 4 cents, blue (No. 5 on plate)	15	0	0
New Zealand, half of 1/-, green, wmk. Star on *bleuté*, used on entire envelope as 6d., dated "Otago, Feb. 19, 1858"	7	17	6

Sale on June 29th and 30th.

	£	s.	d.
Great Britain, 1d., red-brown, square block of 4, on Dickinson paper, with threads, inscriptions on margins	8	15	0
Bavaria, 6 kr., bistre-brown, Type I., broken circle, with gum	17	0	0
Bremen, 7 grote, perf.	5	5	0
Mecklenburg-Schwerin, ½ sch., dotted ground, rouletted	5	10	0
Oldenburg, 1st issue, ⅓ gros., green, block of 4, with gum	9	10	0
Ditto, 2nd issue, 3 gros., black on yellow, with gum	7	5	0
Roumania, 1st issue, 54 paras, green, red postmark	18	10	0
Saxony, 3 pf.	9	10	0
Switzerland, Vaud, 4 c., red postmark	20	10	0
Ditto, Zurich, 4 rap., vertical lines (Type IV.)	19	0	0
Tuscany, 60 crazie	10	0	0
Wurtemberg, 1st issue, 6 kr., black on green, horizontal pair, with gum	11	10	0
Ditto, 70 kr., strip of 3, unused	10	15	0
Ceylon, imperf., 8d., brown	23	10	0
Vancouver Island, 5 c., rose, imperf.	10	0	0
British Columbia, perf. 14, 10 c., blue and rose, horizontal pair, with gum	11	10	0
Canada, 12d., black on laid paper	70	0	0
Newfoundland, half 1/-, carmine, used as 6d. on part of letter	12	0	0
Buenos Ayres, Cuato ps., vermilion	15	0	0
Ditto, Cinco ps., buff	5	0	0
St. Vincent, 4d. on 1s., unused	14	5	0
Ditto, 5s., rose-red, unused	15	0	0
Tobago, £1, mauve, wmk. CC, unused	14	0	0
Ditto, CA, 6d., brown, unused	7	0	0
Turks Islands, provisional, ½d, in black, on 4d., grey, strip of 6 showing varieties, unused	16	10	0
New Zealand, 1d., red. *pelure*, perf.	9	0	0
South Australia, 1855, imperf., 1/-, violet, no gum	23	0	0
Tasmania, 1st issue, 1d., blue, unused	11	10	0
Western Australia, 2d., violet, error	15	10	0
St. Helena, perf. 12½, short line, 1/-, black and green, unused	17	10	0

THE

London Philatelist:

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THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY, LONDON.

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The Rock Ahead.

THE heading of these remarks, fairly familiar to those who have followed the fortunes of this Journal, scarcely represents with sufficient force the predicament of the Philatelic barque to-day—which is almost on the breakers! We refer to the waves of speculative and unnecessary issues which threaten to break up the general collector, and make all serious Philatelists naught but specialists From all quarters comes news of spurious and postally unnecessary issues, calculated to turn Philately to ridicule—New South Wales, Newfoundland, Canada, great Colonies that should be above such practices—Tonga (from whom anything may be expected), and now St. Kitts and Brazil, are all recent examples of egregious speculative issues.

The Dominion of Canada, as the most important Colony of the British Empire, has indeed presented a sorry spectacle. The appearance of the series with the dual portrait of Her Majesty—beautiful as are the stamps—presents all the worst features of speculative issues. It appears, moreover, that the limitation of their currency came as a great surprise to Canadian Philatelists, and evoked their strenuous protests. Had these stamps been permanent, little could have been said beyond the fact of the face-values ranging so high, but with a user allowed of but a few weeks, and with the numbers issued, apparently carefully calculated to invite official speculations at the expense of collectors, the whole *scheme* is one that reflects the gravest discredit upon the Canadian Postal authorities. The comments hereon in the English and American Philatelic Press are as numerous as they are severe and well merited. From among many such we would quote the following excerpt from *Harper's Round Table*, which is especially suggestive:

"The great conundrum in the stamp world is, 'What has become of the Jubilee ½ c. Stamps of Canada?' One hundred and fifty thousand were printed, 25,000 were saved for complete sets, leaving 125,000 to be sold singly. So far the largest number

known to have been sold to any one person is ten. I have been at considerable trouble and expense to discover the whereabouts of the remainder. I have written to one hundred postmasters of large towns, and every one has informed me that none were issued to their office except in sets. Their letters bear every evidence of truth, and I fully believe them. Small numbers, a few thousand stamps, were issued to Montreal, Quebec, St. John, and other large cities. This would leave fully 100,000 unaccounted for. Who has them? They may have been secured without notoriety, but they cannot be sold the same way."

We refer elsewhere to the New South Wales Hospital Stamps, which in their way are almost reprehensible, and it is much to be regretted that the New South Wales Government cannot be better advised by the leading Australian Philatelists.

The Society for the Suppression of Speculative Stamps was expressly founded to combat these issues, and it is high time that it vindicated its title, or else made room for some other body who will judicially weigh all new issues and give their opinions thereon to the Philatelic body in general. Mr. E. J. Nankivell, in the *American Journal of Philately* of this month, has some vigorous and sensible remarks hereon, which we cordially endorse, especially when he states that the movement must not be allowed to collapse because some dealers have fallen away. A general meeting of all the members must be called as soon as the season commences—say in October—when an enunciation should be made of the principles on which the Society is henceforward to be conducted, and the resignation accepted of all those who cannot subscribe thereto. The position of those members of the trade who have been loyal to the movement is a very hard and invidious one, and it seems to us better that the Society should be composed of collectors only. It was an ambitious attempt, perhaps, to endeavour to indicate what anyone should or should not sell, and a future policy of advice and information only will be safer, which, if collectors choose to neglect, will be their own affair. We trust that these opinions will not be held as inferring any antipathy to new issues as such; on the contrary, we hold that the appearance of fresh stamps, genuinely issued for dynastic, currency, or postal changes, is a most valuable and attractive recruiting agent for our ranks. *Per contra*, the flooding of the market with pretty pictures tends to degrade Philately to the level of Liebig picture collecting, and *must inevitably have the worst possible effect upon the future of the dealers.* It will either cause the retirement of many of their best customers, or compel them to restrict still more the limits of their acquisitions. We cannot too strongly urge upon all those—and they are many—who have a heavy financial stake in Philately, that confidence forms the foundation of stamp collecting, and that if this were seriously shaken the whole fabric would collapse.

The Post Cards of New South Wales.

By A. F. BASSET HULL.

I. INLAND SINGLE CARDS.

TOWARDS the end of 1874 the introduction of the Post Card system occupied some attention, but it was not until September, 1875, that it was definitely decided to issue Post Cards for use within the Colony of New South Wales.

Although the Postage Act, 31 Vict. No. 4, did not specifically authorize the issue of Post Cards, it was considered that Section 16 of that Act gave sufficient authority for their issue. This section was the one empowering the making of postage stamps, and was worded:

"The Governor with the advice aforesaid (of the Executive Council) shall cause or shall authorize the Postmaster-General or the Inspector of Stamps or the Commissioner of Stamps to cause postage stamps indicating such amounts of postage as may be from time to time deemed necessary for the purposes of this Act to be made and sold to any person applying for the same."

Authority for "the introduction of a system permitting the circulation within the Colony of Penny Post Cards, specially printed so as to provide on the face of each card the address to which it is intended to be sent, and on the reverse side thereof for the matter of the communication," was obtained from the Executive Council on the 17th September, 1875.

The following notice was published in the *Government Gazette:*

"General Post Office, Sydney,
"*24th September*, 1875.

"His Excellency the Governor, with the advice of the Executive Council, having been pleased to approve of the introduction of Post Cards, it is hereby notified for general information, that, from and after the 1st proximo, such cards, whether official or private, being each impressed with a penny stamp, may be transmitted between places in the Colony of New South Wales, under the following conditions and regulations:—

"1. The front or stamped side of the card to be for the address only, in addition to the words "Post Card." There must be nothing else written, printed, or otherwise impressed on the front side of the card, nor must there be any writing or printing across the stamp. On the reverse side any communication, whether of the nature of a letter or otherwise, may be written or printed. Nothing whatever may be attached, nor may the card be folded, cut, or in any other respect altered. Adhesive stamps will not be accepted in payment of postage. If any of these conditions be infringed the card will be charged 2d. on delivery.

"2. No card other than those issued by the Government, or a private card impressed with a penny stamp, under the special authority of the Postmaster-General, will pass under a penny stamp, if it bear on it a written communication of the nature of a letter.

"3. Should a Post Card be observed to bear upon it anything of an obscene, libellous, or otherwise obviously objectionable nature, it will not be delivered.

"4. When, owing to a great and unusual influx of letters, books, &c., the transmission or delivery of the letters would be delayed if the whole mail were dealt with without distinction, Post Cards may be kept back until the next despatch or delivery.

"Official cards will be sold in packets of a dozen for a shilling per packet, and will not be sold singly at post offices. For information as to the conditions under which printed cards may be impressed application can be made to the Secretary to the Post Office.

"J. F. BURNS."

It will be seen that the date of issue was fixed for the 1st October, 1875, and essays appear to have been submitted in anticipation prior to Executive approval being obtained.

These essays closely resembled the card as actually issued in general appearance. The stamp in the right upper corner was a transfer from the 1d. adhesive stamp (type of 1864). The Royal Arms, 15 mm. in length, were placed in the centre of the card. "Post Card," in sans-serif capitals, was above the Arms, and beneath in one line, italic type, was the inscription, "The Address only to be written on this side." Below this was the word "To" in large script type, the top stroke of the "T" having a curled flourish.

The whole design was enclosed in a "bamboo" border with seven sections, top and bottom, the centre section being 7 mm. in length and the others 18 mm. The side borders were composed of six sections, the four centre ones 18 mm. in length and the two end ones 7 mm. These borders crossed each other at the corners, forming an "Oxford" frame, of which the vertical sides projected further than the horizontal.

These essays were printed in several colours on coarse, thick buff card and thin white card, little thicker than ordinary cream-laid paper.

Before printing for use this design was modified. The Arms were reduced to 13 mm.; the word "*To*" was printed in ordinary italic type, and the larger sections of the top and bottom borders were reduced to 16 mm.; the side borders were formed of five sections only, three of 16 mm. and two of 11 mm., and the projecting parts of the frame were made of equal lengths.

The card was lithographed at the Government Printing Office, Sydney, in pink, on very thin white card, little thicker than drawing paper. The border was 112 × 80 mm. from point to point, and the card was cut to size 122 × 85 mm.

Specimens were submitted to the Mail Branch officials on the 29th September, 1875, and the issue to the public took place on the 1st October.

There is another type of essay which is perhaps better known to collectors than the one above described. In this card the word "To" is in small script type with a German T (𝔗). The end sections of top and bottom borders retain the projecting halves of the joint, while the ends of the side borders, like the first essay and the issued card, have these half-joints removed.

This essay is only found in pink on the same quality of paper as the issued card.

The thin card on which the first issue was printed gave rise to some dissatisfaction, but there was no supply of thicker card available in the Colony at the time. A supply was at once ordered from England, and at the time it was received and adopted for use the size of the design was reduced to

115 × 68 mm., and the inscriptions, "The Address only to be written on this side" and "To," were printed in smaller type. There are two types, differing only in the border. In the first the top and bottom borders are composed of seven sections, six being 18 mm. in length, and the centre one 6 mm. The second type has the centre section 9 mm. in length, both top and bottom; otherwise the design remained the same as in the first type. To this similarity in design may be attributed the reason for no official record being made of the alteration. M. Moens gives the date of issue as February, 1876, and taking into consideration the time required for obtaining a supply of card from England, four months seems a reasonable period to elapse. I have not seen any earlier dated copies on the thick card than 4th July, 1877, but Mr. A. J. Taylor, of Sydney, possesses a used copy of the first type, printed on the thin card of the first issue, dated "Jordan's Crossing" (a post office, now closed, near Moss Vale), "17th July, 1876." This must not be confused with the "skinned" cards, which are common enough, either unused or with the communication side separated from the address side. The thick card was four-sheet card, and the two outer sheets are of thin surfaced paper, quite distinct from the rough paper of the first issue.

Whether this thin card was the result of a temporary exhaustion of the thick card, or actually the first issue of the reduced design, I cannot definitely say, but will merely chronicle the *design* as issued in February, 1876, leaving the question of priority of papers to be settled hereafter.

It appears probable that both types were printed and issued simultaneously, as I have used copies of Type I. dated from July, 1876, to January, 1886, and of Type II. from September, 1879, to 1888. Type I., however, is decidedly scarcer than Type II.

The small cards were generally cut to size, 118 × 70 to 74 mm., differing especially in dimensions in the case of cards supplied in sheets to private persons, and cut by them. The design was reset and slightly modified by increasing the centre section of the top and bottom borders to 9 mm., the whole borders being thus increased 3 mm. in length. I do not know the exact date on which this change took place, but the earliest dated copy I have seen was used on the 1st September, 1879.

During the eleven years this card remained in use the variety in quality of card used naturally differed considerably. Both types are found on thick white, yellowish, and bluish card, and the first type also on the thin card above described.

Both types were lithographed, and the shades of colour vary from greyish pink to pink, rose, deep rose, and almost marone.

Post Cards were originally intended for use within the Colony only, and some little vexation arose through the posting of the cards to the other colonies. These were, of course, treated as insufficiently paid, but cases occurred where the additional postage was paid in adhesive stamps. These also were treated as insufficiently paid, the other colonies declining to deliver them; but in 1876 Victoria agreed to accept them as letters, provided an additional 1d. stamp was affixed. In 1877 South Australia also fell in with this arrangement, and in 1882 the other colonies and Fiji signified their willingness to adopt the same arrangement. From the 1st January, 1887,

the colonies on the mainland and Tasmania agreed to an interchange of Post Cards at 1d. each, and New Zealand joined on 31st October, 1889.

Up to 1879 Post Cards could only be purchased in packets of twelve. Executive approval was obtained on the 19th August, 1879, for an alteration in the regulations permitting the sale of Post Cards singly, and the change was gazetted as follows:

"GENERAL POST OFFICE, SYDNEY,

"POST CARDS. "*28th August*, 1879.

"It is hereby notified for general information, that His Excellency the Governor, with the advice of the Executive Council, has approved of the regulations relating to Post Cards being so amended as to allow them to be purchased singly instead of in packets of not less than a dozen as at present. "SAUL SAMUEL."

In September, 1887, a suggestion was made that the size of the Post Card might be increased to 5⅜ by 3⅛ inches. The suggestion was approved by the Postmaster-General on the 22nd September, and a proof of Post Card of increased size and new design was submitted by the Government printer on the 10th October, 1887. The new design was approved by the Postmaster-General on the 15th October, 1887, and the issue to the public was made immediately.

There was no border to the design, which consisted of the same stamp as on last card, printed in the extreme right upper corner. On the left was a representation of a branch and flower-head of the native waratah (*Telopea speciosissima*). The flower is conical in shape, and the leaves branch out in such a way that the stalk may be plainly seen throughout. Between stamp and waratah are the inscriptions, in three lines, "New South Wales—Post (Arms) Card—The address only to be written on this side."

It was lithographed in bright rose-pink and pale pink on thick white and bluish card, cut to sizes varying between 151 × 80 mm. and 151 × 86 mm.

The alteration in size and design was not gazetted or officially announced in any way.

(*To be continued.*)

New South Wales Novelties.

WE alluded briefly in our last issue to the information that reached us as we were going to press with regard to the issue of three stamps of fresh design. Our Australian correspondent kindly furnished us with a proof impression of the proposed issue, from which it will be seen that the designs are certainly novel, although we fear that the printing of the stamps themselves will not show them to the same advantage. Our old friend the 5s.—certainly one of the handsomest designs that ever adorned a letter—has also been reissued in its Imperial purple, and will be warmly welcomed by all true collectors. We append the official notice of the issue, from which we gather with satisfaction that the issue is a permanent one in substitution for the corresponding current values.

Our correspondent writes: "The so-called 'Jubilee' stamps [referred to in our last issue] will not be issued until Tuesday, the 22nd.

"I send you copy of *Gazette* notice *re* the issue [which follows]. The colour of the 2½d. is really a rich mauve, but is officially termed royal purple. The stamps are on N S W and Crown (II.) paper, perf. 11 × 11½. The 5s. is on the old 5s. paper, and is in its old purple colour. I think the perf. is 11, but have not yet been able to gauge it. It is, of course, a reissue, and not a new variety."

"POSTAL AND ELECTRIC TELEGRAPH DEPARTMENT,
"GENERAL POST OFFICE, SYDNEY.
"*14th June*, 1897.

"His Excellency the Governor, with the advice of the Executive Council, has, in accordance with the provisions of the 16th section of the Postage Act, 31 Vic. No. 4, been pleased to approve of the issue on the 22nd instant, in commemoration of the completion of the sixtieth year of Her Majesty's reign, of three new Postage Stamps of the respective values of One Penny, Two Pence, and Two Pence Halfpenny, and the reissue of the Five Shilling Postage Stamp of 1861, such stamps to be substituted for the stamps of similar denominations now current.

"A description of the new stamps is given below, and in connection with their issue it is hereby notified that the stamps to be superseded will only be recognised as valid for the prepayment of postage up to the 31st December, 1897, and that from the 1st January, 1898, any of such stamps still remaining in the hands of the public may be exchanged at face value for stamps of the new design.

"DESCRIPTION OF ONE PENNY STAMP.

"The central device is a shield bearing a cross charged with four stars, one on each arm, and a lion *passant regardant* in the centre. A royal crown is placed above the shield, and the name of the Colony and 'postage' below. A figure denoting the value, enclosed in an oval, is in each angle formed by the base of the shield and the inscription. Ornamental scroll work completes the design. Colour, carmine.

"DESCRIPTION OF TWO PENNY STAMP.

"A profile portrait of Her Majesty the Queen is enclosed in a rectangular frame resting upon a waratah flower, and sprays of native rose spring up at each side. The name of the Colony and 'postage' are placed above the portrait, and a figure representing the value is placed upon the waratah flower. These details are enclosed in an ornamental frame superimposed upon a cross, the end of each arm, charged with a star, projecting beyond the frame. The whole is enclosed in a triple-lined rectangular frame. Colour, blue.

"DESCRIPTION OF TWO PENCE HALFPENNY STAMP.

"Upon a transverse oblong, enclosed in a double-lined frame, is a large profile portrait of Her Majesty the Queen in outline, occupying the right-hand half of the stamp. On the left is placed the name of the Colony and 'postage,' in four lines in white on a background of solid colour, and the value in figures is beneath the inscription. The stars of the Southern Cross are disposed about the profile. Colour, royal purple. "JOSEPH COOK."

In our last issue we referred to a scheme for the issue of two Hospital Stamps. From the information which has reached us, we must characterize the scheme as a poor imitation of the non-postal labels issued in connection with H.R.H. the Prince of Wales' Hospital Fund, and as affording an opportunity for speculation under the guise of rendering aid to a local hospital. Neither the public nor stamp collectors could grumble at the sale

of labels, otherwise receipts in acknowledgment of donations to a charitable institution, but all Philatelists will unite in condemning the action of the New South Wales Post Office in selling stamps of a facial value of 1d. and 2½d. at 1100 per cent. above their stated postal value! These labels bear a double face value: firstly, the postal franking values, respectively 1d. and 2½d.; and, secondly, the selling price at hospital value of 1s. and 2s. 6d. It therefore remains that one twelfth only of these labels has any postal or Philatelic significance. We consider that the issue of these stamps with a limited postal franking power is a great discredit to the New South Wales postal authorities, and we trust that all Philatelists will refuse to accept them. We are informed on good authority from Australia that influence of no mean power was brought to bear upon the postal authorities in regard to this issue, and that it is hard that the former should have to bear all the onus—but this is beyond our province as Philatelists. Both in Australia and here we are confident that this issue will meet with profound dissatisfaction and contempt.

In justice to the Sydney postal authorities we append their official notice (the italics being our own):

"CONSUMPTIVES' HOSPITAL POSTAGE STAMPS.—The Postmaster-General, at the request of His Excellency the Governor, has made arrangements for the issue of two special postage stamps designed to enable charitable and loyal persons to at once contribute to the fund for establishing the Consumptives' Hospital, and to obtain an attractive souvenir of Her Majesty's Record Reign.

"The stamps will have the postal values of 1d. and 2½d., but will be sold to the public at 1s. and 2s. 6d. respectively; the amount thus realized in excess of the postal value will be devoted to the Hospital Fund.

"The design for the 1s. stamp has for a central vignette an angelic figure supporting in her arms an exhausted being, helpless and in need of sympathy.* The vignette is surrounded by an ornamental frame, from the left upper corner of which springs the initial letter 'C' of the title 'Consumptives' Home,' which occupies the top of the frame; and in the right upper corner is shown a portrait of Her Majesty the Queen. At the sides the figures '1837, 1897' are enclosed in diamond outlines. In the two lower corners the value, '1s.,' is shown, while the space between is occupied by the inscription, 'N. S. W., Postage One Penny.' The frame is in dark green, and the central vignette in sepia.

"In the 2s. 6d. stamp the motive of 'restoration' or 'rebuilding' is typified by two figures draped in white, the strong gently leading the weak, as she points to the motto, 'Redifico.' This vignette is placed in a diamond frame, above which are the words 'Consumptives' Home' inscribed on a riband. A circle of gold forms the background, upon which the flannel flower and waratah are displayed. In the left lower corner is a medallion bearing the figures '2/6,' while the base of the design is inscribed 'N. S. W., Postage 2½d.' This stamp is printed in gold, blue, rose, and carmine. Both designs are four times the size of an ordinary postage stamp, and are the work of Mr. Charles Turner, of Sydney.

"The issue throughout the colony will be *strictly limited to 10,000* of the 2s. 6d. and 40,000 of the 1s. value. The 1s. stamp will be on sale at the General Post Office on Tuesday, and arrangements are now in progress for the production of the 2s. 6d. stamp at the Government Printing Office, and it is anticipated that it will be ready on Saturday next. Supplies of both values will be obtainable at Post Offices throughout the colony on and after the 28th instant. The period of sale and validity for postal use is to be limited to *two months*."

* This is possibly meant to represent the Goddess of Philately!—[ED.]

Philatelic Notes.

NOTE.—*The co-operation of Philatelists is invited in order to make this column of a varied and interesting nature.*

SIERRA LEONE 5s. ON 1s. OF MAY, 1884.

MR. GEO. CAMPBELL writes us as follows:

"I have just seen article in the *London Philatelist*. When this stamp was issued I wrote from Paris to the Colonial Secretary at Freetown, and asked him to send me a few, provided they were postage stamps. He replied stating that this stamp had been issued for *fiscal purposes only*. This letter I forwarded at the time to Mr. Burnett, then Hon. Sec. of the London Society. The Colonial Secretary was Mr. Griffith, promoted later on to Mauritius."

Mr. Campbell's information is in direct contradiction of the surmise of the present postal authorities in Sierra Leone, as detailed in our last issue on p. 221.

Occasional Notes.

UGANDA COWRIE STAMPS.

THE exceedingly primitive-looking labels shown by Mrs. Tebay at the Philatelic Exhibition last month excited many curious comments, and as they were unfortunately received too late for insertion in the Catalogue our esteemed correspondent's—Mrs. Tebay's—letter will be read with interest. Whatever their Philatelic value may be, these cowrie postal labels are certainly of great curiosity.

"This is to ask you to give some notice of the Uganda stamps in the *London Philatelist*. My card was too late to be included in the Exhibition Catalogue, because I could not get the stamps, which I had lent, returned in time.

"I think that they were among the greatest curiosities there, the values of the first and second issue being in *cowries*. They were first made by the Rev. Ernest Millar, of the Church Missionary Society, by Government authority, in 1894, for local use.

"The typewriting was very troublesome, and he could not engage to make any for sale to dealers, or even for private collectors, so that they are very scarce, but now that they are printed they will become commoner. The early cancelling was only by pencil marks.

"The great advance made in the Uganda Protectorate seems but little known in England. Both Catholic and Protestant missionaries have done wonders, the population being large and the natives very intelligent.

"You may form some idea of the work done when I tell you that the Church Missionary Society alone have more than 200 churches (not very

grand ones I imagine!) in the Protectorate. The largest, I think at Mengo, will hold (so says Bishop Tucker) 5000 people.

"Some of the stamps have the name of settlements written upon them in pencil, and one or two show an attempt at perforation.

"As the earliest effort to introduce postal advantages among *natives* in Africa, these stamps will always be interesting, and I think you will agree with me that it is due to Mr. Millar that they should be noticed, who, I ought to add, has expressed no wish on the subject."

PRESENTATION TO H.R.H. THE DUKE OF YORK OF CANADIAN STAMPS.

As generally stated in the columns of the daily organs of the press, on behalf of the Dominion Government a presentation was made on the 10th of this month to the Duke of York, President of the Royal Philatelic Society, of a specially-bound volume of the Canadian Jubilee Stamp issue. The volume, which was placed in the hands of the Duke by Captain H. Bate, Aide-de-Camp to Sir Wilfrid Laurier, is entirely the product of Canadian workmanship, and is suitably inscribed with the names of leading Government officials.

It is with great pleasure that we note the prefix of "Royal" to the Philatelic Society, but fear that it is a little previous. The Society is doubly honoured by its Royal officers, and would be proud to have the added distinction, but we have *certes* no official confirmation thereof.

THE PHILATELIC EXHIBITION.

We have to apologise to our readers for the late appearance of the July number of this Journal, which was caused by the wish to make an inclusive and exhaustive report of this memorable event. In order to accomplish this the quantity of reading matter was nearly doubled; but by the aid of the official Catalogue we trust that the vast majority of the important exhibits will be found enumerated in our columns. The closing scenes of the Exhibition were marked by a somewhat increased attendance of visitors, and by yet another heavy labour on the part of the Executive Committee—that of the taking down and returning the exhibits. That this has been so successfully accomplished is due to the marvellous energy and system of Mr. J. H. Tilleard and Mr. Gordon Smith, assisted by other Committee-men. We are but embodying the general expression of opinion in urging that later on, when the accounts are presented and closed up—as we quite hope on a satisfactory basis—some step should be taken to evince and perpetuate in a pleasing form the gratitude and appreciation of all ranks towards Mr. Tilleard and Mr. Gordon Smith, for their unselfish and absolute devotion to the interests of the London Philatelic Exhibition of 1897.

Reviews.

CATALOGUE OF MESSRS. STANLEY GIBBONS, LTD., PART III.*

THE concluding portion of the 1897 Catalogue of this firm is issued in a white cover, thus uniting the national colours in the three sections, and comprises 282 pages—the total for the combined work being no less than 843—which will afford an estimation of the labour involved in "century-end" catalogues. It appears that this portion will only be published biennially—for which small mercy thanks! We are over-catalogued nowadays; the market wants rest, prices require time to become solid and real, and the whole Philatelic community would be benefited if the leading firms would for a while cease the fierce struggle of Price List competition.

Like its predecessors, this portion shows great improvement in paper, printing, and arrangement, but notably in the illustrations, which although mostly necessarily reduced in size, are otherwise exact reproductions, Part III. being, in our opinion, the best illustrated of the different sections. The system of grouping is again followed, in the present instance, however, requiring frequent reference to the excellent index to ascertain the location of some countries. The envelopes are perforce not so exhaustively treated as the cards—notably the United States—but amply detailed for the ordinary collector.

The fault of Messrs. Stanley Gibbons' Catalogues, from the general collector's aspect, is the inclusion of too much, which to the non-specialist has an alarming tendency. In many countries a footnote could be added as to additional varieties without listing in detail, and the local and speculative stamps "never would be missed." As an example, in the present case the excellently written and illustrated list of the cards of our own country contains also full illustrations of the inscription on the private embossed card of 1872—of absolutely no Philatelic value beyond the impressed stamp. The Post Card List, by its copious illustrations and succinct lists, should do much to rehabilitate a somewhat neglected but very interesting branch of Philately.

MR. W. MORLEY'S CATALOGUE.†

The increasing interest taken in the stamps of Great Britain, as evidenced at the recent Philatelic Exhibition, is without doubt due to the enterprise and energy of firms such as Mr. W. Morley, Mr. H. L. Ewen, and Messrs. H. Hilckes & Co., Ltd., who have successfully laboured to create a distinct school of collectors for our own country's stamps. When this is remembered, there is perhaps less reason to look askance at the innumerable and—except to the eyes of the special specialist—trivial varieties that are chronicled in the Catalogue of British Stamps and Obliterations. Mr. Morley is omnivorous. Within his 186 pages are noted Stamps for Postage, Telegraphs, Revenue, Fiscal purposes, Railways, Circular Delivery Companies, Colleges,

* *Priced Catalogue* (Part III.) *of Envelopes and Wrappers*, Section I.; *Post Cards and Letter Cards*, Section II. STANLEY GIBBONS, LTD., 391, Strand, London, W.C.

† *Catalogue and Price List of the Stamps of Great Britain.* WALTER MORLEY, 186, West Green Road, Tottenham, London, N.

and many others. The variation of the letters in the angles is noted, lists of the Colonial postmarked varieties of obliteration are given, and control letters, marginal borders, and private firms' advertisements will also be found; in short, everything that a collector *could* possibly want Mr. Morley, with profound commercial foresight, duly provides for. A notable innovation is the division of both unused and used into two grades according to condition—in which Mr. Morley is fully justified by the modern trend. In almost every respect this second edition is an improvement on its forerunner; the size has been reduced to the accepted pocket dimensions, the typography and general arrangement are clear and lucid, the book is neatly turned out in its green cloth cover, and altogether is a volume that cannot fail to have attraction for all those who are patriotic collectors.

MESSRS. SENF'S CATALOGUE.*

Violet is the hue that Messrs. Senf affect this year; the rainbow will be represented in good time on our bookshelves. As in previous editions, there is much to praise and but little to deprecate—notably in the Philatelic line. The deprecations even as regards the financial line must now be moderated, as it is evident that in many cases, *e.g.* Heligoland, United States, and several British colonies, Messrs. Senf have wisely caught on the spirit of the times, which is all against unnatural and inflated rising of the prices of stamps. A quick rise means frequently a quick fall; a steady increment means confidence and maintenance of value. The prices quoted, notably for many of the best German and other European countries' stamps in unused condition, would however, if procurable, still find ample givers.

As regards their prices there can be no doubt, as we have said on previous occasions, Messrs. Senf attempt too much, and in pricing every stamp they must frequently "give themselves away." Quotations for the *great* rarities, especially unused, are pure guesses, and must weaken the faith of the reader as to the general accuracy of the prices. One example only would we give in support of our remarks. Mauritius, *first state of the plate*, 2d., is quoted in "Senf," unused £17 10s. 0d., and used £9. We have seen recently such specimens readily sold, in open market, at £140 and £60 respectively! There are, however, but few blots on the escutcheon of the noted "Senf," and we congratulate the publishers once more on the splendid production.

Among the best features presented in this excellent Catalogue are the practical and concise notes so freely interspersed, which in the present edition have been considerably extended, thus, as we have elsewhere said, obviating the inclusion of superfluous small varieties—in the eyes of the general collector, for whom in the main such catalogues are written. Another excellent feature is the distinguishing mark placed against Jubilee and speculative issues. Many of the countries' lists have, moreover, been either extended or rewritten, and from a general Philatelic aspect there is but little improvement to be made. The Catalogue is a marvel of clean, legible printing. With its 900 *pages of thin paper without bulk*—and a credit even to Leipsic—it is crammed with information on all points, and this edition but enhances the high reputation it possesses throughout the stamp collectors' world.

* *Illustrated Postage Stamp Catalogue*, 1897. GEBRÜDER SENF, Leipsic.

New Issues.

NOTES OF NEW, AND VARIATIONS OF CURRENT, ISSUES.

(Varieties of Obsolete Stamps, and Discoveries, will be found under "Philatelic Notes."

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.

Members of the London Philatelic Society, and other readers generally, are invited to co-operate with us in making the columns as interesting as possible. Our foreign readers can especially help us in this direction, by sending copies of any official documents relative to changes in the current issues, or early intimation of any new issue, accompanied, when possible, by a specimen; such information will be duly credited to the correspondent, and, if desired, the specimen promptly returned. Address: EDITOR "LONDON PHILATELIST," EFFINGHAM HOUSE, ARUNDEL STREET, STRAND, LONDON, W.C.

BRITISH EMPIRE.

BRITISH BECHUANALAND.—Of the stamp illustrated last month there are two varieties, the one with a space measuring 13½ mm. between "British" and "Bechuanaland," and the other with a space measuring only 10½ mm.

GREAT BRITAIN.—The 1d. adhesive has been issued surcharged "Govt. Parcels."

Govt. Parcels Stamps. 1d., lilac, black surch.

LABUAN.—The same information included under North Borneo applies here also!

MAURITIUS.—We noticed in the exhibit of Messrs. De La Rue & Co. at the Exhibition the following additional values of the "Arms" type, which no doubt are by this time current in the Colony. The stamps are of large size.

Adhesives. 1 rupee, green and black.
2 rupees 50 c., lilac and carmine.
5 ,, green and blue.

NEWFOUNDLAND.—This issue certainly is as superlative as it is superfluous, but up to the present no definite news has reached us regarding the standing of these stamps (alluded to last month). From Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. we have received a complete set of these, and append a list of the values and colours. All the stamps are perf. 12, and apparently have no watermark.

Adhesives.

1 c., green; *Queen.*
2 c., carmine; *Cabot.*
3 c., ultramarine; *Cape Bonavista.*
4 c., olive-green; *Caribou hunting.*
5 c., violet; *Mining.*
6 c., red-brown; *Hogging.*
8 c., orange; *Fishing.*
10 c., black-brown; *Cabot's ship, the "Matthew."*
12 c., deep blue; *Ptarmigan.*
15 c., vermilion; *Seals.*
24 c., mauve; *Salmon fishing.*
30 c., grey-black; *Seal of the Colony.*
35 c., brick-red; *Coast Scenery.*
60 c., sepia; *Henry VII., who granted Charter to Cabot.*

NEW SOUTH WALES.—Reference will be found elsewhere to the new issues of this Colony, briefly referred to last month. We append illustrations, from proof impressions, of the new designs for the regular issue, the 5s. being of the 1860 type.

Adhesives.

1d., carmine, wmk. N S W and Crown, Type II., perf. 11×11½.
2d., deep blue, wmk. N S W and Crown, Type II., perf. 11×11½.
2½d., royal purple, wmk N S W and Crown, Type II., perf. 11×11½.
5s., dark purple, wmk. 5s., Type II., perf. 11½.

We hear that the stamps on the 1d. postcard, envelope, and wrapper, and the 2d. envelope, will be changed to the types of the new stamps as soon as the stock in hand at present is exhausted, which will probably be in about three months.







NORTH BORNEO.—Messrs Whitfield King & Co. write us that the 18 c. and 24 c. stamps have been withdrawn owing to the printers having omitted the words "Postage and Revenue" from the latter stamp, and misprinted the same words "Postal Revenue" on the former!

RHODESIA.—The *Australian Philatelist* announces the receipt of a set of the re-engraved series, which will be found fully described on pages 50 and 51. These stamps, which have been kept back at the Company's London offices until the previous series was used up, have evidently now been sent out to Rhodesia.

Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. have shown us some additional stamps of the second issue on the "thicker" paper (not the thick perf. 12½), of a less greyish appearance. We mentioned some time back the possession of a copy of the 6d., blue, on this paper, which was queried by our contemporaries. The values found by Messrs Whitfield King & Co. are the following: ½d., 2d., 3d., 8d., and 3s.; hence these can be added to the values already listed in the catalogue.

ST. VINCENT.—It is some time since we had to announce any new issues for this, one of the favourite British Colonies. On July 13th, however, two adhesives of 2½d. and 5d. values were issued, by which the two surcharged stamps of 2½d. on 1d., blue, and 5d. on 6d., carmine, become obsolete. The new stamps are of the usual type and watermark, etc.

Adhesives. 2½d., blue.
5d., brown.

SEYCHELLES.—We do not appear to have mentioned the following values which have been in use some time, and are of the usual type:

Adhesives. 18 c., blue.
36 c., brown and carmine.
1 rupee, violet and carmine.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA.—The *M. J.* chronicles the 3d. stamp, perf. 13, which was issued on May 31st.

Adhesive. 3d., deep grey-green.

TASMANIA.—The issue of a £1 stamp in the Colonial type is announced.

Adhesive. £1, green and yellow.

EUROPE.

BEYOND the new official 1d. for Great Britain previously chronicled, and a couple of minor varieties of perforation, etc., we have heard of no new issues to chronicle, nor do we find in any of our contemporaries any information that has not reached us hereon. Europe deserves "the white kid gloves." This affords in our humble judgment the happiest augury of the future status of European stamps. Philatelists are but too glad to "rest and be thankful," and will naturally turn to those pleasant places where new issues cease from troubling and the Jubilee's at rest!

AMERICA.

URUGUAY.—This Republic seems to be donning coats of many colours. The 1 c., 2 c., and 5 c. have now, we hear, been changed, and from specimens shown to us by Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. the following are the latest:

Adhesives. 1 c., grey-lilac.
2 c., dull lilac.
5 c., grass-green.

OTHER COUNTRIES.

CHINA.—Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. have sent us the three more values of the 1886 issue, with the *large* surcharge.

Adhesives.
1 c. on 1 cand., green, black surcharge.
2 c. on 3 cand., lilac ,,
5 c. on 5 cand., olive ,,

Relating to the Imperial Post, Messrs. Whitfield King have also kindly supplied us with the following letter, which will be found of interest. It has been sent to them from a correspondent in the Far East, who should be in a position to judge of the true facts of the case. The said facts were accompanied by a liberal amount of invective, which in the best interests of the writer we have ventured to dispense with: "The author of the article in the *English Specialists' Journal*, No. 13, of 23rd March, 1897, seems to be very little acquainted with the position and influence of Sir Robert Hart, the Inspector-General of the Imperial Chinese Maritime Customs, and also the Chief of the Postal Department, attached to this service now by Imperial Edict created 'Imperial Chinese Post.' To ascribe mercenary motives to the surcharging of stamps proves that the writer is wholly unacquainted with the purport of the Postal Service, nor has he any idea of the currency of China, saying 'Taels and Candarins had been good enough,' etc.

"To remark that the Emperor has placed 'his Postmaster-General upon somewhat trying terms in the matter of remuneration' shows only gross want of knowledge. To make assertions like the foregoing in the

face of the fact that the Cosmopolitan European Officers in this service are picked men from all parts of the world, and there are yearly 100 applications for admittance to this service, mostly from the writer's country, and that this service is the backbone of the Chinese Government. A man like Sir Robert Hart, whom the writer places on the footing of some ill-paid petty official, is the tatesman who, having created the Customss Service, and having ruled it for over 40 years to the admiration of the world, declined twice the offered Ambassadorship of Great Britain.

"There is not such a thing as a Tael or a Candarin in China. A Candarin is one-hundredth part of an ounce of silver (Chinese, a Tael), never coined, simply a certain weight of silver, fluctuating continually in value. For the following reasons the first issues of the Imperial Customs stamps were in Candarins. As the Post was only an adjunct to the Customs, and as separate accounts could not be kept then, Candarin stamps were issued. As the Customs Post was the only Post then delivering letters in ports of China and interior, no other currency was to be thought of. Letters from Europe and everywhere were, and are now for instance, carried during winter, when the navigation of North China is closed by ice, by courier from Chinkiang to Peking, taking 23 to 24 days on horseback, all for 3 candarins or 6 cents, and this is done still.

"It was found out long ago, becoming worse since the great fluctuation of exchange, that stamp buyers objected to exchange, the Tael being one day $1.30, then run up to $1.50 or more or less, and the stamps account could therefore never be properly adjusted, or a certain fixed charge made for a certain reason for that important fact that all payments are not made in Taels, but dollars and cents—Mexican, Hongkong, Chinese, etc., dollars and cents. People buying stamps seldom submitted to the quoted exchange, and continual squabbling was the result.

"On the opening of the Imperial Post it became, therefore, a necessity to resort to the dollars and cents values, moreover, as all Foreign Post Offices, British (Hongkong), etc., charge cent rates. Neither for speculative purposes, nor to 'cater' for collectors, etc., were such surcharges made, as the new engraved stamps made in Japan could not be got ready before the middle of the year.

"For subterfuges, such as surcharging stamps for mercenary reasons, China has no need, and the stock being barely enough for franking purposes, large orders for stamps were forbidden to be executed.

"The local post offices had to close; they were not coerced nor forced. The Chinese Government immediately made agreement with all the coast steamer agencies, as well as with the foreign post offices, agreeing to pay heavy subsidies to them, so that they one and all undertook to carry only Imperial mails; consequently the local post offices, if they wish to keep on, have to confine themselves to local delivery, within the limits of the ports.

"To print a sufficient stock of new stamps takes a very long time. To execute the order in England, engraving, printing, &c., would have taken eighteen months to two years, while in Japan it takes over a year."

FRENCH MOROCCO.—Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. have discovered what is apparently an error of colour in the surcharged stamps, the overprint being in *vermilion* in place of carmine.

Adhesives. 5 c., green, vermilion surch.
10 c., black on *mauve*, vermilion surch.
25 c., brown on *red* ,, ,,

TONGA.—From Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. comes a set of eleven new stamps of a picture gallery order. These have been prepared by Messrs. De La Rue & Co., and were shown in this firm's exhibit at the London Philatelic Exhibition. The designs for the 2d., 2½d., 5d., 7½d., 10d., and 1s. are alike, and bear a portrait of King George II. in an oval, the other values bearing representations of features peculiar to these islands. As a whole, the stamps make a handsome set. We only hope it may not be necessary to chronicle a change for some time to come. Wmk. *turtles.*

Adhesives. ½d., dark blue; Arms.
1d., vermilion and black; tree.
2d., bistre and black; portrait.
2½d., blue and black ,,
3d., dark green and black; monument.
4d., mauve and green; bread-fruit.
5d., orange and black; portrait.
6d., vermilion; coral.
7½d., green and black; portrait.
10d., lake and black ,,
1s., brown ,, ,,
2s., blue ,, view.
2s. 6d., violet; parrot.
5s., red-brown and black; view.

The Market.

Messrs. PUTTICK & SIMPSON.

Sale on July 27th and 28th.

	£	s.	d.
Brunswick, p. en scie, ½ gros., black on green, unused	4	10	0
Great Britain, V R, a strip of 3, unused	34	0	0
Ditto, 1881, 1d., lilac, the 14 dots variety, sheet of 240	15	0	0
United States, St. Louis, 1845, 10 c., black on greenish, on entire original, penstroked	10	0	0
Nevis, perf. 15, lithographed, 4d., orange, entire sheet (12)	70	0	0
Ditto, 6d., grey, reconstructed plate, three *fair* (12)	90	0	0
Ditto, ditto, a single specimen, unused (No. 2)	8	5	0
Ditto, CA, 6d., green, unused	5	10	0

Messrs. CHEVELEY & Co.

July 8th, 22nd, and 23rd.

	£	s.	d.
Nevis, 6d., litho., No. 11 on plate, unused	9	10	0
Do. do., No. 12 on plate, unused	9	0	0
Prussia, 1861–63, 2 s. gros., Prussian blue, unused	3	15	0
Great Britain, oct., 10d., brown, block of 3, two showing the die number (1), third omitted	35	0	0
Ceylon, 8d., imperf., good margins	16	10	0
India, ½ anna, red, 9½ arches	11	10	0
Mauritius, Britannia, 1s., yell.-grn., imperf., unused, block of 4	7	10	0
Buenos Ayres, SS., 4 pesos, red	8	10	0
Turks Islands, 1893, prov., ½d. on 4d., grey, unused strip of 6	16	0	0
United States, Justice, 90 c.	5	15	0
Bahamas, no wmk., 4d., rose, unused, pair	14	10	0
Ditto, ditto, 6d., grey-lilac, unused, pair	14	10	0

Mr. W. HADLOW.

July 7th.

	£	s.	d.
Newfoundland, 6d., car.-ver., unused, large margins	30	0	0
Ditto, 1s., car.-ver., unused, fair	19	0	0
Ditto, 4d., orange-vermilion, unused, large margins	16	0	0
Ditto, 6d., orange-vermilion, unused, large margins	12	0	0
Ditto, 1s., orange-ver., unused, fair	20	0	a
Canada, 7½d., grn., imperf., unused	9	5	0
Ditto, 10d., blue, imperf., thin paper, unused, strip of 3	33	10	0
British Columbia, 81, green on green, unused	8	8	0
Barbados, pin-pf., 1d., blue, unused	13	0	0
Grenada, 1875, 1s., deep mauve, error, "SHLLIING"	10	10	0
St. Vincent, 4d. on 1s., unused	12	0	0
Ditto, ditto, used, postmarked Nov. 28—. 81.	12	12	0

Messrs. VENTOM, BULL, & COOPER.

July 26th, 27th, 29th, and 30th.

	£	s.	d.
Hamburg, 1864–65, 3 sch., Prussian blue, perf., block of 6, unused	4	10	0
Schleswig-Holstein, first issue, 1 sch., blue, pair, unused	3	10	0
Do. do., 2 sch., rose, pair, unused	7	0	0
Bavaria, 1850–58, 12 kr., red, sheet of 45	15	0	0
Do. do., 18 kr., orange, sheet of 45	14	0	0
Wurtemberg, 1873, 70 kr., rose-lilac, pair, unused	8	0	0
Denmark, 1870-71, 48 sk., lilac and brown, strip of 3, unused	6	0	0
Zululand, 5s., black on carmine, pair, unused	4	10	0
St. Christopher, CA, 6d., olive-brown, sheet of 20	40	0	0
Dominica, CA, 1s., lilac-rose, block of 4, unused	14	14	0
Virgin Islands, first issue, perf. 12, 6d., rose, entire sheet of 25	21	0	0
Mecklenburg-Schwerin, ¾ sch., red, dotted ground, rou., hor. pair, on piece of original	11	5	0
Schleswig-Holstein, first issue, 1 sch., blue, horizontal pair, on piece of original	8	0	0
Hanover, 10 gros., green, block of 4, on piece of original	16	0	0
Switzerland, Winterthur, 2½ rap., black and red, vertical pair	11	0	0
Spain, 1850, 10 reales, green, block of 4	15	0	0
Ditto, 1851, 2 reales, red, hor. pair	46	0	0
Ditto, 1852, 2 reales, pale red, hor. pair, on piece of original	21	0	0
Ditto, 1858, 12 cuartos, violet, block of 42	13	0	0
Ditto, 1858, 2 reales, vermilion, pair, on piece of original	12	0	0
Ditto, 1855, 2 reales, blue (error); centre stamp in a strip of 3	17	10	0
Philippine Islands, first issue, 5 cuartos, orange, block of 10	19	0	0
Ditto, ditto, first issue, 10 cuartos, pale rose, block of 10	21	0	0
Ditto, ditto, first issue, 1 real, slate-blue, block of 6, on piece of original	8	10	0
Ditto, ditto, first issue, 2 reales, emerald-green, block of 10	13	10	0
Portugal, first issue, 100 reis, lilac, block of 4	7	10	0
Heligoland, 1873, ¼ sch., rose and green, block of 6, used, on original	39	0	0
Cape woodblock, 1d., red, a pair	20	0	0
Ditto, ditto, 4d., blue, a pair	10	0	0
St. Vincent, first issue, no wmk., 4d., blue, entire, used, sheet of 30	30	0	0
British Guiana, 1852, 1 c., black on magenta, hor. strip of 4	26	0	0

THE

London Philatelist:

THE MONTHLY JOURNAL OF

THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY, LONDON.

VOL. VI. SEPTEMBER, 1897. No. 69.

"A Friend of Every Country but his Own."

THE scathing words of our title, once delivered with such telling effect, seem peculiarly applicable to the action of the Post Office authorities in their ill-advised and unnecessary crusade against the use of illustrations of postage stamps in this country. The general impression conveyed as to the trend of national feeling during the current year of rejoicing, has been in favour of a closer communion between this country and its Colonies. Nor has there, on the contrary, been any indication of a wish to part with any portion of our trade to our enterprising neighbours on the Continent.

In direct contrast to these accepted principles is the action of the Post Office as regards Philatelic illustration, and we are of opinion that should the matter be further pursued, strong representations will have to be made to the Government, when it will be found that the many thousands of Her Majesty's subjects, affected directly or indirectly by Philately, are not so powerless as to be ignored, even by the most zealous of officials.

The publishers of Philatelic works—Illustrated Albums, Handbooks, Catalogues, Price Lists, and Journals—in this country are to-day a numerous class, and the number of their readers must be enormous. In all these the illustration of postage stamps is indispensable, and if they are to be debarred *the whole of this work will go out of the country*, and most probably to Germany! In one case alone it will mean the discharge of a large number of men, while a reference to the large publishing houses would at once indicate the volume of the interests affected.

The almost complete immunity against forgery, enjoyed by the postage stamps of this country, is largely due to the Argus eyes of the Philatelic community, than whom the Postmaster-General has no truer allies. It is in truth through the detective power of Philately that the instances of

postage stamp forgery in India, Switzerland, Spain, and Germany have been discovered. In grateful return the British Postal authorities would crush us out!

The action taken is under an obscure and purblind piece of legislation, entitled the Post Office Protection Act, which states that no one shall hold dies, etc., "without lawful excuse," which is apparently interpreted to mean that, outside officials and Government printers, the possession of such is illegal. If so, why was the Act passed? The words "lawful excuse" and the Act itself would then seem superfluous. On the contrary, if defined by common-sense principles, "lawful excuse" would mean that the user of dies would have to be in a position to satisfy official enquiry as to the reasons of such possession—or take the consequences. The use of these illustrations can easily be surrounded by all the safeguards that are required for the protection of the public. The issue of licenses, and the giving of sureties by both publisher and printer, should satisfy the most exigent of officials, and there are other methods of securing the Government from any misuse of Philatelic illustrations. The use of blocks for the purposes of our pursuit is absolutely necessary, and if we are prevented by senseless red tape from having them made at home, the whole of the Philatelic printing will migrate to Leipsic, and we shall import the *London Philatelist* with the patriotic (!) inscription—so thoroughly in consonance with our title to this article—"Made in Germany."

The Post Cards of New South Wales.

By A. F. BASSET HULL.

(*Continued from page* 234.)



ON the 9th July, 1888, the Centennial adhesive 1*d.* stamp was issued. Shortly afterwards, on the 16th August, 1888, the new design of stamp was adopted for the Post Card. At the same time the two first lines of inscription, the Arms, and the waratah were altered. "New South Wales" was disposed in an arched or scroll form above the Arms, which are on an oval shield, and the "supporters" are springing outwards from behind the shield. The riband has no motto. The words "Post Card" are in sans-serif capitals, dropped a little below the level of the Arms. The waratah flower is rounded instead of conical, and the ninth leaf from the top overlies the stalk. The veining of the leaves is much more distinct, and there is a "prickly" appearance about them.

This design was transferred from *cliché's* and type, and lithographed in purple on pale buff card, varying considerably in shade and slightly in quality.

There are several sizes of the design, resulting from irregular shrinkage of the transfer paper.

The card was cut to size, varying from 152 × 84 mm. to 164 × 89 mm.

No *Gazette* notice or official announcement of the issue was made.

On the 9th December, 1889, the Government printer submitted for the approval of the Postmaster-General a proof of an engraving on copper of the One Penny Post Card. This engraving was considered necessary in consequence of the unsatisfactory results obtained from transfers of the One Penny Postage Stamp, Lettering, etc., which were engraved in relief.

The new design was approved on the 12th December, 1889, and although I have no positive evidence of the exact date of issue, it may safely be put down as 1st January, 1890.

The design differs from the preceding in every particular except the stamp. The name "New South Wales" is in a straight line; the words "Post Card" are in large Roman capitals; the Arms and waratah are the same as on the card of 1887.

There appear to be at least three sizes of the design, the length from the point of the second leaf on the waratah to the right outer edge of the stamp is 144½, 145½, and 146 mm. As all three varieties are found used in 1890, it is probable that the difference in length was produced by the shrinkage of paper in the process of transfer from the copper plate to the lithographic stone.

The cards are found cut in varying sizes, viz., 160 × 79, 162 × 90, 166 × 91½, and 169 × 88 mm. These are the most marked variations in size, but intermediate sizes may be found.

The card was lithographed in shades of purple on stout to medium buff card.

In 1892, owing to a temporary exhaustion of the buff card, it was printed on white. The same differences in size of the design may be found, and the card varies from 159 × 90 to 164 × 90 mm.

The earliest dated used copy I have seen bears date "16 May, 1892"; but so late as February, 1894, it was in use with the O. S. surcharge.

The buff card was again used in 1893, and no further alteration in the Inland card took place till 1896.

Some of the Inland 1d. Post Cards, addressed to England and stamped with an adhesive ½d. stamp, were taxed on delivery, as they were not in accordance with Postal Union regulations. In order to avoid any repetition of such taxation, it was decided to reduce the card to Postal Union dimensions and to discard the waratah ornament. On a proof being submitted on the 28th July, 1896, it was decided to omit the words "One hundred years" from the stamp, and to substitute a conventional waratah.

This alteration was effected, and the new design gazetted in the following notice:

[1749] "Postal and Electric Telegraph Department,
"General Post Office, Sydney,
"20*th August*, 1896.

"His Excellency the Governor, with the advice of the Executive Council, has, under the provisions of the 7th Section of the Postage Acts Amendment Act, 56 Vic. No. 31, approved of the introduction of a new 1d. Post Card, of size and design in conformity with the Regulations of the Universal Postal Union. In the new issue the waratah ornamentation has been omitted from the face of the card, and an emblematic waratah and leaves substituted for the words 'One hundred years' in the tablet below the central circle in the stamp denoting the value. "Joseph Cook."

The first issue to the public was made on the 8th September, 1896.

The design of the stamp was similar to the previous issue, but the inscription "One hundred years" was removed, and a conventional waratah inserted in the lower part of the inscribed circle. The name was placed on an arched riband above "Post (Arms) Card," and "The address," etc., remained as before. The size was reduced to 140 × 90 mm. (slight variations may be found). Lithographed in purple on pale straw card.

II. INLAND REPLY CARDS.

In 1880 the question of introducing the system of reply paid Post Cards was under consideration, but it was not until 1882 that it was finally adopted.

On the 28th December, 1882, the Government printer submitted proofs of a reply paid card, the reply half being printed in a different colour from the message half. The design, subject to some minor alterations in the inscription, was approved on the same day, both halves to be printed in one colour.

It was desired that the issue should take place on the 1st January, 1883, but the time was too short to print a supply. However, they were ready and issued to the public on the 5th January. The *Gazette* notice was as follows:

"GENERAL POST OFFICE, SYDNEY,
"*12th January*, 1883.

"REPLY POST CARDS.

"His Excellency the Governor, with the advice of the Executive Council, has been pleased to approve of the introduction of reply Post Cards, that is, of double cards, each half of which will have a penny stamp impressed thereon, one half being intended for use by the sender, and the other by the addressee in transmitting a reply.

"Postmasters and licensed vendors of Postage Stamps will be supplied with these cards in packets of sixty (the value of the packet being 10*s.*), at the usual discount (2½ per cent.), and they will be sold to the public at 2*d.* each.

"Reply Post Cards are only available for transmission within the Colony of New South Wales.

"F. A. WRIGHT."

The design was without border. The stamp, of the same type as the 1*d.* adhesive, was placed in the right upper corner. The inscriptions were, "Post Card," in ornamental capitals, with small Royal Arms beneath. "(The address only to be written on this side)," in italics. "To," in italics, followed by three dotted lines for address; and at the foot "(The receiver should cut or tear off this half and send the reply on the other half)."

The length of this last line of the inscriptions was 98 mm.

The reply half bore the word "Reply," in small thick capitals, below the Arms, and the last line of inscription was omitted.

Lithographed in rose and pale rose on pale buff card. Size (folded), 126 × 88 mm.

About 1886 the colour of the card was changed to white, and the last line of inscription was increased in length to 102 mm. The size of the card remained the same.

Lithographed in bright rose-pink on white.

About April, 1890, the stamp was changed, the Centennial type being substituted for the 1864 type. The size, quality, and colour of the card remained the same, and the inscriptions were not altered in any respect.

Lithographed in purple on white.

III. THE 2d. & 3d. "FOREIGN" CARDS. 1889-91.

The *Sydney Morning Herald* of the 10th November, 1888, contained an article, written by Dr. Houison, of Sydney, upon the issue of a stamp for the prepayment of postage in New South Wales in the year 1838.

Arrangements had just been completed for the exchange of Post Cards with Great Britain at the rate of *2d.* each by the long sea route, or *3d.* each by the overland route *viâ* Italy. As it was necessary to prepare special cards for the purpose, the suggestion was made that the occasion was a fitting one to celebrate the Jubilee of the issue of a postage stamp in New South Wales by including some reference to the event in the design of the new cards.

On the 24th November, 1888, Dr. Houison submitted a design for the proposed cards, which, on the suggestion of Mr. Dalgarno, Assistant-Secretary to the Postal Department, contained a *fac-simile* of the 1838 postage stamp. This *fac-simile* was, of course, an outline drawing of the embossed design used in 1838, the remainder of the design being a tracing from the "Contribucion Federal" fiscal stamp of Mexico, type of 1882, with the necessary alterations in the inscriptions. The words "Republica—Mexicana" in the rings in the upper angles were replaced by "Jubilee—Stamp"; the figures in the projecting labels were altered to correspond with the values required for the cards; the date "1882" in the labels in the lower angles was changed to "1838–1888"; and the value in words was placed in the straight label at the bottom of the design, as in the Mexican stamp. The oak leaves at the left side were faithfully copied, but the laurel leaves at the right side were slightly altered in character to represent the leaves of the Australian eucalyptus. In place of the inscription "RENTA DEL TIMBRE. CONTRIBUCION FEDERAL" the following words were inserted, "IN COMMEMORATION OF THE FIFTIETH YEAR OF THE ISSUE OF POSTAGE STAMPS IN THE COLONY"; and the inner circle, filled in with ornament in the Mexican stamp, was inscribed "DESIGN OF THE FIRST POSTAGE STAMP." The *fac-simile* of this stamp occupies the position Mexico devoted to a portrait of Don Gomez Frias.

This design was approved by the Postmaster-General, the Hon. C. J. Roberts, on November 27th, for both cards, the colours of the respective postage stamps of the same values to be adhered to in each case.

Proofs of the Post Cards were submitted by the Government printer, and approved by the Postmaster-General on December 19th, 1888, and instructions were given for the printing of a supply in readiness for use on January 1st, 1889.

The *Government Gazette* of December 29th, 1888, contained the following notice:

[9415] "GENERAL POST OFFICE, SYDNEY,
"27*th December*, 1888.

"ISSUE OF POST CARDS FOR USE BETWEEN NEW SOUTH WALES AND THE UNITED KINGDOM BY CONTRACT PACKETS ONLY, AND COMMEMORATION OF THE FIFTIETH YEAR OF THE ISSUE OF POSTAGE STAMPS IN THE COLONY.

"It is hereby notified that from the 1st proximo a Post Card of the value of Two-pence will be issued, which may be forwarded from New South Wales to the United Kingdom by the contract packets of the Peninsular and Oriental and the Orient Steam Navigation Companies only by what is termed the *long sea route*, *i.e.*, conveyed all the way from Australia, *by sea*, to England.

"A Post Card, of the value of Three-pence, will also be issued on the 1st proximo, for use between this Colony and the United Kingdom, *overland via Italy*, which may be forwarded only by the above-mentioned packets.

"It happens that the year 1888 is the fiftieth since the introduction of postage stamps in the Colony of New South Wales, and the necessity that has arisen for the issue of special Post Cards has therefore been availed of to commemorate this jubilee event by including in the design of these Post Cards a reference to the occasion.

"The size of the Post Card of the value of two-pence is $6\frac{1}{8} \times 3\frac{9}{16}$ inches, and it is printed in blue.

"The size of the Post Card of the value of three-pence is $6\frac{1}{8} \times 3\frac{9}{16}$ inches, and it is printed in light green.

"The design of both stamps is the same, except in the value indications, and may be described as follows:

"In the centre is a similitude of the first stamp issued in the year 1838, containing Royal Arms, with motto 'Dieu et mon droit,' and words 'General Post Office, Sydney, New South Wales,' surrounding the same. This similitude is enclosed by two circles containing the words 'In commemoration of the fiftieth year of the issue of postage stamps in the Colony,' and 'Design of the first postage stamp.' This rests upon a St. Andrew's Cross, the upper limbs of which contain the figures denoting the value of the postage, with rings containing words 'Jubilee' and 'Stamp.' The lower limbs of the cross respectively bear the figures '1838' and '1888.' Through the design and enclosing it is a wreath composed of oak and eucalyptus leaves, with band at foot containing words indicating the value of postage.

"To the left of the design above described are the words 'Post' in large capitals, and below this in smaller type 'The address only to be written on this side of the card.' To the right are the words 'Card,' and in the one case 'For the United Kingdom by the long sea route,' and in the other 'For the United Kingdom overland *via* Italy.' The whole is enclosed in an ornamental double-lined border.

"CHARLES J. ROBERTS."

The foregoing notice contains a full description of the design, and it is only necessary to add that the inscription to the right of the design on the Two pence reads, "For the United Kingdom—by the long sea route," in italic sans-serif type, the words "United Kingdom" being in capitals; while the Three pence has "For United Kingdom, &c., overland *via* Italy," in similar type, the word "the" having been accidentally omitted.

Both cards were lithographed in colour on medium white card, cut to size, 155 × 90 mm.

The border of both cards is about 150 × 78 mm., and the upper part of the design projects about 5 mm. above the top border.

The Two pence was printed in cobalt-blue, and the Three pence in full green.

The first issue took place on January 1st, 1889.

In June, 1890, an arrangement was made for an exchange of post cards with France at the rate then existing for the United Kingdom by the overland route, viz., 3d. In consequence of this arrangement the words "and for France" were added to the inscription to the right of the design of the then current 3d. card. The additional words were in similar type to the preceding, but were printed in a lighter green shade. No other change was made in the design or colour of the card.

The overprint was placed on all the 3d. cards in stock on August 7th, 1890, and under date August 14th the exchange of post cards with France at 3d. each was notified in the *Government Gazette.*

In November, 1890, the maximum charge for Post Cards to the United Kingdom, France, and some other countries which had agreed to exchange was reduced to 2d.

An alteration was required in the inscription of the Two pence card to adapt it to the altered tariff, but the whole card was rearranged at the time the change was being made.

A proof was submitted and approved on the 24th November, 1890.

The central design was dropped, bringing the top into a line with the border; the inscription to the right of the design was altered to "For the United Kingdom, and other countries to which Post Cards may be sent," in italic sans-serif type.

The size of the border was increased to 153 × 79 mm., and the card to 165 × 90 mm.

It was printed in cobalt-blue on primrose card.

The first issue took place on the 2nd January, 1891.

Although the reduction of the Post Card rate for foreign countries took place in January, 1891, the 3d. card was not definitely withdrawn from issue until the 30th September, 1891, when in company with the 2d. it was superseded by the 1½d. card, issued upon the entry of New South Wales into the Universal Postal Union from the 1st October, 1891.

IV. INTERNATIONAL SINGLE AND REPLY CARDS.

The 2d. and 3d. International Post Cards were withdrawn from use on the 30th September, 1891.

The Colony entered the Postal Union on the 1st October, 1891, and proofs were soon after submitted for single and reply International 1½d. Cards. These were approved, and an Executive Minute, dated 13th October, authorized the issue. They were gazetted on the 23rd October.

"GENERAL POST OFFICE, SYDNEY,
"*23rd October*, 1891.

"POST CARDS.

"In accordance with the provisions of the 16th Section of the Postage Act, His Excellency the Governor, with the advice of the Executive Council, has been pleased to approve of the introduction of two New Impressed Postage Stamps of the following values, namely:

1½d. for Post Cards, and for each half of reply Post Cards;
3d. for Registration Envelopes;

the 1½d. stamp to be of the same design as the current 1d. issue, with the substitution of the 1½d. for the view of Sydney in the centre, and the omission of the words 'ONE PENNY,' the printed directions, &c., on the cards being in both the English and French languages. Colour to be blue, and the 3d. (Registration) stamp to be of the same design and colour as at present, the word 'THREE' being substituted for the word 'FOUR.'

"Pending the issue of the latter stamp, authority has been given for the present Fourpenny Registration stamp to be utilized with the overprint 'THREE PENCE.'

"DANIEL O'CONNER."

For both single and reply cards the stamp was a modification of the Centennial 1d. The view was removed from the centre, and the space filled in with "1½d.," while the value label was converted into a bar of solid colour.

The inscriptions on the single card were in six lines as follows:

"Union Postale Universelle—New South Wales—Nouvelle—Galles du Sud.—Post (Arms) Card—The Address only to be written on this side—(ce coté est reservé à l'adresse)." There was a representation of the waratah (Type I.) at the left of the inscriptions. Lithographed in bright blue on primrose card. Size varied from 164 × 93 mm. to 163 × 90 mm.

The reply card had the same inscriptions as the single card, but in five lines, the name of the Colony in English and French being in one line. The circumflex accent was correctly placed on the "o" of "côte." Beneath these inscriptions come the word "To," followed by three dotted lines for the address; and at the foot, in two lines, was the additional inscription, "The other half is for the reply only—La carte ci-jointe est destinée à la réponse." The reply half had the words "Reply—Réponse" beneath the Arms, and of course the last two lines of inscription were omitted.

Lithographed in bright blue on primrose card. Size (folded), 127 × 82 mm.

Attention having been called to the fact that the single cards exceeded Union dimensions, about 15,000 were cut down to 150 × 87 mm. in August, 1892. No alteration was made in the design.

In June, 1895, the stamp on the single card was altered to that of the Letter Card, with altered figures of value, and "Penny Halfpenny" in the value label. The hyphen was removed from "Nouvelle Galles," and the circumflex was correctly placed over the "o" of "côté." Lithographed in bright blue on pale straw card. Size, 153 × 90 mm.

This alteration was not gazetted until the 22nd July, 1895, although the card had been issued more than a month previously. The following is the notice:

[627] "Postal and Electric Telegraph Department,
"General Post Office, Sydney,
"*22nd July*, 1895.

"In accordance with the provisions of the 7th Section of the Postage Acts Amendment Act, 56 Vic. No. 31, His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor, with the advice of the Executive Council, has been pleased to approve of an improved design of 1½d. Post Card (which differs from the current issue in the manner in which the figures of value are represented in the stamp, and by the addition of the words 'Penny Halfpenny' in a tablet below the central circle) being substituted for the one at present in use. "Joseph Cook."

Owing to this card also exceeding Union dimensions it was cut down, after being in issue a month or two, to 141 × 87 mm. and 148 × 82 mm., the waratah ornamentation suffering considerably in the process.

It having been decided in any further printings to omit the words "One hundred years" from the stamp, a proof was submitted on the 14th January, 1896, in which those words had been discarded, and the lower portion of the band filled in with a conventional waratah. At the same time the natural waratah was removed from the left-hand side of the card.

Lithographed in clear blue on pale straw card. Size, 140 × 89 mm.

The following is the *Gazette* notice:

[6805] "Postal and Electric Telegraph Department,
"General Post Office, Sydney,
"*27th February*, 1896.

"His Excellency the Governor, with the advice of the Executive Council, has, under the provisions of the 7th Section of the Postage Acts Amendment Act, 56 Vic. No. 31, approved of certain alterations being made in the design of the 1½*d.* Post Card, which consist in the removal of the waratah from the left-hand side of the card, and the substitution of an emblematic waratah and leaves for the words 'One Hundred Years' in the stamp denoting the value. "Joseph Cook."

REFERENCE LIST.

I. Inland Single Cards.

1st October, 1875. Stamp of 1864. Border 112 × 85 mm. Very thin white card, 122 × 85 mm.

1d., pink.

(?) February, 1876. Stamp of 1864. Border 115 × 68 mm. (*a*) Very thin white card. (*b*) Thick white, yellowish, and bluish card, 118 × 70 mm. (size varies).

1d. (*a*), pink. Type I.
1d. (*b*), pink, rose, deep rose. Type I.
1d. (*b*), pink, pale pink, rose, deep rose, marone. Type II.

15th October, 1877. Stamp of 1864. No border. Thick white and bluish card, 151 × 80 mm. (size varies).

1d., bright rose-pink.

16th August, 1888. Stamp of 1888. Name in arch. No border. Pale buff card (shades), 152 × 84 to 164 × 89 mm. Several variations in size of design.

1d., purple.

1st January, 1890. Stamp of 1888. Name in straight line. Stout to medium buff card, 160 × 79, 162 × 90, 166 × 91½, and 169 × 88 mm. Several variations in size of design.

1d., purple.

1892. Same as last, but white card, 159 × 90 to 164 × 90 mm.

1d., purple.

8th September, 1896. Stamp of 1888. Name in riband. Pale straw card, 140 × 90 mm.

1d., purple.

II. Inland Reply Cards.

5th January, 1883. Stamp of 1864. Last line of inscriptions 98 mm. Pale buff card, 126 × 88 mm.

1d., rose, pale rose.

1886. Stamp of 1864. Last line of inscriptions 102 mm. White card, 126 × 88 mm.

1d., bright rose-pink.

(?) April, 1890. Stamp of 1888. White card, 126 × 88 mm.

1d., purple.

III. 2d. and 3d. "Foreign" Cards.

1st January, 1889. Special Jubilee Stamp. Border 150 × 78 mm. Medium white card, 155 × 90 mm.

2d., cobalt-blue.

3d., green.

14th August, 1890. Similar to last, with additional inscription "and for France."

3d., green.

2nd January, 1891. Same stamp as 1889 issue, but inscription altered and border 153 × 79 mm. Primrose card, 165 × 90 mm.

2d., cobalt-blue.

IV. International Single and Reply Cards.

23rd October, 1891. Stamp; frame of Centennial type with figures in centre. Waratah on left. Errors in inscription. Primrose card, 164 × 93 to 163 × 90 mm.

1d., blue.

Same stamp. No waratah. Inscription correct. Primrose card, 127 × 82 mm.

1d. and 1d., blue.

August, 1892. Single card cut down to 150 × 87 mm.

1d., blue.

June, 1895. Stamp with altered type of figures. Inscriptions corrected. Waratah on left. Straw card, 153 × 90 mm.

1d., blue.

August, 1895. Same as last, cut down to 148 × 82 mm.

1d., blue.

27th February, 1896. Stamp similar to last, but "One hundred years" omitted. No waratah. Pale straw card, 140 × 89 mm.

1d., clear blue.

The Stamps of British East Africa.

UNDER date of the 12th August last we have received the following interesting details from Mr. Cyril Hugh Bowden, of the Eastern and S.A. Telegraph Company at Zanzibar. The letters referred to by our correspondent are appended, and some series of figures referring to the numbers of stamps surcharged will probably be found of value, as they have to all appearances been supplied from official sources. The stamp issues of British East Africa have certainly not erred on the side of scantiness, but they represent a transitional period of our African possession, and can hardly fail in the future to have an abiding historical interest.

Reports having been circulated, which have found expression in certain journals connected with Philately, casting doubts on the necessity for the frequent overprinting and surcharging of Zanzibar and British East Africa stamps—and even imputing interested motives on the part of Mr. T. Remington, who holds the dual position of Postmaster-General of Zanzibar and of the British East Africa Protectorate—I, to satisfy myself and other Philatelists, addressed a letter on the subject to the Postmaster-General, a copy of which communication, and Mr. Remington's original reply thereto, I now enclose.

In response to Mr. Remington's most courteous offer, I visited him at his office, and was there shown books and other data bearing on the subject, and afforded all the information one could have possibly desired.

Of Mr. Remington's *bona fides*, and of the strict regularity in the conduct of his department, no vestige of doubt can now remain in my mind, and the explanations which he unhesitatingly gave me concerning the question at issue were both convincing and conclusive, backed up as they were by indisputable documentary evidence.

At the date when the transfer was effected of the Imperial British East Africa territories to the Imperial Government, namely, July 1st, 1895, no arrangements had been made regarding a fresh issue of stamps, etc.; consequently, those of the old Company had to be overprinted. Of these there existed but a limited supply at Mombasa, the directors, for reasons of their own, which have since become abundantly clear to collectors, having refused to despatch a fresh consignment which had been indented for shortly before the transfer.

Not wishing to trespass too much on your valuable space, I beg leave to enclose separately the particulars kindly furnished by Mr. Remington of the stamps at his disposal at the commencement of the new *régime*. and I think you will agree with me that no surprise need be felt that surcharges should have so speedily followed under the Imperial Administration, especially when it is stated that nearly eleven months elapsed

before the first instalment of the present regular issue was received at Mombasa. So much delay was there in the execution of the order after it had been given to the engravers, that the emergency had to be met by the importation of Indian adhesives, which were in due course overprinted.

The transfer of the Indian Post Office at Zanzibar to the Sultan's Government took place on the 10th November, 1895, and the Indian stamps then in stock were handed over to the Government printing establishment to be overprinted "Zanzibar"; but, owing to an insufficiency of the requisite type, and to the employment of more or less ignorant native workmen, several small errors resulted during the process. These mistakes have been regarded in some quarters as deliberately intentional, or at least avoidable, whereas the reverse was the case.

To the simple and but partially educated African, there appears little difference between a small *b* and an inverted *q*, and it is not surprising that he should regard the substitution of the one letter for the other as a stroke of ingenuity, in the event of the supply of type representing either character failing. That *d* should in a few instances have been substituted for *b* appears somewhat less pardonable; but doubtless His Highness's subjects reason with regard to letters much as did Juliet, when she asked herself, "What 's in a name?"

The Zanzibar Government Post Office having been established, orders were promptly sent to Messrs. De La Rue for a supply of adhesives of the design now current. The firm in question promised to carry out the order within six months. As a matter of fact nearly a year elapsed before the delivery of a portion of this order, and, with regard to the remainder, a still further delay ensued, owing to the case containing the stamps having been over-carried. As a result of these delays the issue of fresh provisionals was rendered unavoidable; but I have proofs that in no instances were said provisionals issued on the sole responsibility of the Postmaster-General, who never failed to consult Her Majesty's representative and Sir Lloyd Matthews before acting, and who has throughout proved himself most zealous in maintaining the dignity of his department, and has ever regretted the necessity for a proceeding which was bound to be open to misconstruction and misrepresentation, especially at the hands of certain classes of dealers who affect a virtuous indignation upon occasion when they are unable to satisfy the requirements of their customers, yet, on the other hand, display a sweet and gentle resignation when such demands can be met by shady or even illegitimate methods.

"ZANZIBAR, *July 9th*, 1897.

"The Postmaster-General, Zanzibar.

"DEAR SIR,—Considerable doubts having been aroused in the minds of serious Philatelists and others interested in the pursuit, as to the necessity for the numerous varied surcharges and interchanges in connection with the postage stamps issued by the local and the B.E.A. Protectorate Post Offices, both of which administrations you control, I should esteem it a favour if you would kindly afford me some explanation concerning the *raison d'être* of the surcharges, etc., above alluded to, so that I may be in a position to satisfy myself and others that your

action in the matter has been induced purely by the exigencies of the Service, and not, as some would seem to imply, by speculative motives.

"I am, dear Sir, your obedient Servant, "C. H. BOWDEN."

"No. 257 of 1897.

"ZANZIBAR POST OFFICE, *July 16th*, 1897.

"From the Postmaster-General,
British East Africa and Zanzibar, Zanzibar.

"To C. H. Bowden, Esq., Zanzibar.

"SIR,—I beg to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, dated 9th July, and to inform you that I shall be pleased to afford you any information concerning the stamps of British East Africa and Zanzibar that you may desire. I think, however, it would be more satisfactory if you would make it convenient to call at the Post Office, and then you would be able to refer to the accounts for any details that may be of interest to you. "I have the honour to be, Sir,

"Your most obedient Servant,

"THOS. U. REMINGTON, *Postmaster-General.*"

INDIAN.

Indian stamps supplied to Zanzibar to be overprinted.

	Nov. 10th.	*Dec. 14th.*
½ a.	5,457	24,000
1 a.	5,014	24,000
1½ a.	13,851	12,000
2 a.	4,285	18,000
2½ a.	3,354	30,000
3 a.	7,876	—
4 a.	7,381	2,400
6 a.	4,321	1,600
8 a.	4,546	1,200
12 a.	3,073	—
1 r.	5,897	—
2 r.	942	192
3 r.	940	192
5 r.	945	192

Stamps transferred from the Zanzibar stock to British East Africa and overprinted.

Nov. 23 & Dec. 18.	*Feb. 17.*
7,440	3,600
7,680	3,600
9,800	2,400
6,800	2,400
9,600	3,600
1,000	1,560
1,000	2,400
1,000	960
1,000	960
1,000	—
2,000	1,200
200	192
200	192
200	192

INDIAN STAMPS SUPPLIED TO ZANZIBAR.

Indian stamps taken over from Consulate.

½ a.	29,457
1 a.	29,014
1½ a.	25 851
2 a.	22,285
2½ a.	33·354
3 a.	7,896
4 a.	9,781
6 a.	5,921
8 a.	5,746
12 a.	3,073
1 r.	5,897
2 r.	1,134
3 r.	1,132
5 r.	1,137

TRANSFERRED FROM ZANZIBAR TO BRITISH EAST AFRICA.

Supplied to Mombasa.	Balance used in Zanzibar.
11,040	18,417
11,280	17,734
12,200	13,650
9,200	13,085
13,200	20,154
2,560	5,336
3,400	6,381
1,960	3,961
1,960	3,786
1,000	2,073
3,200	2,697
392	742
392	740
392	745

COMPANY'S STAMPS OVERPRINTED "BRITISH EAST AFRICA."

Balance of Stamps on hand on June 30, 1895.

	r.	a.
4980 at ½ anna	155	10
1040 „ 1 „	65	0
180 „ 2 „	22	8
4020 „ 2½ „	628	2
2230 „ 3 „	418	2
3240 „ 4 „	810	0
3780 „ 4½ „	1063	2
780 „ 5 „	243	12
1140 „ 7½ „	534	6
1900 „ 8 „	950	0
2349 „ 1 Rs.	2349	0
520 at 2 Rs.	1040	0
719 „ 3 „	2157	0
868 „ 4 „	3472	0
568 „ 5 „	2840	0
1400 2½ a. Envelopes ...	218	12
200 Large Reg. Envelopes	25	0
125 Small „ „	15	10
1500 1 a. Post Cards ...	93	12
1200 ½ a. „ „ ...	37	8
Total Rs.	17,139	4

The date of receipt of the present issue of B. E. A. stamp was *May 19th*, 1896, and only 5040 of ½ a., 1 a., 2 a., and 5280 of 2½ a. were received.

Philatelic Notes.

NOTE.—*The co-operation of Philatelists is invited in order to make this column of a varied and interesting nature.*

HOLLAND 15 *c.*, 1867.

THE issue of 1867 has been doubtless one of the main factors in the increasing interest taken in the stamps of the Netherlands. Of handsome and well-executed design, with variations of type as regards the expressed values, and with notable difference in paper and perforation, this series of stamps has much to commend itself to the specialist. In the last-named respect the greatest differences are to be found, the perforations being apparently bewildering; but according to the more sensible modern system of taking note rather of the different perforating machines employed, than the actual gauge of the perforations, the issue can be readily and pleasantly subdivided. The first series of perforation are undoubtedly the 12½ × 12, being identical with the preceding issue of 1864. The measurements most commonly found vary between 13 and 14½, and can be subdivided into two sets, one of which is apparently a fine pin-hole perforation. The scarcest set is, however, that generally known as "large perf.," measuring 10 × 10½, of which the 10 c. only is frequently met with, occasionally on hard bluish paper. The 5 c. occurs but rarely, notably unused; and the 20 c. still more so, it being a very rare stamp unpostmarked. It is generally believed that only these three values are found there, but in Messrs. Stanley Gibbons' new catalogue the 15 c., red-brown, is also listed. In a review of this publication by our esteemed contemporary the *Deutsche Briefmarken Zeitung*, the query is raised as to what ground exists for the inclusion of this value. We are happy to be enabled to satisfy our friends' reasonable doubt by the best of all evidence—the possession of the stamp itself. The

specimen in question, which is obliterated, has been for several years in the writer's European collection, and having been examined and approved of by many keen judges, may be taken as a satisfactory reason for its inclusion among the known varieties of Dutch stamps.

THE 5s. ON 1s. SIERRA LEONE OF 1884.

THE postal existence of this variety has been referred to in our last two issues (pp. 221 and 237). In the former Messrs. Whitfield King quoted a letter from the Sierra Leone postmaster, under date of April 10th of this year, in which he stated that "as far as he could gather the stamps were used for postage and not for postage and revenue." In the latter Mr. George Campbell cited a letter received by him at the time of issue from Mr. Griffith, then Colonial Secretary at Freetown, to the effect that these stamps had been issued for fiscal purposes only—an opinion that has apparently found general acceptance up to the present time. Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. are naturally jealous of any insinuation of illegitimacy as to their new Philatelic offspring, and have sent us the following interesting and pertinent communication. It will be seen that the Acting Postmaster-General at Freetown, under date of July 9th last, categorically states the stamps were surcharged and used both for postal and fiscal purposes—a statement that is presumably made on official knowledge, and that hardly admits of any refutation. There can be little doubt that, in any case, the use of the stamps was but limited. As now seems assured, they were prepared for postal use, and even were their use denied, their Philatelic value would be on a par with the V.R. and the 8d., brown, of this country, and many similar stamps.

"IPSWICH, *Sept. 15th*, 1897.

"To the Editor of *The London Philatelist*,

"*Sierra Leone 5s. on 1s., of May*, 1884.

"DEAR SIR,—Before acquiring the remainders of these stamps we made careful enquiry, and are satisfied that they were issued for postage and revenue purposes. First of all we asked a correspondent in the Colony to make enquiry about them, and, if possible, to get an official letter stating explicitly what they were intended for. The result was the letter which you published in your July issue. Since then we have learnt that an official in the G.P.O., London, had also written out for information, and he has kindly placed the reply at our disposal, with permission to publish it. The original letter is sent herewith.

"Further than this, we have come into possession of a private letter of Mr. T. Risely Griffith, who was Colonial Secretary of Sierra Leone at the time the stamps were issued. In this letter, which is dated August 4th, 1885, the following passage occurs:

"'There was also a number of 1s. stamps converted locally into 5s. stamps—"*Postage and Revenue*"—they were not known long enough to be used for postal purposes, and their use as Revenue stamps was discontinued when the other larger stamps were brought out.'

"We have therefore the opinion of three different officials, all of whom are agreed that the stamp was issued for postal use, although all are not agreed as to their use as

Revenue stamps. We are inclined to think Mr. Cleugh made a mistake when he said that the stamps were for postage *only*, and that they were, as stated in the other two letters quoted, issued for postage and revenue. We enclose for your inspection the original letter of Mr. Risely Griffith, who is the same Mr. Griffith whom Mr. Campbell quotes, and who would surely not have written two letters so directly at variance with each other. Unless Mr. Campbell can produce the original letter, we must consider that his memory is at fault. Mr. C. J. Phillips informs us that he has seen a postally used specimen.

"The fact that the Post Office of Sierra Leone has records of the stamp being issued, with the number printed and the exact date of issue, is strong corroboration of the other evidence we have given. Furthermore, there is also the surcharge on the stamp itself; the stamp bears the word 'Postage' and not Revenue; if it was intended to convert it into a revenue stamp, the word 'Postage' would have been barred out and 'Revenue' overprinted. In confirmation of this view, we send you a set of Revenue stamps which were issued in the same year, 1884, and which you will observe are the postage stamps surcharged 'Revenue' and the word 'Postage' barred out.

"We are, dear Sir, yours faithfully,

"WHITFIELD KING & Co."

"GENERAL POST OFFICE, FREETOWN, SIERRA LEONE,

"*July 9th*, 1897.

"Sir,—In reply to your letter of the 4th ultimo, concerning the 1s., green, Sierra Leone stamps, overprinted 5s., I have to inform you that forty sheets of 1s. postage stamps were surcharged 5s. on 30th May, 1884, and were used for both postal and revenue purposes.

"The two specimens are returned herewith.

"I am, Sir, your obedient Servant,

(Signature Illegible),

"Acting Col. Postmaster-General."

Messrs. Whitfield King have kindly submitted to us an entire pane of 60 of this stamp, in 10 horizontal rows of 6, which discloses some slight varieties of the surcharge, mainly attributable to defective printing. There is assuredly no indication of fiscal purposes on the stamp or surcharge; but it is curious that the latter should repeat "Sierra Leone," which is already plainly indicated on the design. In the case of the fiscal stamps, of which specimens have also been submitted to us, the word "Postage" is barred out, and "Revenue" overprinted below—thus supporting Messrs. Whitfield King's theory.

Occasional Notes.

THE S.S.S.S. MEETING ON OCTOBER 15.

WE understand that a general meeting of all those members of this Society residing within a reasonable distance from the Metropolis will be summoned for Friday, October 15, at 5 p.m., at the rooms of the London Philatelic Society, Effingham House, Arundel Street, W.C. A report will be presented to those present, and a statement as regards the finances, which, we have reason to believe, will be found on a satisfactory basis. We are further informed that resolutions to the following effect, if not in these precise terms, will be proposed, and we think it will be evident that there is much to commend itself therein:

"That in order to carry out the objects for which the S.S.S.S. was formed, and to actively carry on the crusade against speculative and unnecessary issues, inaugurated by the Society, the time has now arrived when that work can be more effectively promoted by a Committee composed of collectors only."

"That the Special Committee appointed by the London Philatelic Society having expressed their willingness to undertake the consideration of all speculative and unnecessary issues, and to announce their decisions from time to time in *The London Philatelist* (the official organ of the Society) and other Philatelic journals,"

"That this Society be dissolved, and all papers, documents, etc., relating to this question be handed over to the Secretary of the London Philatelic Society for this purpose."

We earnestly hope that a large number of members will be present. The movement was initiated in response to a general feeling of uneasiness at the hordes of speculative issues—a sentiment that has certainly gained additional strength by the plentiful crop of Philatelic weeds that has sprung up during the past three months. Some influential body is needed to warn or advise collectors as to the nature of speculative new issues, and it is certainly feasible that this advice should emanate from the collectors themselves through their elected Committee. There should also, in our opinion, certainly be a paid Secretary—a small stipend would amply suffice, and we are convinced that a suitable occupant for the post can be found without any difficulty.

IMPERIAL PENNY POSTAGE.

THE full text of the proceedings of the Conference between Mr. Chamberlain and the Premiers of the self-governing Colonies last month has been issued as a Parliamentary Paper, from which we gather that after some considerable discussion as regards postal communications, it appeared that in the present financial circumstances of the Colonies an Imperial Penny Post was impracticable, although the Prime Ministers of the Cape Colony and Natal declared themselves in favour of such a step.

With regard to Imperial Penny Postage, Mr. Chamberlain is quoted as having observed:

"I also should mention the desire which is widely felt, and which I share, for an improved postal communication with the Colonies. I believe that that matter rests entirely with the Colonies themselves, and that they have revenue difficulties in the matter which have hitherto prevented us coming to any conclusion. But I confess that I think that one of the very first things to bind together the sister nations is to have the readiest and the easiest possible communication between their several units, and as far as this country is concerned, I believe we should be quite ready to make any sacrifice of revenue that may be required in order to secure a Universal Penny Post throughout the Empire."

It is evident that the Imperial Penny Postage has no longer any opposition in this country, and its ultimate adoption should be a certainty.

BOGUS JUBILEE STAMPS.

MR. EDGAR S. WESTON gives us news from "gay Lutetia" of an instance of Anglophil feeling that will hardly be appreciated by Philatelists on this side of the Channel. It appears that a very *soi-disant* Jubilee issue of Great Britain is on view in various stationers' shops in Paris at the present time. The "stamps" are oblong in shape, containing portraits of various members of the Royal Family, and the series is as follows: ½d., 1d., 1½d., 2d., 3d., 4d., 6d., the *prix fixé* being 2 fr. 75 c. This trash emanates from London, and is elsewhere referred to.

DEATH OF MR. H. GREMMEL.

WE regret to have to announce the death of this well-known New York dealer, who was well known as the publisher of the *Post Office*. Mr. Gremmel had succeeded in building up a fine business, and had made a wide circle of friends, to whom his untimely decease will be a painful surprise.

THE LATE SENOR DURO.

THE amount of our space (and time) devoted to the Philatelic Exhibition necessarily deferred our mention of various matters, one of which, we regret to say, is the removal of this well-kownn name from the roll of living Philatelists. To the older collector the late Senor Antonio Fernandez Duro was well known, not only by his writings but also through the personality of his fellow-countryman and friend in this country, the late Senor V. G. de Ysasi, formerly Vice-President of the London Philatelic Society. Although occupied with administrative details in the Spanish Postal Service, in which he had risen after over thirty years' service to the highest rank, Senor Duro yet found time to write several works of a postal and Philatelic nature, the most important of which—the *Reseña Historico-description de los Sellos de Correos de España*—was published in 1881. It is beyond doubt that Senor Duro's compendious and exhaustive

work on the Spanish Postage System has formed the basis of all subsequent treatises on the Spanish stamps, and that he has thereby earned a title to the lasting gratitude of Philatelists. An interesting item connected herewith is the permission granted by the Government to the author to use a special franking stamp for his private correspondence, a label depicting an open volume, that is doubtless familiar to many of our readers.

THE LEIPSIC PHILATELIC EXHIBITION.

A LARGE and important Industrial Exhibition that will be held at this important German city from the 20th of this month until the 1st of next, will also have associated with it a Philatelic Exhibition. From the German papers we gather that there will be some very fine lots of stamps on view, and that collectors would therefore do far worse than pay a visit to the Saxon commercial capital. In close proximity to Berlin and Dresden, a favourable opportunity is afforded to make a pleasant little circular tour, and if stamps are sold in Germany as cheap as a certain section would like, profit might certainly be combined with pleasure! *Apropos* of exhibitions, it is certainly suggestive of reflection—to use a very mild term—that the official organ of the largest Philatelic Society in the world—that of Dresden—with a large number of foreign and British members, should have absolutely ignored the late Philatelic Exhibition of London. Considering the magnitude of this undertaking, and its importance in the Philatelic world, such a system of "boycotting" can have no reasonable excuse. It can assuredly not be for want of space, as comments upon the changes of season and weather generally occupy a considerable share of the editor's meanderings!

AUSTRALIAN NOTES.

BY OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.

THE Record Reign commemorative stamps of New South Wales were subjected to very little criticism by the daily papers, the *Evening News* only going to the length of a detailed analysis of each type. The 1d. stamp was on the whole approved, although the lion was likened to a "pasteboard cat!" The 2d. was considered poor in execution, and over-crowded with detail; and the bold and striking design of the 2½d. received the commendation it undoubtedly deserves. A correspondent of the *Sydney Morning Herald* took exception to what he termed the incorrect heraldry shown in the design of the 1d. It is an adaptation of the Colonial "badge," which consists of a cross *gules* on a field *argent*. The cross on the stamp is shaded with vertical lines, which in heraldry also represents red; but the shield is shaded with horizontal lines, or *azure* in heraldry. He also took exception to the shield itself, and the employment of a "royal" crown. Strictly correct as the exceptions taken may be from the heraldic point of view, the mere fact of the stamp being printed in *colour* completely

does away with the motive for denoting tinctures and metals by lines, etc., which, of course, was designed to enable such to be represented in *black and white*. Apart from this the design never pretended to be anything more than an adaptation of a badge; and even if the exigencies of the engraving admitted of the correct heraldic shading, the rest of the design must have been either meaningless or conflicting with the badge. However, the letter gave rise to a persistent rumour that the 1d. stamp was to be immediately withdrawn, a rumour which seemed to be confirmed by the fact that the old Centennial 1d. stamps were being sold at the General Post Office. These were merely remainders, which it was decided to exhaust rather than to destroy them. The Postmaster-General (the Hon. J. Cook) has officially announced that no change is to be made, and the stamp is not to be withdrawn.

* * * * * * * *

There has been a gay gamble in the "Hospital Stamps." Within ten days the 3000 half-crown stamps reserved for sale at the head office were sold out, and speculators at once sought out the metropolitan and suburban branch offices for supplies. These soon were exhausted, and telegrams were sent to the country offices; but whether the postmasters had got scent of a possible rise or not, there was no response. "All sold out" was the reply. Then the boom commenced! The secretary to the Hospital Fund had laid in a stock, and these were distributed amongst several of the leading licensed stamp vendors, who kindly undertook to sell them at a premium, the profit going to the fund. The scheme has worked admirably for the project, for the price gradually rose to 5s., then 10s., and last week several were sold at 15s. each. Of course, private speculators are reaping the benefit of the operations by the "Hospital Ring," and many have cleared out at a handsome profit; but already the bottom is falling out of the boom, and there are offers of large parcels at 7s. 6d. The demand is based on the supposition that an enormous rush will be made by English and American collectors for specimens, and that prices will eventually go to as many pounds as they are now in shillings!* It is almost unnecessary to add that this idea is cherished by speculators outside of informed Philatelic circles.

The 1s. stamp, of which 40,000 were issued, lasted till last week, and as soon as the head office supply was exhausted prices went up to 2s. There will not be any remarkable rise above this.

* * * * * * * *

And now Victoria proposes to follow the example set by New South Wales, but without either the direct motive of establishing a special hospital or the Record Reign occasion for commemoration. It is devoutly to be hoped that better counsels will prevail, and the project be abandoned.

* * * * * * * *

The "commemorative" designs are to be applied to the N.S.W. post cards of 1d. and 1d.+1d., the wrapper of 1d., and the stamped

* There will assuredly be no rush for these "stamps" in Europe!—Ed.

envelopes of 1d. and 2d. as soon as the present stock of the Centennial types is exhausted.

* * * * * * * *

I have seen proofs of the 3d., 4d., and 6d. of Queensland, with the shading removed from the central oval, and with the figures of value inserted in each angle. These proofs were struck in blocks of four, each *cliché* showing slight variations in type.

It is truly extraordinary that a comparatively wealthy colony like Queensland should show such petty economy in the production of its postage stamps, an economy that simply opens the way to extensive fraud, as the rough and *varying* design could be easily copied, and forgeries might be largely circulated before being detected even by Philatelists. Owing to the variety of papers without watermark, the absence of the usual safeguard would not be noticed.

* * * * * * * *

The handsome reproduction of Châlon's portrait of Her Majesty, presented with the June number of the *London Philatelist*, has been greatly admired by your privileged subscribers in Australia. The beautiful head so faithfully reproduced on the early stamps of Van Diemen's Land, New Zealand, and Queensland is so familiar to colonists that it was indeed a treat to see a complete copy of the portrait.

* * * * * * * *

The appointment of Lord Ranfurly to the Governorship of New Zealand will doubtless do much to popularize Philately in that colony, as his lordship is, I see, a member of the London Society. Early during his tenure of office the new series of stamps, so long heralded for New Zealand, will doubtless appear. I understand that some unforeseen delay has taken place in the production of these stamps, but it is hoped that they will appear in a few months at latest.

* * * * * * * *

The greater portion of the late Dr. Ellison's marvellous collection, or rather accumulation, of stamps has just been purchased by Mr. F. Hagen, of Sydney. It contains all the British and foreign stamps, and a large proportion of the Australians. Some idea of the size of this collection may be gleaned from the fact that it was contained in two cases, and four men were required to lift them into a cart, by which it was conveyed to the Safe Deposit vaults. The good doctor had a way of buying collections; and, instead of breaking them up, he continued to add to them in the original albums. There are some dozens of these albums, and the contents are truly surprising. One album containing only unused stamps catalogues over £2000, and this by no means represents even a half of the unused specimens in the collection! There are bundles of envelopes, with the stamps of various countries sorted into them, enough to stock a large dealer for some years with certain varieties. For instance, one envelope contains twelve of the first 18 kr., Wurtemberg; another, half a dozen of the rare 70 kr. The West Indians are very rich in fine copies; Newfoundland shows two of the 1s., scarlet vermilion; there are two imperf.

7½d., Canada, unused; India, 2 annas, green, imperf. and perf.; several fine imperf. varieties of Great Britain; and unused German States in great profusion.

I noticed my old friend the Italian (1854) error, "cinque" for "quaranta," in deep brown-red, and which the *American Journal of Philately* denounces as a reprint! I hope to prevail upon Mr. Hagen to send you this stamp for your opinion.

THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF VICTORIA—ANNUAL REPORT.

WE are in receipt of a copy of the Annual Report of the above Society, presented and adopted at the Annual General Meeting held on July 14 last.

The Report, we are glad to see, shows our Victorian *confrères* to be in all respects a flourishing Society. The number of members is sixty-seven, twelve new names having been added during the past year. Among the items of work accomplished during the year we must again congratulate the members of the Society on the following:

"Through the representations made to the Postal Department by the Committee, the reprinting of obsolete stamps has been successfully stopped, and they are now able to inform the Members and Philatelists generally that all the remainders are destroyed. Your Committee was also instrumental in assisting the Department in the discovery that used fiscal stamps were being cleaned and sold as unused, the offender being brought to justice."

We wish the Philatelic Society of Victoria still further success in its labours in the Philatelic cause—including the discouragement of superfluous issues—during the present year.

Reviews.

MR. WESTOBY'S "STAMPS OF EUROPE."*

AGE cannot wither nor custom stale anything of a Philatelic nature that emanates from the pen of Mr. W. A. S. Westoby, and it must be a source of unfeigned pleasure to his numerous friends — with whom we would fain be classed —that he is still among us as a writer and a student of the stamps of Europe, that have been a perennial source of pleasure to him. Needless to say, the volume under review, which is the sixty-four-page instalment of a series of articles appearing in the *Bazaar*, is irreproachable as regards style and literary manner; and although written expressedly for the unadvanced collector, will amply repay perusal by those whose years in the Philatelic service are many. The countries treated of

* *The Adhesive Postage Stamps of Europe.* By W. A. S. Westoby. London: L. Upcott Gill, 70, Strand, W.C.

in the present instalment are Alsace and Austro-Hungary, and the historically descriptive portion will be found to contain matter that is as interesting as novel to the majority. The lists given of the issued stamps are concise, and eschew smaller varieties—being for the benefit of the beginner—but we venture to think that varieties of type might well be included, *e.g.*, the 9 kr. and 45 centes. of Issues I. in their two settings of the values. The chapter on the Mercuries also hardly agrees in some respects with the latest evolution herein, nor do we think that Mr. S. Friedl's third type quoted will command much respect. An excellent and lucid introduction treats of all the component parts of a stamp and their system of production, containing moreover well-chosen advice to the neophyte. The illustrations throughout are beautifully rendered in *fac-simile;* the paper and typography are of the best; and, in fact, the initial volume holds forth ample promise of a masterly and comprehensive series of books that should be valuable recruiters for the ranks of Philately. We heartily congratulate Mr. Westoby, as also the publishers, on this welcome addition to our library, and shall extend the like reception to the others that we trust will speedily follow.

New Issues.

NOTES OF NEW, AND VARIATIONS OF CURRENT, ISSUES.

(Varieties of Obsolete Stamps, and Discoveries, will be found under "Philatelic Notes.")

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.

Members of the London Philatelic Society, and other readers generally, are invited to co-operate with us in making the columns as interesting as possible. Our foreign readers can especially help us in this direction, by sending copies of any official documents relative to changes in the current issues, or early intimation of any new issue, accompanied, when possible, by a specimen; such information will be duly credited to the correspondent, and, if desired, the specimen promptly returned. Address: EDITOR "LONDON PHILATELIST," EFFINGHAM HOUSE, ARUNDEL STREET, STRAND, LONDON, W.C.

BRITISH EMPIRE.

CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.—We are indebted to Lieut. Raby for specimens of two provisional 1d. post cards which were issued at the beginning of August, owing to the supply of the 1d. brown card having been temporarily exhausted. In both cases the 1½d. card has been surcharged "ONE PENNY" in two lines of sans-serif capitals, with the original value ruled out. The two varieties consist of A, small surcharge, with two lines defacing original value; B, a large type, with *three* lines defacing original value. One was issued later than the other; which came first we do not know, but surmise the order expressed above to be the correct order.

Post Cards.

One Penny on 1½d., grey on *buff;* black surcharge; *first type.*

One Penny on 1½d., grey on *buff;* black surcharge; *second type.*

GREAT BRITAIN.—A set of stamps, purporting to be a "Diamond Jubilee Commemoration set," is being advertised by a firm in London at 1s. 6d. the series of seven values.

We need scarcely warn our home readers that the stamps are in no way official; but for the benefit of foreign collectors it may be well to state that this is the case, and that the attention of the Board of Inland Revenue has been called to the enterprise.

LEEWARD ISLANDS.—From various sources we have received news that the Diamond Jubilee was the cause of a commemorative set of stamps, the current set being surcharged with a circular garter, bearing in the inner circle the monogram "V. R. I," and in the outer "SEXAGENARY, 1897." The following account of the issue of these stamps is given by a correspondent writing to the *Philatelic Monthly and World:*

"These stamps were supposed to have been in issue for one week from the 22nd of July; but the issue was exhausted in sixty-five minutes, the rush for them being very great. The following are the amounts sold in St. Kitts (Antigua, Dominica, and Montserrat received the same quantities, and the Virgin Islands a very small lot, the number of which I have not yet heard. Nevis got none): Thirty sheets of 120 each of ½d., 1d., 2½d.; ten sheets of 4d.; three sheets each of 6d. and 7d.; 1½ sheets of 1 shilling, and eighty stamps of 5 shillings; no envelopes, wrappers, nor cards. The total value of the above is £128 10s."

We annex herewith the order sanctioning the above issue.

"ADMINISTRATOR'S OFFICE,
"DOMINICA, *July* 20, 1897.

"It is hereby notified for general information that it is proposed to issue a *certain* number of Leeward Island postage stamps in commemoration of Her Majesty's Diamond Jubilee.

"The stamps will be overprinted with a circle bearing the word 'Sexagenary,' and the figures '1897,' and in the centre of the circle the letters 'V. R. I.'

"The stamps will be for sale at the several Post Offices throughout the Leeward Islands from Thursday the 22nd instant, and the sales will continue for *one week* from that date.

"LESLIE JARVIS,
"*Clerk Executive Council.*"

Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. inform us that the numbers of stamps which received the Jubilee surcharge are as follows:—½d., 15,600; 1d., 15,600; 2½d., 15,000; 4d., 6,000; 6d., 3,480; 7d., 3,480; 1s., 1,800; 5s., 900.

MALTA.—There seems to be going the round a report as to the finding of a sheet of 4d. stamps, *imperforate;* this, we would point out, was known as far back as 1894, as will be seen by a reference to our volume of that date, page 177.

NIGER COAST.—Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. send us two more values of the current set on the watermarked paper.

Adhesives. ½d., yellow-green; wmk. Cr. CA.
2d., lake ,,

RHODESIA.—The letter following, from Captain Norris-Newman, will certainly afford interesting reading, and we insert it with the view that collectors may judge for themselves how far they are called upon to support Bulawayo Committees and speculators by contributions out of their own pockets. An issue such as this is beyond the pale of Philately, and should be rejected by every collector who has a grain of respect for *postage stamp* collecting.

"NEWMANSFORD, BULAWAYO,
"RHODESIA, *July 27th*, 1897.

"*To the Editor of the 'London Philatelist.'*

"SIR,—The Administrator here having sanctioned the issue of a special stamp commemorating the forthcoming opening of the railway from Cape Town to Bulawayo, a sub-committee of the Railway Festivities Committee was formed, consisting of Messrs. E. Ross-Townsend (Civil Commissioner), Ll. Powys-Jones (Resident Magistrate), and myself, to arrange the whole matter; and I have drawn out a design which has been submitted by our sub-committee, and accepted by His Honour the Adminlstrator, and which will be sent home by this same mail for execution by the firm of Bradbury, Wilkinson & Co., the well-known engravers of the first issue of stamps for this territory.

"I am therefore desired by the sub-committee to write to you, and the other editors of the leading Philatelic journals, and acquaint you with the details of the issue for publication in your columns, if you think proper, as follows:

"There will be two values—a 4d. for South frican use; and a 6d., being amount of postage to England.

"There will be 50,000 of the 6d. printed, and 25,000 of the 4d., in 1000 and 500 sheets respectively of 50 each—5 rows of 10.

"The design can be best described as containing a map of Africa in the centre, in an octagon frame, which will be printed in black in both values, whilst in each corner will appear the Arms of Great Britain and the Arms of the British South Africa Company alternately. On the top is a railway engine; on the bottom, rose, shamrock, and thistle; whilst in labels at the sides will be "Rhodesia" on the left, and "4 Nov., 1897" on the right; with "Postage," "Fourpence" or "Sixpence," as the case may be, at the bottom in two lines; and at each corner (placed anglewise above the Arms) will be a small shield bearing the figure of value—the whole of this surrounded and worked in with scrolls. All to be dark blue in the 6d. value,

and orange in that of the 4d. The size will be the same as the £1 of the first issue, and the paper, perforation, and gum the same; no watermark.

"By special proclamation in the Government *Gazette*, the stamps will only be for sale at the Post Office, Bulawayo, or at the Distributor of Stamps' Office here, on the 3rd and 4th November next, and will only be available for postage during the festivities; and no person will be allowed to purchase more than 10 sheets of each value.

"After the festivities the plates and all remainders will be destroyed by Government officials in our presence.

"The proceeds, after deducting the expenses, will be divided between the Post Office Department and the Festivities Committee, in a fair ratio.

"Dealers and Philatelists will have to ask their correspondents here to get them the quantity they desire up to ten sheets of each (as none will be issued in London or Salisbury) on the day of issue.

"There will not be time to get out proofs here, so as to send you each one a copy for reproduction, or otherwise the sub-committee would have been glad to do so.

"I am, yours very truly,

"CHARLES L. NORRIS-NEWMAN,
"Captain."

SIERRA LEONE.—There appear to be three more values to add to the current set:—

Adhesives. ½d., lilac and green.
4d. ,, ,, carmine.
6d. ,, ,, lilac.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA.—Writing on the 10th August, Mr. George Blockey informs us that the die of the 1d., green, perf. 13, which was getting very much worn, has been recut.

In a block of four of this stamp, purchased by our correspondent, the middle horizontal row of perforations was missing, which variety no doubt extended through the entire sheet; but as far as could be ascertained only one sheet escaped the perforating machine, and that in one row only.

TASMANIA.—In addition to the £1 stamp chronicled last month, the 5s. value has been issued in the same type. This latter value comes rather late, more especially as for twelve months past the old type adhesive of the same value has been quoted as obsolete, and priced accordingly.

Adhesive. 5s., lilac and red; perf. 14.

VICTORIA.—Following upon the regrettable action of the New South Wales Government in issuing the hospital stamps alluded to last month, there comes the news that the same course is about to be, or has been, followed by the Government of Victoria. The following is a cutting from the Melbourne *Australasian* of July 10th:

"BAIT FOR PHILATELISTS.

"The Cabinet has decided to try the experiment of making a special issue of stamps to tempt the speculative instincts of Philatelists, with a view of devoting the proceeds to charity. The issue is to comprise 40,000 1d. stamps, to be sold at 1s. each, and 10,000 2½d. stamps, to be disposed of at 2s. 6d. Of the receipts the Postal Department will only retain the face value of the stamps, and the balance of the money raised is to be allotted to some charitable object to be decided upon by the Governor in Council."

We can only re-echo our comments of last month, and sincerely hope that all collectors will let these stamps severely alone.

In addition to the above, we are indebted to Mr. D. S. Abraham, Hon. Sec. of the Victoria Philatelic Society, for the following comments:

"The Acting Postmaster-General of Victoria has decided to issue 20,000 1d. stamps to be sold at 1s. each, and 10,000 2½d. stamps to be sold at 2s. 6d. each. The stamps are to do postal service, and will thus have a Philatelic value, and the balance of the proceeds arising from the issue is to be devoted to a charitable object to be approved by the Governor in Council, the precise application of the proceeds not having yet been decided, although the request was made by representatives of two charitable institutions, and they desired that the proceeds should be divided between them, or the whole given to one. It is feared, however, if one institution derived the benefit, every other institution would be asking for special issues; then Philatelists would require to collect hospital stamps, at the same time assisting charity, but it is extremely unlikely that the Government will ever entertain such a proposal. If such were the case, the Philatelic Society of Victoria would enter its strong protest, which they have not done in this case, owing to its being connected with charity. These stamps will vary from the English hospital stamps, which bear no postal value; but the issue in New South Wales is

identical with the above. Designs are now being made by the Government printer, and further information will be given in due course."

EUROPE.

SWEDEN.—The issue of the 30 öre in a new colour is announced.

Adhesive. 30 öre, yellow.

AMERICA.

BRAZIL.—Two more values of the current set have been redrawn, as described on page 99; these are:

Adhesives. 100 reis, rose and black.
1000 ,, green and mauve.

This is another country which is shortly to make an endeavour to fleece stamp-collectors by a new issue, the intent of which is more than ever a flagrant example of the money-making propensities of hard-up Governments, under the thin veil of a commemorative issue. The editor of the *Philatelic Journal of Brazil* has seen fit to pen an article hereon, which, though perhaps laudable in its patriotic effusions, condemns itself as far as any claim upon Philately is concerned, as instanced by the following quotations therefrom: "Worthy, therefore, of all praise and support is the idea of celebrating the anniversary of the discovery of Brazil by means of a national exposition, and other festivities. But where, in such hard times as these" (we sympathize with the Republic in its poverty!—ED.), "are we to procure the money for this purpose?" "The proposition for an issue of commemorative stamps furnishes a satisfactory answer to the above question."

Such argument as the above is but adequate description of the real cause of other commemoration sets besides that projected for Brazil, and by this time it is almost unnecessary to express the hope that, in common with other issues which have been boycotted by Philatelists, this latest will receive similar treatment.

COLOMBIAN REPUBLIC.—The 20 c. adhesive is reported in new colours, the brown on blue having given place to pale brown on pale green.

Adhesive. 20 c., pale brown on *pale green.*

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC.—The *American Journal of Philately* announces that a similar fate has befallen the 2 c. adhesive of this Republic, vermilion having replaced rose.

Adhesive. 2 c., vermilion.

ECUADOR.—The surcharging business is giving place to a new issue, with no date, which we sincerely trust is an evidence of permanence. The design includes the conventional "Arms" in an oval, "CORREOS DEL ECUADOR" at top, value in figures and words at base, "U.P.U." in almost microscopic letters at the sides.

At present the following are out:

Adhesives. 1 centavo, green.
2 centavos, vermilion.
5 ,, lake.
10 ,, brown.

UNITED STATES.—We include in our chronicle two short paragraphs cut from the *Weekly Stamp News* relating to some varieties of the 2 c. adhesive which have been found.

"The latest thing in Bureau issues is the current 2 c. stamp on *double paper*, similar to that experimented with at one time by the Continental Bank Note Co. Both sections are very thin, of course, as the thickness of both together does not exceed that of the ordinary watermarked paper with which we are familiar. The gummed section, however, is quite tough and strongly "wire wove," while the upper side is soft and delicate. The watermark is in the soft portion next to the impression, which would account for its indistinctness when looked for, the outline being obscured by the application of the unwatermarked sheet with the gum. Specimens have been shown us by Mr. C. H. Mekeel and others. We are unable to say how long it has been in use, or whether it has been permanently adopted."

"Last week we described the current 2 c. stamp on double paper, which was evidently an experiment similar to those tried by the Continental Bank Note Co. in 1873–5. Since then we have seen another 2 c. stamp of the same type on what appears to be an experimental blue safety paper. The colour of the stamp is tinted by the paper, and appears to be a dark crimson. The paper is of the ordinary thickness, and is highly surfaced, with an irregular network of water-lines on its back. There is no watermark. The only specimen we have seen was sent us by Mr. J. T. Kaemmerlen, and was received by him on a letter from Cleveland, Ohio."

In addition to the above varieties, the *A. J. of Ph.* describes a variety of the 8 c. stamp, Plate 249, the difference from the ordinary being in the colour, which, instead of the puce shade, is brown-violet. We also received last month, from a Transatlantic correspondent, a copy of the 50 c. in a decided shade of the usual orange colour, the actual colour being more vermilion than orange.

URUGUAY.—The *A. J. of Ph.* gives us the following decree, which was responsible for the change in the colours of the low values announced last month. But the colour of the 1 c. is anything but *blue*. We have seen this described as deep blue, slate-blue, and grey-lilac!

"By order of the Directory, on the 21st inst. a new emission of postage stamps will be put into circulation—say, of 1 cent., same design as 5th October, 1895, printed in blue ink; of 2 cents., same as 5th December, 1895, but violet; of 5 cents., same as 5th October, 1895, but green.

"Ninety days from that date is given to retire those of the same value now in use, and these can be exchanged for new ones during the last thirty days. After that time the old stamps will be of no value for franking.

"MONTEVIDEO, 19*th June*, 1897."

OTHER COUNTRIES.

ERITREA.—The new 5 c. stamp of Italy has been overprinted "Colonia Eritrea."

Adhesive. 5 c., green; black surcharge.

FERNANDO POO.—The $\frac{1}{8}$ c. de peso has received the same disfigurement as that described on page 225. Various sources herald the 10 c. printed in a new colour—yellow-brown.

Adhesives. 5 c. on $\frac{1}{8}$ c. de peso, grey; black surcharge.
10 c., yellow-brown.

LIBERIA.—*Le Timbre-Poste* illustrates a new 3 cents stamp, designed for interior use. In the centre is a large figure "3" with "CENTS" underneath, "REPUBLIC LIBERIA" on an arched band above, "INLAND POSTAGE" on a similar band beneath, all of which is enclosed in a key-pattern frame.

Adhesive. 3 cents, red and green.

ZANZIBAR (*French Post Office*).—Not to be outdone by the successful surcharging manœuvres in the British Post Office, the French Post Office has produced, and is probably still producing, something a little unique to cope with the demand for the supply of "provisionals." Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. write, "The announcement that a new issue was to appear was made too prematurely, with the result that there was a rush for the old ones" (the Island must contain quite a Philatelic community!), "some values of which were exhausted before the new stamps arrived from Paris."

The stamps we have received from our correspondents are the ordinary surcharged French stamps still further surcharged with a fresh value, as per list below, and the word "ZANZIBAR" in vertical capitals. In addition to these monstrosities, so great was the demand for stamps, that recourse was had to the gummed margins of the sheets, and we have seen a $2\frac{1}{2}$ annas, or 25 c., stamp type-set on this paper. The following are the stamps which our correspondents have sent us:

Adhesives.

$2\frac{1}{2}$ as., or 25 c., type-set on gummed edge of 25 c.
$2\frac{1}{2}$ as., or 25 c., in black, on $\frac{1}{8}$ anna (in red), on 5 c., green.
5 as., or 50 c., in black, on 3 annas (in black), on 30 c., brown.

From the same source we have received a list of the new issue, which consists of the current French stamps surcharged with the value, and "ZANZIBAR" in three lines, as follows:

Adhesives.

$\frac{1}{2}$ anna, red surcharge, on 5 c., green.
1 ,, blue ,, ,, 10 c., black on *rose-lilac*.
$1\frac{1}{2}$ annas, red surcharge, on 15 c., blue.
2 ,, black ,, ,, 20 c., brick on *green*.
$2\frac{1}{2}$,, blue ,, ,, 25 c., black on *pale rose*.
3 ,, black ,, ,, 30 c., brown.
4 ,, ,, ,, ,, 40 c., vermilion on *straw*.
5 ,, blue ,, ,, 50 c., carmine on *pale rose*.
$7\frac{1}{2}$,, ,, ,, ,, 75 c., black on *orange*.
10 ,, red ,, ,, 1 franc, pale sage-green.
50 ,, black ,, ,, 5 francs, reddish lilac on *pale lilac*

Philatelic Societies' Meetings.

We regret that, owing to an abnormal demand upon our space during the Exhibition, some of these reports should have been so long delayed. We hope, however, during the ensuing season that all reports up to date of issue will be concluded. Secretaries would oblige by condensing their minutes as much as possible, so that the portion published should principally contain matters of public interest. All reports should be addressed to MR. H. M. GOOCH, EFFINGHAM HOUSE, ARUNDEL STREET, LONDON, W.C.—ED.

BIRMINGHAM PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

President—W. T. WILSON, ESQ.
Hon. Sec. and Treas.—MR. G. JOHNSON, B.A.,
208, *Birchfield Road, Birmingham.*

MAY 20th.—Messrs. W. T. Willett (Oxon.), J. Siewert (Russia), H. Hawkins (Surrey), were unanimously elected members.

Votes of thanks were given to Messrs. Schreuders and Co. (for Postmarks of Holland), H. C. Beardsley (Address Book), E. F. Wartell (a large number of U.S. journals).

Mr. Lundblad then gave an interesting paper on the Stamps of Austria, carefully explaining the various settings, types, papers, and various varieties.

BRIGHTON AND SUSSEX PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

President—M. P. CASTLE.
Hon. Secretary and Treasurer—BARON A. DE WORMS.
Assistant Hon. Secretary—W. T. WILLETT, West House, Brighton.

THE thirteenth meeting was held on Tuesday, April 6th. Six members attended. Mr. J. W. Gillespie in the chair. Mr. H. Stafford Smith exhibited a quantity of unchronicled and curious varieties, of which he gave a most interesting description. Among them may be mentioned a strip of three Siam 2 atts on 64 atts, with the surcharge printed on the back; Patiala, with the word "SERVICE" inverted; a *tête-bêche* pair 100 reis Brazil, head of Liberty; a pair of 5 c. red Santander, one stamp in its normal position, but the other *sideways;* a large block of South Australia 2½d., brown and green, showing the different perforations; and many other oddities from all parts of the world. A cordial vote of thanks to Mr. Stafford Smith concluded a very pleasant evening.

THE fourteenth meeting was held on Tuesday, May 4th. Seven members were present. The Vice-President in the chair. Mr. E. J. W. Sang conducted the second auction of the season. Owing to the fact that some of the principal members of the Society were away, this auction was not quite such a success as the previous one. Nevertheless, the competition was keen for the better class stamps, and good prices were realized for several lots, but bargains were to be picked up in several cases. About eighty lots were put up, and all disposed of. A sub-committee was appointed to arrange for the Annual Dinner of the Society.

THE fifteenth, and last—being also the Annual General Meeting of the Society—was held on Tuesday, June 1st. Five members attended, the President occupying the chair. The balance-sheet was submitted, also the Exchange Superintendent's report, and were adopted. The officers and committee for the ensuing year were elected as follows:—

President—M. P. CASTLE.
Vice-President—J. H. REDMAN.
Hon. Secretary and Treasurer—
BARON ANTHONY DE WORMS.
Assistant Hon. Secretary—WALTER T. WILLETT.
Librarian—OTTO PFENNINGER.
Committee—
J. W. GILLESPIE. H. STAFFORD SMITH.
R. J. THRUPP.

MANCHESTER PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

President—W. Dorning Beckton.
Hon. Sec.—A. H. Harrison.

The annual meeting was held on Friday, 21st May, at the Grand Hotel. The President in the chair, supported by eighteen members.

After the minutes of the last general meeting had been read and confirmed, the Hon. Sec. presented his report of the session, which briefly was in the following terms :

"During the past session, the sixth of the Society's existence, fifteen ordinary and fourteen list meetings have been held, the average attendance being about fifteen at each of the general meetings.

"The papers which have been read have contained matter of a most useful nature for the future guidance and information of the members ; altogether six papers have been completed. Some of these are being or will be reproduced in certain of the leading Philatelic publications. The membership, I am pleased to report, is gradually increasing ; six ordinary and seven corresponding members have been elected, while only two resignations have been received.

"For the fourth year in succession the session was inaugurated with a lantern exhibition ; the interest these exhibitions stimulate was clearly evidenced by the number of our visitors, nine being present.

"Certain of the Philatelic publications have drawn attention to our Society, and have made flattering comments upon the work being done. I am sure you will all agree with me that the position of the Society must be maintained. I appeal to the general body of our members for papers for next session. I would put it to you that it could not fail to be to the interest and advantage of the Society to have the benefit of fresh ideas and new lines of thought brought to bear by efforts of members who have not contributed papers this past session ; and again, it is not fair to expect that one or two of the leading members will stand alone and do all the work in this direction, requiring as it does great study and research.

"The best thanks of the Society are due to Mr. J. H. Abbott, Mr. B. J. Beckton, and Mr. Gibson, for their services to the Society during this last session, and also to Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., H. L'Estrange Ewen, Bright and Son, Wm. Brown, Buhl and Co., for gifts to the Library; to the *Manchester City News*, and to those Philatelic publications which have inserted reports of our meetings."

Touching upon other matters of interest, the Honorary Secretary, *inter alia*, especially mentioned Mr. Duerst's appointment to the Editorship of the *Philatelic Journal of Great Britain ;* the inauguration of auction sales of stamps in Manchester by Messrs. Cheveley and Co. ; the coming Philatelic Exhibition in London.

The report as read was passed unanimously.

The Honorary Treasurer's report proved of a satisfactory nature.

The remainder of the business on the notice was then proceeded with.

The President declared the following gentlemen duly elected officers for the next session (there being no opposition) :

President—W. Dorning Beckton.
Vice-Presidents—F. Barratt, E. Petri.
Hon. Treasurer—G. B. Duerst.
Hon. Secretary—Arthur H. Harrison.
Assistant Hon. Secretary—C. H. Coote.
Hon. Librarian—J. C. North.
Hon. Secretary Exchange Packet—G. B. Duerst.
Committee—
W. Grunewald, W. W. Munn, J. H. Abbott.
Committee of Exchange Packet—
C. H. Coote, G. F. H. Gibson.

The meeting was then declared at an end.

Mr. Duerst called attention to the Friedl Collection being upon the market, and in a short speech pointed out the great advantage it would be to have such a unique collection in England for reference.

List of Members.

Judge Philbrick.	J. E. Heginbottom.
T. Ridpath.	H. J. Hill (*c*).
M. P. Castle.	W. Hanmer.
J. H. Abbott.	I. R. Hesketh.
F. Barratt.	A. H. Harrison.
Dr. Bradley.	Guybon Hutson, jun. (*c*).
A. Buxton.	M. W. Jones.
F. J. Beazley.	C. Lichfield.
E. W. Bramwell (*c*).	F. W. Lake.

W. D. Beckton.
G. Blockey (*c*).
W. Brown (*c*).
C. H. Coote.
E. P. Collette.
T. Cadle (*c*).
J. J. Darlow.
G. B. Duerst.
E. A. Ehlinger.
J. W. Etherington (*c*).
W. W. Munn.
J. C. North.
D. Ostara.
T. Oxley.
R. Pellew.
E. Petri.
P. L. Pemberton.
T. Roberts.
F. A. Roberts.
H. Ranck.
A. S. Fletcher.
E. Fildes.
J. Flohr.
W. E. Farrer.
W. Grunewald.
O. Gillett.
D. Garson (*c*).
G. F. H. Gibson.
R. F. V. Harrisson.
J. W. Simpson.
W. E. Terry.
W. C. Taylor (*c*).
M. Tchiliriguirian (*c*).
S. Wrigley.
A. Wallace.
N. Wanstall.
R. H. W. Whapham.

PLYMOUTH PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

President—CAPTAIN G. H. W. STOCKDALE, R.E.
Treasurer and Hon. Secretary—W. J. W. MILLER.

ALTHOUGH somewhat late in the season, the Plymouth Philatelic Society wound up their session on Saturday, June 12th, with a fine exhibition of stamps, this being the second held this year. A novel feature was introduced on this occasion in the shape of three prizes—presented by the President, Major G. H. W. Stockdale, R.E.; the Vice-President, Mr. R. Tyeth Stevens; and Mr. H. W. Mayne, who is one of the original founders of the Society—for collections of any country exhibited by members, points being awarded for: (*a*) The completeness of the collection, (*b*) the condition of the stamps, (*c*) the Philatelic knowledge displayed, and (*d*) the neatness and skill shown in the mounting and arrangement of the stamps. The judges consisted of the three prize donors before mentioned and Colonel A. Ely, A.S.C., and they commenced their work directly after the opening of the exhibition, the result being that the Hon. Secretary (Mr. W. J. W. Miller) obtained the first place with 92¾ per cent. of the points for his very fine and skilfully-arranged collection of the stamps of Greece; the Rev. E. A. Donaldson second with 67½ points for a collection of Spanish stamps that comprised most of the rarities of the earlier issues; and the Rev. E. R. Hudson third place with 64¾ points for his fine show of the stamps of Newfoundland, which comprised, among others, good copies of the early 6½d. and 1s. stamps. The other exhibitors were the President, Major Stockdale, who showed a magnificent array of stamps of the following countries: Spain, complete, with the exception of the 1851, 2 reales; France, almost all unused; Thurn and Taxis, unused; Oldenburg, mostly unused; and other European countries; and a magnificent collection of the stamps of Ceylon, complete, with the exception of one or two varieties of perforation, and inclusive of unused copies of the imperforate 9d., 10d., and ½d., on bluish paper. The Vice-President's display consisted of the stamps of St. Vincent. In addition to the prize-winning collection, the Rev. E. A. Donaldson had a fine display of the Swiss cantonal stamps, including single and double copies of the rare Geneva. The Rev. E. R. Hudson also displayed collections of the stamps of New Brunswick and Nova Scotia, the 1s. value of both countries being shown. The past session has been a most successful one, many interesting and instructive papers having been given upon Philatelic subjects, and the membership having increased over fifty per cent. The Hon. Secretary's address is 5, Athenæum Terrace, Plymouth, from whom all particulars may be obtained by collectors in the West of England who may be desirous of joining the Society.

SUBURBAN STAMP EXCHANGE.

FOUNDED in 1892. Number of members on September 1st, 303. Average value of packets, £1500–£1800. The ordinary exchange rules apply, but the following may be specially noted:

1. All members see packets first in turn.
2. Cash settlements are monthly.
3. Stamps are priced at members' discretion.
4. Four packets are circulated every month,

two of which are composed exclusively of sheets valued at not less than £5 gross each.

5. Members can see or contribute to as many packets as they like by giving due notice to the Secretary.

March accounts have been duly settled, and the April packets are expected back from the supplementary rounds next week. The sales from March packets were as follows :

	£	s.	d.
March A 1	97	14	4
„ A 2	135	12	7
„ B 1	41	19	11
„ B 2	37	16	4
Supplementary rounds of A 1 and A 2 packets . .	50	0	2

Taking the holiday season into consideration, August packets were quite equal to expectation, their aggregate value amounting to £1771 14s. 2d. Old Europeans and Colonials, in good condition, were offered at reasonable prices, and Africans were also well represented. A new set of rules (based on Mr. Oldfield's draft) has been drawn up, and submitted to every member for signature. These rules are intended for the better protection of members, and empower the Secretary to take immediate action against defaulters. All responsible collectors (buyers or sellers) proposing to join the Club are invited to apply for copy of rules, etc., to the Secretary, H. A. SLADE, Ingleside, St. Albans.

THE COLLECTORS' CLUB, NEW YORK.

TENTH meeting of the Board of Governors, held at the Club House, 351, Fourth Avenue, May 10th, 1897. Vice-President Chas. Gregory in the chair. Present: Messrs. Luff, Lynde, Scott, and the Secretary.

Called to order at 8.15 p.m. Minutes of the previous meeting read and approved.

The Chairmen of House and Amusement Committees then made their reports, which were received.

The Treasurer made his monthly report, showing $988.04 in bank, and the report was accepted.

The following applications for membership were reported :

(25) Henry S. Fleek, Newark, Ohio.
Proposed by John N. Luff.
Seconded by Henry L. Calman.

(26) Chas. E. Green, Pittsburg, Pa.
Proposed by Walter S. Scott.
Seconded by Chas. D. W. Drew.

(27) F. M. Heilihey, Boston, Mass.
Proposed by John N. Luff.
Seconded by F. E. P. Lynde.

The last two were ordered to be posted according to the constitution.

Upon ballot Mr. Henry S. Fleek, whose application had been posted over thirty days, was unanimously elected a subscribing member.

The Treasurer was instructed to collect from members elected after April 1st half a year's dues only.

Adjourned at 9.25 p.m.

ELEVENTH meeting of the Board of Governors, held at 351, Fourth Avenue, June 7th, 1897. Present: Messrs. Calman, Deats, Luff, Lynde, Nast, Scott, and the Secretary.

Mr. H. E. Deats was elected Chairman, in the absence of President and Vice-President.

Called to order at 7.15 p.m.

The following resolutions were unanimously adopted :

Whereas the Governors of the Collectors' Club have heard of the seizure of certain U.S. periodical stamps from the Walter S. Scott Stamp Company, Lim., by Post Office Department officials, on the alleged ground that said stamps had been "stolen, embezzled, and purloined" from the Government ;

Whereas it is a well-known fact that large quantities of said periodical stamps were openly sold to dealers and collectors by the Government for about ten years, as it is evidenced by circulars issued by the Post Office Department, specially by a circular dated March 27th, 1875, and by receipts given by the Third Assistant Postmaster-General for money paid for said periodical stamps ; and

Whereas it is also a well-known fact that over seven hundred sets of these periodical stamps were furnished by the United States Government to the officials of the Universal Postal Union at Berne, Switzerland, and that most of said sets have long since passed into the hands of collectors; therefore be it

Resolved, That the Governors of the Collectors' Club most earnestly protest, in behalf of its members, against this unjust, oppressive, and unlawful proceeding.

The question of defending the suit of "U.S. *v.* The Walter S. Scott Stamp Co., Lim.," was next discussed, and it was the sense of the Governors that the Club, as the leading organization of stamp collectors and dealers, should undertake it.

It was moved, seconded, and carried, that the Club contribute 100 dollars towards expenses of the suit; and that Mr. John W. Scott be appointed a committee of one, with power to associate others with him, in the management of said defence.

The Secretary was directed to furnish copies of resolutions to the Government officials, and to the daily and Philatelic press.

Adjourned at 8.20 p.m.

TWELFTH meeting of the Board of Governors, held at 351, Fourth Avenue, July 12th, 1897. In the absence of the President and Vice-President, Mr. John W. Scott was elected Chairman.

Called to order at 8.20 p.m.

The minutes of previous meeting were read and approved.

The Treasurer's report was received, showing a balance of $804.99 in bank.

The Chairman of House Committee made his report, which was received.

An informal discussion regarding extension of billiard-room was then held, and the Treasurer was authorized to make inquiries of the landlord as to the feasibility of said extension, and its probable increase in rental expense to the Club.

Upon ballot the following candidate was elected a subscribing member of the Club: Captain S. Baker, and he was thereupon duly declared elected.

Adjourned at 9.20 p.m.

J. M. ANDREINI, *Secretary.*

THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY, NEW YORK,

351, FOURTH AVENUE.

THE meeting of the Governing Committee of the Philatelic Society on Monday, June 21st, 1897, was called to order at 9 p.m. Present: Messrs. Andreini, Scott, Clotz, and Quigley. Mr. Andreini was elected Chairman and Mr. Quigley Secretary *pro tem.*

The resolutions of the Collectors' Club concerning the seizure of the periodical stamps were unanimously adopted.

Resolved—That the Governors of the Philatelic Society, New York, most earnestly protest in behalf of its members against this unjust, oppressive, and unlawful proceeding.

It was moved by Mr. Scott, and seconded, that copies of this resolution be sent to the press, Philatelic societies, government officials, and prominent collectors. Carried unanimously.

It was moved by Mr. Scott, and seconded, that the Philatelic Society, New York, donate $50 to defray expenses of the defence of the suit of U.S. *v.* The Walter S. Scott Stamp Co., Ltd. Carried unanimously.

Motion to adjourn seconded and carried.

R. W. QUIGLEY, *Secretary pro tem.*

[To avoid repetition the resolutions referred to in the above minutes have been omitted, as these already appear under the Collectors' Club minutes.—ED.]

Correspondence.

COMMUNICATIONS.—*All communications of Philatelic matters and Publications for Review should be addressed to the Editor of* THE LONDON PHILATELIST, Kingston Lodge, Richmond Place, Brighton.

ADVERTISEMENTS *should be sent to* MR. H. M. GOOCH (Advertising Department), Effingham House, Arundel Street, London, W.C.

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2/- BROWN, GREAT BRITAIN.

DEAR SIR,—Can you or any of your readers inform me of the precise number of the 2s., red-brown, English, which were issued in 1880? Is this known even approximately? I have heard it stated that not more than 2000 of this stamp were issued to the public. I believe the number to have been considerably larger.

I am, yours truly,

GEORGE F. A. HARRIS,
Surg.-Major I.M.S.

NAGPUR, INDIA, *July 16th*, 1897.

THE

London Philatelist:

THE MONTHLY JOURNAL OF

THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY, LONDON.

VOL. VI. OCTOBER, 1897. No. 70.

"The Old Order Changeth."

DR. J. N. LEGRAND bears a name so conspicuous in the earlier records of Philately that the announcement of the sale of his collection comes almost as a surprise to the modern collector, to whom he is practically unknown. The learned Doctor is better known to the older school of collectors, and will, in the future annals of Philately, take very high rank, not only as one of the pioneers of the pursuit, but as one of the very first to dignify the same by scientific and accurate investigation. The earliest papers written on watermarks include one from Dr. "Magnus'" pen in 1865, and the system of measuring the perforation within the two centimètres space, now so universally recognized, was also his invention. Born in the year 1820, Dr. Legrand may well have pleaded good reason for his comparative inaction in the Philatelic world of recent years, and it is due to this cause that the modern collector can hardly realize the full portent of the dispersal of the historic collection, of which he has scarce heard mention.

The collection has been in course of formation since 1862, and it is probable that thirty-five years is a record for the unbroken holding of stamps by any Philatelist. Those of his compeers, Count Primoli, Baron A. de Rothschild, M. Donatis, Judge Philbrick, Mr. Image, Mr. Westoby, *cum multis aliis*, have all long since been dispersed, and the general collections formed by their successors, such as MM. Caillebotte, Mr. T. K. Tapling, M. V. de Ysasi (all, alas! discontinued by death), Messrs. Burnett, Botteley, Castle—to name only a few—have all followed suit. Among the survivors of the older collectors, who started and kept to the lines of a general collection of an inclusive and scientific nature, there are but few remaining—M. von Ferrary and M. F. Breitfuss being conspicuous examples to the contrary.

It is thus that "the old order changeth." Philately, under its modern guise of insatiability as to variety of shade, unsevered blocks, and mint condition, is vastly different from the first quarter of a century's history, say

from 1861 to 1886. Our own experience as a general collector, omnivorous as to locals, envelopes, cards, shades, perforations and watermarks galore, extended for more than half this period, and even in those days the *force majeure* of the rapidly rising flood of varieties was borne upon us with crushing effect. The history of the second quarter of a century, from 1886 to 1911, has not yet been made half way, and already we have seen stupendous changes. "Great Britain and Colonies," or "Europe," were at the commencement of this period deemed suitable and compassable limits of collection. There is, however, another cry to-day—and it is difficult to foresee what it may be before the half century of collecting has been reached. No more significant fact of the difference between the "old order" and the new can be cited than the fact that the two Post Office Mauritius from Dr. Legrand's collection have been purchased for a larger sum than he has expended on his whole collection!

The Future.

By A. A. BARTLETT.



TO all Philatelists who have the interests of their "alma mater" at heart, the frequent recurrence of the objectionable features marking the past five or six years must be a matter of great moment; I refer by "objectionable features" to that flood of unnecessary issues, commencing we may say with the Columbian series, which, while being marvels of the engraver's art, and representative or commemorative of the most vital event of the life of this Western Hemisphere, were after all not a postal necessity at all, down to the last issue of trash that I am ashamed as a Canadian to write has lately issued from this Canada of ours. The Jubilee issue of Canada is a most glaring instance of Philatelic robbery, and still I fail to see how our American friends can conscientiously uphold the Columbian and condemn the Jubilee issue. It is almost a parallel case of two Governments, from whom better things would naturally have been expected, pandering in a contemptible way to make money out of stamp collectors; the American Government broke faith by refusing to stick to their agreement of only selling Columbians up to the end of 1892, and the Canadian Government committed the contemptible act of first informing collectors that they would only sell the half, six, and eight cent. stamps along with all the high values up to $5.00, and then when a sufficient quantity of these sets were sold, they placed on sale the small sets up to 50 cents. There is not a shadow of a doubt but that a large number of these half, six, and eight cent. stamps are held by Dominion officials all over the country, and they will be unloaded carefully through "friends." The action of such Governments as the United States and Canada is being followed every day by small Governments all over the world, and just so long as the collector allows himself to be fooled into purchasing and placing these unreliable labels in his album, just so long the cow will stand ready for milking. It seems to me that if we want stamp collecting to remain a live issue in the future, there remains only one course for collectors to pursue,

and that is to institute a most rigid boycott against all unnecessary postal issues. Make the collecting of these things unfashionable, and you at once wring the neck of the goose that is laying the golden egg for these impecunious Governments, and crush out the disease; for if there is no demand for the stuff it will cease to be issued, and the Governments will not find that frequent need for new issues when they find they are required to give postal service for the stamps printed. Now take the Jubilee issue of Canada for an example. It amounted to $1,318,750, and a conservative estimate places $500,000 as the amount of money the Government will make on the deal on the number of stamps sold to dealers, collectors, and souvenir hunters, for which they will never be asked to give postal duty; $300,000 of this "steal" is made up on the sale of $3.00, $4.00, and $5.00 stamps, for which there is no more postal need in Canada than there is for a fifth wheel on a coach. Now I contend that collectors have themselves to blame for this to a large extent, and they have the remedy in their own hands. Boycott this stuff most effectually, and the evil in time will effect its own decomposition; keep asking for it, and the cancer will eat so effectually into the whole system that it will be impossible to find a cure. I presume without being too egotistical I might instance my collection as among the representative collections of Canada and British Colonials, and yet I have not purchased the five high values of the Jubilee issue, nor do I intend to. And now in regard to how this evil may be most successfully met, the following plan seems to me to offer a great many advantages. On the ruins of the Society for the Suppression of Speculative Stamps why not organize a committee of four of the most up-to-date of the prominent collectors of each of the following countries, say England,* France, Germany, Austria, and the United States, and have this committee pass an opinion on all new issues, whether postally required or not? If not, their opinion would of necessity have an enormous influence on all collectors in all lands; for while we can readily understand the feeling prompting a Frenchman from hesitating to refuse to collect what an Englishman might decide on being unnecessary, or a German from refusing to chime in with an American idea of right and wrong, these objections would be largely dissolved if a collector saw that in this cosmopolitan arrangement his own country had a four-fold voice. This suggestion may be impracticable, but perhaps if not feasible it may lead up to something that is. I think it is time something decisive was done; we cannot afford to fold our hands and allow this thing to go on. If it be found impossible to stop the thing in any other way, then I for one will be quite willing to sign an agreement to cease collecting any postage stamps issued after 1890; there are enough issues prior to that, and good ones too, to give any man an unlimited area to work on, and never arrive at anything approaching completeness, and thus we will escape that horrible avalanche of "beautiful unnecessaries" that have so burdened our lives for the past seven years. As it is, look at your album and see the parts that interest you, and you will find in almost all countries it is the good old honest issues, sent out as postal necessities, and not this later lot of stuff that we are simply fools for collecting. We have the remedy in our own hands; are we going to use it?

* It will be seen that Mr. Bartlett's suggestion has already been partly carried out.—ED.

The Crusade against Speculative Issues.

MEETING OF THE S.S.S.S.



IT will be seen from the account of the meeting of the S.S.S.S. which follows these remarks, that that Society is by no means defunct, and that, having shed those members who are unable to give loyal adhesion to its principles, it is absolutely determined upon proceeding with the work for which it was called into existence. The fact that the functions of the S.S.S.S. have been in apparent suspension for several months has caused frequent and fully justified adverse comments in the world of Philatelic Journalism. To a certain extent the Society has been the victim of circumstances. In the interval that has elapsed since the Society's more active operations the London Philatelic Exhibition has intervened. The defection of certain members of the S.S.S.S. has been coterminous with this period of busy times for all the leading names connected with the movement against spurious issues, and it was felt—and perhaps with a certain degree of cogency—that the whole question had better be "shelved" until the Exhibition was over, and the leisure afforded for a due consideration of all the bearings of the question. In any case, the inaction is in no measure a reproach to Mr. Gordon Smith, the Hon. Secretary, as was fully expressed at the meeting on the 15th October. The ex-Hon. Secretary's opinions are strongly in favour of the new movement, as evidenced by his election to the new Committee, and whatever degree of blame exists for the "suspended animation" of the S.S.S.S. must be sought elsewhere.

The support of many of the largest dealers was unhesitatingly given to the movement at the beginning. The smaller members of the trade did not, however, all loyally support this righteous action, and in view of this the position of the former became untenable. In some cases of issues whose Philatelic birth was at first considered as illegitimate—*e.g.* the Greek Olympian, and later of the Canadian Issue—want of co-operation acted very hardly upon those who were loyal. In reviewing the present situation, it cannot be forgotten that the demand for these and kindred issues, on the part of collectors, has been an important factor in this case.

It has been rendered therefore clear that a dual Committee of collectors and dealers was impracticable, and the conclusion has wisely been arrived at that the safer course in future is to advise collectors as to their purchases, but avoid any attempt to dictate to anyone what they should sell. If the collector likes to take the good advice given to him, he is protected; if not, he has been warned, and he will discover the fruits thereof when he realizes his stamps!

Much can be done in putting collectors and Postal authorities on their guard as to the speculation on the part of Post Office servants. It is this speculative abuse of their confidential position on the part of Postmasters and their assistants that has been the most fruitful factor in the prevalence both of Provisional and Jubilee Issues. The S.S.S.S. can do sound

work in collecting facts connected with the nefarious transactions of Post officialdom, and forward the same to their respective Governments. A correspondent of ours recently bought at a Colonial Crown Post Office, *from the Postmaster himself*, a set, as a favour (though a complete stranger), of the recently current stamps at more than twice face value. Is this in accordance with the Postmasters' general instruction to their *employés?*

In further exemplification of this modern system of *exploiting collectors for the benefit of officials*, the following will repay the most careful perusal.

With reference to the so-called Cabot Issue of Newfoundland we have received the following interesting letter from Mr. H. L. Lyman, of Montreal:

"MONTREAL, *October 2nd*, 1897.

"*To the Editor of the 'London Philatelist.'*

"DEAR SIR,—Though personally unknown to you, I take the liberty of enclosing a letter from the Newfoundland correspondent of the *Montreal Gazette* in reference to that Colony's Cabot Commemoration issue, in case you may think some extracts from it are worth insertion in the *Philatelist.*

"The naïve manner in which the writer admits the needlessness of the issue for postal purposes, and rejoices over the conjuring of all this money out of the pockets of the stamp collectors as by the waving of an enchanter's wand, and regrets that it cannot be done annually, is very rich."

A FINE STAMP ISSUE.

Newfoundland's Commemoration of Cabot's Discovery.

IT WAS A HAPPY IDEA.

It Also Brought the Colony a Special Revenue of Quite Three Hundred Thousand Dollars.

"ST. JOHN'S, Newfoundland, September 20.—So far as I am aware, only two British colonies—Canada and Newfoundland—have issued special memorial postage stamps in this jubilee year. The Canadian is known as the Victoria jubilee issue; the Newfoundland is commonly called the Cabot issue, being designed to commemorate the discovery of the island by John Cabot, four hundred years ago; though one of the series—the one cent stamp—is a portrait of Queen Victoria. Hence it is sometimes called the Jubilee-Cabot issue.

"In beauty and novelty of design, and in excellence of execution, our series is unsurpassed. Their fame has gone through all the earth, and the demand for them from east, west, north, and south is extraordinary. To any stamp collector's album they furnish a most attractive feature. Speculation in them is rife, and in several of them 'corners' are already established. The issue of the one cent—400,000—is so nearly exhausted that none are sold singly, and the Post Office authorities have reserved 15,000, all that remain, to complete sets of the two-cent stamp, of which the same number was issued, only 70,000 remain, and they are going off rapidly. The number of orders pouring in for them by every mail is simply astounding. Speculators are hard at work, and offers for purchasing to the value of $10,000, and even as high as $20,000, have been received. Complete sets can still be had; but it is calculated that by the end of the year few will remain; at all events it will be difficult to obtain complete sets. The mania for stamp collecting, which is now universal in the civilized world, is the cause for this rush on our stamps. Speculators who were early in the field and bought largely will realize large profits. No matter how large the order, the Government has prohibited any being sold under the face value, as they know quite well that every one of them will be sold at that rate.

The smallest issues are of the 24 cents, the 30, 35, and 60 cents; and 'corners' will probably be made in these, as only 100,000 of each have been issued. The largest issue is of the 3 cent stamp, which numbers a million; and of these 350,000 are already sold.

"Not the least interesting feature of this issue is its results financially. When profit, honestly and legitimately made, is added to the glory of a transaction, who will venture to find fault or condemn? If a handsome addition to the revenue will be secured by the Cabot issue, surely this enhances its value. The face value of the whole issue printed is $341,000. It is safe to assume that every one will be sold—the great bulk of them by the end of the year. The expense of engraving and printing is small—gum and paper are not costly materials. The great bulk of the issue will be purchased by stamp collectors and speculators, and entirely for cash. This will be a clear gain to the Government, the expense of production being merely nominal. The proportion of the issue purchased and used for business purposes, in such a limited time, and by a population of 210,000, would not be very great. If we allow $41,000 for such ordinary purchases, together with the expense of production, there would remain $300,000 of clear profit to the Government. This is an excellent financial stroke, unobjectionable in every way, and involving no risk or outlay of capital. The gain comes as by the waving of an enchanter's wand. Three hundred thousand dollars are added to the year's revenue, a sum which will cover more than the half of the interest on the public debt for the year. Being an exceptional gain, which did not enter into the public estimates, it might be used for any legitimate public purpose, or to meet any national emergency. It is really a startling financial enterprise, the only drawback being that it cannot be repeated annually."

The circumstances connected with the issue (or rather non-issue) of the Canadian Jubilee set are even more discreditable, and fully deserve the censures passed upon them by the Philatelic world and the S.S.S.S. The following remarks made by a writer in *The Metropolitan Philatelist* clearly indicate official jobbery:

"But now that the stamps have been issued in certain given numbers and in the Postmaster-General's peculiar way, *where are they?* That is what a great many want to know, and that is a question that *must be answered.* I know where some of them are. I had a letter from a Postmaster's son at a small office in Quebec, asking me what I would give for forty-five 8 c. Jubilee stamps. I had a letter from an office in Prince Edward Island, asking my prices for ½, 6, and 8 c. Jubilee stamps. Collectors in the principal cities of the Dominion have seen whole sheets of ½ c. stamps in the possession of Post Office employees. These little incidents may give one some idea where the stamps are.

"I also have a pretty good idea where the stamps are not. A prominent Toronto dealer laid $100 on the stamp counter the first day of sale, and was tendered two specimens of the ½ c. and 6 c. stamps. At Montreal, Toronto, St. John, Halifax, and all the principal cities, not more than two specimens of the ½, 6, 8, 10, 15, 20, and 50 c. stamps were sold to the same person, that is, of course, outside the Post Office staff. I have it on good authority that there is not a stamp dealer in Canada who has one hundred of the ½ c. value, unless he happens to be a Post Office employee also. The stamps are not in the dealers' stamp books then, for they have not been able to get them. I wrote to Fredericton the other day for a few 10, 15, 20, and 50 c. stamps and the Postmaster returned the money, and said they could be supplied only in complete sets. One meets with the same reception at nearly every office. What were the stamps made for if not to be sold to

the public as the public wants them? What would be thought of a furniture store where one could not purchase a table or a chair, but must take a whole set? The thing is ridiculous."

THE S.S.S.S.

A General Meeting of members of the Society was held at Effingham House on Friday, October 15th, at five o'clock. The chair was taken by Mr. M. P. Castle, and there were present: Major Evans, Messrs. J. A. Tilleard, R. Pearce, Gordon Smith, E. J. Nankivell, Robert Ehrenbach, M. Giwelb, and H. Hilckes.

The Hon. Secretary, Mr. Gordon Smith, presented a report of the work and present condition of the Society, by which it appeared that there was a small balance in hand, although no call had been made upon members for the current year's subscription. The reasons for the recent inaction of the Society were explained, and, in the discussion that ensued on the report, Mr. Gordon Smith's difficult position as Hon. Secretary was fully appreciated.

The future action of the Society under its proposed altered conditions was fully discussed, and an absolute unanimity among those present prevailed as to the necessity for future and strenuous effort against the speculative issues. The wisdom of confining the Committee to collectors only was fully acknowledged, but the co-operation of the many members of the trade, still able and willing to aid in the good work, was cordially welcomed. The following resolutions were unanimously carried:

"That in order to carry out the objects for which the S.S.S.S. was formed, and to actively carry on the crusade against speculative and unnecessary issues, inaugurated by the Society, the time has now arrived when the work can be more effectively promoted by a committee composed of collectors only."

"That the Special Committee of the London Philatelic Society for the time being appointed for dealing with speculative and unnecessary issues, be requested to undertake the consideration of all speculative and unnecessary issues, and to announce their decisions from time to time in the *London Philatelist* and other Philatelic journals."

The meeting then proceeded to nominate and elect officers for the Society as follows:

President—M. P. Castle. *Vice-President*—Major E. B. Evans.
Hon. Treas. and Sec.—H. R. Oldfield.
Committee—R. Pearce, E. J. Nankivell, J. A. Tilleard, R. Ehrenbach, and Gordon Smith.

It was resolved that the Special Committee of the London Society be requested to take the necessary steps forthwith for carrying out these resolutions.

The meeting then resolved that the following should be condemned as speculative or unnecessary, and their decision published in the manner recommended.

Canada—Jubilee Set.
Newfoundland—Cabot issue.
New South Wales—Hospital Stamps.
Victoria—Hospital Stamps.
Leeward Islands—Surcharged, Centenary.

The Leipsic Philatelic Exhibition.

THE Philatelic adjunct to the general Industrial Exhibition held this summer at Leipsic has, we learn with much pleasure from Continental sources, been a conspicuous success. Although it was limited to exhibits of Leipsic members, foreign competition being thus entirely shut out, we welcome none the less the evidences of a lively Philatelic interest in the Fatherland, actuated by the conviction that in the best interests of Philatley, national distinctions should be overlooked, and that increasing prosperity to our common hobby is a source of gratification to us all.

The Exhibition, which remained open from the 20th of September to the 4th of October, was held in a large hall measuring about 280 feet in length by 120 in width, lit from above (the light being duly screened), and the exhibits were in rows of upright glazed frames and wall cases, somewhat similar to those used at our own show. The general arrangements, despite the fact that no prizes were given, seem to have given great satisfaction, owing to the unstinted labours of the Committee of the Leipsic Section of the Dresden Philatelic Society, and the total number of visitors was over 7000.

The exhibits seem to have been of a high class, and, thanks to one or two big collectors, are stated to have included all the rarities, except the two Post Office Mauritius. A creditable feature is to be acknowledged, *i.e.* that, differing thus from the Exhibitions of Geneva and Zurich, the stamps of their own country were not all predominant at this Exhibition. The interesting stamps of Saxony were naturally well shown, inclusive of six copies of the ½ g. error, and some scores of the 3 pf., unused, used, and "on original."

Among the most noteworthy exhibits may be cited:

HERR FISCHER-BRILL.—A large general collection of used and unused, inclusive of no less than 200,000 stamps of the constructed plates of Great Britain, arranged in frames; these were all exhibited, and occupied a considerable portion of the whole available space! Switzerland was well shown, including types of the 4 r., Zurich, and repeated copies of all the Swiss cantonals. The United States and Confederate locals were also a strong lot, inclusive of the 5 c. St. Louis, and many others on covers. In all countries this exhibitor showed good stamps, which, mounted and arranged on the most modern principles, created a highly favourable impression.

HERR E. BEILICKE.—A very fine and complete collection of post cards, supposed to be the largest in Germany.

HERR B. BLAUHUTH.—A specialized collection of the stamps of Bolivia, etc. Mr. Blauhuth has always had a deserved reputation for the possession of fine Bolivian stamps, many of the best of which in this country have emanated from him.

DR. KLOSS.—A specialized collection of Saxony, unused, including proofs and varieties of obliteration on the letter. This is a well-known collection.

HERR K. RICHTER.—Spain and Colonies.

HERR H. SCHWANEBERG.—A very interesting lot of the Balloon Letter Post Envelopes of Paris, containing exceptional curiosities, such as some of the foregoing,

that were fished out of the Seine in a tin box nearly three years after the siege, and duly delivered.

Herr P. Kohl.—A special collection of Roumania, which, with Servia, seems rapidly developing into fashionable countries. This collection of Roumania must rank as one of the finest and most complete existing. The first issue contains 27 p. on letter, five copies of the 54 p., some on original, several of the 108 p., *and* on one letter a 27, an 81, and two of the 108 p. The following issue includes sheets of all values, and four specimens of the 5 p., black, used, on original—a very rare thing. The whole of the remaining issues are thoroughly well worked up, and, taken as a whole, this exhibit would command attention in any competition.

Herr H. Krötzsch.—Essays and proofs of the Brunswick stamps and the eight different impressions of the 1¼ sch., Schleswig, of 1865–67.

Herr R. Senf.—A fine general collection of unused stamps, characterized, as might be expected, by grand condition, and including many rarities.

Herr A. Schmidt.—Special collection of Swiss, to a large extent on the original covers, the same condition applying to his exhibit of old German stamps, which embraced no less than seventeen of the 3 pf., Saxony, thus.

Herr G. Graupner.—English Colonials, unused.

Herr H. Muhlman.—A general collection of unused specimens of the Issues of 1890–1.

Space forbids our mentioning all those who showed good things, but we should add that the Trade Exhibitors included Messrs. P. Kohl, F. Lücke, H. Krötzsch, Baumbach and Co., E. Petritz, and Senf Bros., all of whom are well known here.

The important feature of the exhibits was doubtless the presence of the stamps of Consul von Mutzenbecher. This collection is enshrined in four large volumes, that we have had the pleasure of inspecting on more than one occasion, and is without doubt one of the most important collections of the day. The worthy Consul has been an ardent collector for many years, with a special eye to fine things and a weakness for stamps on the original cover, among which latter he possesses specimens that are hardly met with twice in a life-time on the original letter. We believe that to-day (it is some time since we inspected the collection) it is only exceptional things that Herr Mutzenbecher wants on the original, *e.g.* Post Office Mauritius, Lübeck, 2½ sch., error, British Guianas, etc., as it includes nearly all the great rarities—United States Postmasters' Stamps, British Guiana, Réunion, etc. etc., and must be of great value. It, however, sadly wants rearranging on modern scientific lines.

It was a subject of much regret that the splendid general collection of Herr Martin Schröder was not available, as, though his predilection for specializing is well-known, few have any idea of the great strength of his Philatelic possessions.

We have to acknowledge with thanks information as to this successful Exhibition from several correspondents, and to credit some portion of the information to the reports of the *Deutsche Briefmarken Zeitung*, *Illustriertes Briefmarken Journal*, and the *Philatelic Monthly*.

Philatelic Notes.

NOTE.—*The co-operation of Philatelists is invited in order to make this column of a varied and interesting nature.*

FORGERIES OF THE NAPLES STAMPS.

MR. J. N. MARSDEN has shown us some forgeries of this historical and interesting issue that are sufficiently dangerous to call for a note of warning. The 50 grani with Arms is a lithographic reproduction, bearing a good general resemblance to the original, but the sharp impression, resulting from *taille-douce* engraving, that characterizes the genuine article, makes them far apart.

Far more dangerous, however, are the imitations of the ½ gr. with the Arms and the ½ T with the Cross. These are *engraved* apparently from





steel dies, the same die having evidently been used for both productions, with the exception of the central design and the letter "T" in the inscription. These portions, to avoid expense, have been made removable, separate dies having been respectively made for the Cross, the Arms, the "C," and the "T." The Cross, in one specimen, is printed in a distinctly darker shade than the outer portion of the stamp. Considerable taste has been shown in the production of this delightful *fac-simile*, as the Savoy Cross shows a due amount of remaining lines of the Bourbon Arms, the postmark "Annulato" in an oblong frame is printed in discreetly faded ink, and the stamps are unevenly cut, with the austereness that might be anticipated from the distributor's use of the scissors! The general appearance is highly deceptive, and it is advisable to regard with care before buying these stamps. One test may, however, be safely mentioned—obviously for both varieties. In these forgeries the letters "P" and "O" of "POSTA" are practically joined.

DISCOVERIES.

AUSTRIAN-ITALY.—Copies of the 5 c., yellow, of the first issue of this country are found with comparative frequency bearing an impression on the reverse, and the 3 kr. is even generally believed to exist in like condition. The impressions on the back are naturally found in various positions, frequently showing portions of four stamps, and are always fainter than those on the front side. By artificial light a faint impression in yellow would be hardly visible, and it has been ascribed to this cause that so many sheets have been twice imprinted. Mr. J. Bernichon has, however, kindly

sent to us a specimen that presents quite a new phase as to the position occupied by the dies in the original plate. The stamp under view shows on the reverse side portions of four stamps, but the one to the lower right has clearly been printed *tête-bêche* with regard to the remaining three. These stamps were printed in sheets of sixty, but the four spaces to the right, at the bottom of the sheet, were occupied by the well-known crosses of colour. We have seen large portions of the sheets of several values, principally in the kreuzer values, but have never seen any indications of the abnormal position of one of the dies. The question that calls for solution by the appearance of this variety is whether this variety occurs in sheets printed for public use, or whether the existence of these double impressions in general may not be due to the using up of paper that had been used for experimental or trial impressions. There is nothing abnormal in these impressions on the reverse, beyond the paler tint, the spaces intervening between each stamp agreeing exactly with those of the regular issue. In any case, the variety is of considerable interest, and we hope that some further light may be thrown on the subject. We should add that the impression on the reverse has been subjected to careful examination both here and in Vienna, and no suspicion is entertained as to its authenticity.

HOLLAND, 1867, 15 c.—In our last issue (page 258) we made some remarks as to the existence of the stamp perforated $10 \times 10\frac{1}{2}$, and alluded to the fact of there being so few copies known (two or perhaps three) that its existence had been generally disbelieved. Curiously enough, the note had hardly been printed when we received the following letter from a correspondent. The English market is generally held upon the Continent to be the dearest, but it would seem that "the best endeavours at pricing" across the Channel are worthy of respect.

"SIR,—I am in possession of the 15 cent Holland, 1867, perf. $10\frac{1}{2}$, a fine used specimen. Knowing you have a fine collection of Holland, I take the liberty to ask if you will buy this rare stamp. I offer it for the price of £90 without any discount. Mr. Wreesman, President of the section Groninger of the Philatelic Society of Holland, has seen it, and considers it the finest specimen he ever saw. Mr. Schäfer, of Amsterdam, was the first who found a $10\frac{1}{2}$ perf., but it was not in mint state. My specimen is the second stamp known in this perforation. (?)

"An early answer is requested, because I receive many high offers."

VICTORIA: EMBLEMS.—We are indebted to our Australian correspondent for another addition to the long roll of Victorian varieties. We may add that we have now seen the specimen referred to, and from its colour, which we should rather call grey-lilac, we should place it as of the later period of these "Emblems," with the single-lined numeral watermark. He writes as follows:

"Yet another discovery! Mr. T. Hagen, of Sydney, has had the good fortune to find a copy of the 2d., Victoria, "Emblems" type, brown-lilac, perforated, with watermark *single-line 6*. This is quite new to Australia and, I believe, to the Philatelic world generally. The stamp is used, and the watermark is beautifully distinct and perfectly centred. It has been submitted to Mr. David H. Hill, of Melbourne, who is of opinion that it is quite correct, and thinks that it is the result of carelessness in issuing watermarked paper for stamp printing."

Mr. J. A. Tilleard has also shown us another variety of the same issue that is a record, in the guise of the 4d., rose, without watermark, clearly printed on both sides. The stamp is duly postmarked, and was discovered quite accidentally by its owner. Impressions on the reverse side occur but very rarely in this Colony.

ROUMANIA.—The American *Journal of Philately* is responsible for the following information, which is certainly of a nature that we should not have anticipated:

"Mr. A. Krassa has just discovered a new variety, which will be a surprise to collectors of European stamps, in the shape of a 15 bani red, of the 1869 issue, on laid paper with distinct laid lines. The specimen is undoubtedly genuine."

Occasional Notes.

THE TAPLING COLLECTION.

WE are informed by Mr. E. D. Bacon that the stamps on view at the British Museum have again been changed, and that the following countries are now available for public inspection: The remaining portions of the Transvaal, with those of the second South African Republic, Cape of Good Hope, Griqualand, and British Bechuanaland. The stamps of the Cape will be found to include some grand examples, notably in the "wood blocks," among them being the one penny, error, in *dark* blue.

PRESENTATIONS TO THE "TAPLING COLLECTION."

WE have much pleasure in announcing the following list of additions to the National Collection:—

ANTIOQUIA.—An unused specimen of the 1 c., black on white, issue 1876, on *laid* paper.—Messrs. Buhl & Co., Ltd.

CANADA.—Letter sheet prepaid by coin, postmarked "Montreal, Canada —Paid Sp. 11. 1863."—Mr. R. Tyeth Stevens.

GREAT BRITAIN.—Circular letter sheet franked by an impressed One Penny red newspaper stamp, die A. 663, and postmarked "Hull. Oc. 19. 1852."—Mr. R. Tyeth Stevens.

INDIA.—Used specimens of the current 2 a., 4 a., 8 a., and 1 r., surcharged "On H. M. S."—Miss Cassels.

NEW SOUTH WALES.—An unused specimen of the 2d., issue end of 1867, watermarked with double-lined numeral "5."—Mr. W. W. Blest.

RUSSIA.—An unused set of the current stamps from 1 kopec to 7 roubles. —Mr. T. Notthafft.

SOUTH AFRICA REPUBLIC.—Used copies of the 1d. and 2d., issue 1895, and an unused specimen of the 1d. "commemorative issue" of the same year.—Miss Cassels.

STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.—An unused specimen of the 32 cents, carmine-rose, of 1894, *without* the usual surcharge of "Three Cents."—Messrs. Whitfield King & Co.

TASMANIA.—Six varieties of the official frank stamps not in the collection.—Messrs. Brown & Skipton.

VICTORIA.—Twenty-two varieties of the official frank stamps not in the collection.—Messrs. Brown and Skipton.

A NEW COLOUR STANDARD.

MANY have been the attempts to classify the several colours and their subordinate shades, but all have hitherto failed to be of any practical service to the Philatelist. It appears, however, from announcements made in the American daily press that an elaborate system, including no less than 8000 different shades, has been devised. The author of this system is Mr. Louis Prang, a well-known eastern colourist, who has given forty years to the study of the subject. It remains to be seen how far this is practical, and we therefore refrain from expressing any opinion until we have seen the system and "classification accompanied by a carefully-prepared series of plates." The needle in the bundle of hay seems to ourselves at first blush a trifle compared to the selection of the missing shade among the eight thousand!

THE JUNIOR STAMP COLLECTOR.

THE necessity for sowing the seeds for the Philatelic plant of the future has been urged in many quarters, and, although attended with but a meagre result, was not forgotten in the London Philatelic Exhibition. A fresh attempt, however, has now been made to bring up the young as they should be, in enlisting their sympathies and interest for stamp collecting through the medium of a journal, under the above appropriate heading. The publishers are Messrs. Margoschis Bros., of 147, Constitution Hill, Birmingham, and the subscription is one shilling and sixpence per annum, post-free. The journal seems in many respects well equipped for its purpose, and is not written above the boys' heads. There is some excellent advice on "What to Collect," by "An Old Beginner," and it appears that a Youths' Stamp Society is being inaugurated at Birmingham. We extend our best wishes for the success of these ventures for the benefit of the rising generation.

STEP-MOTHERLY ATTENTIONS!

WE have already alluded to the fact that the *Philatelist*, which is the organ of the Dresden Society, has, for some occult reason, boycotted the London Philatelic Exhibition, despite which it managed somehow to thrive. In the September number it has broken silence in a minute paragraph among its Miscellanea to the effect that the non-English exhibitors were treated in a very "step-motherly way, only four silver and nine bronze medals being awarded to foreign exhibitors." This is a direct imputation

upon the judges, two of whom are members of the Dresden Society, and we understand that the editor will be invited to make good his insinuation, or else withdraw it. It is quite unnecessary to characterize such a statement, which simply recoils on its own head, and will hardly increase its author's prestige. The criticism has not even the merit of truthfulness. The number of medals awarded to exhibitors from abroad was—gold, 2; silver, 13; bronze, 14.

SALE OF DR. LEGRAND'S COLLECTION.

THE name of Dr .Legrand has been one of the most honoured in the annals of Philately for nearly forty years, and it seems a sensible snapping of an ancient tie to announce that his collection should be placed on the market. The purchaser is M. Th. Lemaire, of Paris, and we believe that the sum paid will be found to be within a measurable distance of "300,000 francs." Although the collection had not been kept up to the modern standard, it was, however, replete with fine and rare stamps, many of which could hardly be duplicated, and must have been well worth the price paid. The Doctor, as was well known, had two of the Post Office Mauritius, one being unused, and these have been already purchased by M. J. Bernichon, of Paris, for 48,000 francs, equal £1920! This price is indeed a record, but will not come as a shock to Mr. W. B. Avery, the holder of the matchless pair of unused that were on view in Piccadilly last summer. The Plates of Mauritius of Dr. Legrand's were also very fine, and he also possessed (we believe) the 5 and 1st 13 cent of Hawaii. In the early Guianas he was not strong, but all the standard rarities of other countries were naturally present, and his collection as a whole was of the greatest interest; it included no less than forty volumes of entires. We are informed that Dr. Legrand still has his French stamps, and a very large and complete collection of fiscals.

SURCHARGES A L'ORIENTAL.

THE following letter, containing stamps, value (?) 251 marks, has been received by a well-known collector:

"CONSTANTINOPLE, 27.9.97.

"I permit to send you within a sellection of good oriental stamps which I wisch exchange against other good ones of England here Colonies and U. S of Amerika and think you will bee so kindly to accept my offer.

"Waiting your sellection I remain yours truly, "K. LEHNER."

The interesting "sellection" included sets of Turkish provisionals bisected and surcharged, sets of the 1891 issue overprinted *imprimé* in a rectangle, Italian stamps with "Colonia Eritrea" and "Estero," Austrian-Italy with the Constantinople imprint, German and Russian Levant, Bulgaria 3 on 10 and 15 on 25, and Cyprus halfpenny provisionals. On entires also were the 40 paras on the ½d. of British Levant and the blue Ionian "on original." Irrespective of other little peculiarities on the latter the cover had been pierced in places by a sharp knife, as is frequently done for

the purpose of disinfection, but with an attention to Philatelic interests that must have been rarely noticeable at the hands of Oriental officials thirty years since, the stamp must have been removed in order to avoid injury and then replaced, as the punctures penetrate the paper behind the stamp, leaving the latter untouched. Our general acquaintance with punctures has much improved since the days of cycledom, but this is a variety that we have not yet met with, and seems—like its owner's good faith—difficult to mend! The whole of the stamps we have mentioned, being the main portion of the "sellection," have forged surcharges, and we thought it advisable to warn collectors who might wish to exchange with Mr. Lehner. It may be that he is young and innocent, in which case he should be indebted to us for giving him of our knowledge; but unless he is able to give good evidence of his guilelessness, we think the return of his stamps unpaid, with "forgery" written across them, "would about meet the merits of the case," as the Mikado airily remarks.

A NEW ALBUM FOR BRAZIL.

WE have received from Mr. Alph Bruck an album which has been designed to meet the requirements of those who specialize in this country, seemingly well adapted to its purpose. We hope that the enterprise of the author may lead many to add this interesting country to their specialistic tendencies. It will be remembered that Mr. Bruck exhibited a fine collection of Brazil at the London Exhibition, gaining a silver medal.

SALE OF MR. W. W. BLEST'S AUSTRALIAN COLLECTION.

THIS choice and renowned collection has gone the way of nearly all Philatelic flesh, and has passed into the hands of the trade. Mr. W. H. Peckitt is the purchaser, at a price, it is understood, of some £5000, and we congratulate him upon securing so fine a lot of stamps, from which he cannot fail ultimately to reap a substantial harvest.

Mr. Blest is hardly one of the old school, but has been an ardent collector for the past ten or twelve years; and, like many others, became "bitten" through arranging some stamps for juvenile friends. The history of his collection presents the now accustomed feature of an initial struggle to be a general collector, and a subsequent desperate effort to be first in the countries that he specializes in. In this laudable ambition it may be said that Mr. Blest met with a marked degree of success, as evidenced by his medals at the Philatelic Exhibition of 1897. At different intervals Mr. Blest had previously parted with his English Colonies (which went *en bloc* to another collector, and are hence happily intact), his West Indians, including a superb lot of Trinidads, and his Europeans. The writer had the felicity to acquire some of the latter, but *not* a superb 3 lire Tuscany, with light town obliterations, which he considered too much in advance of the market at a little over £20! Neither buyer nor seller would entertain this objection to-day, and it is probable that among all Mr. Blest's departed stamps, none would have repaid a longer holding better than his Europeans. In any case, Mr. Blest

will, we fancy, not be long before returning to the ardours of the Philatelic chase, and he might do worse than take up some group of the last-named.

The collection was on view at the London Exhibition, and was well described in the official Catalogue; but for the benefit of those of our readers who were not present, we give a list of some of the finest stamps, premising that almost all were in magnificent condition and *unused*, except where otherwise stated.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

UNUSED.

Sydney Views—1d., Plate I., 7; Plate II., 8; 2d., Plate I., 4; Plate II., 9; Plate III., 1; Plate IV., 4; Plate V., 3; 3d., 4.

Altogether about fifty copies, including one specimen of the latter in *absolutely mint condition.*

Laureated—Strong in unused, including 1d., on laid paper, 2; 1d., error "WALE," and 3d., error "WACES"; 2d., stars in corners, 3.

1853, re-engraved, background of crossed lines, 2d., full blue, 3.

1852, 3d., yellow-green, green, emerald-green, and deep blue-green.

do. 6d., brown, Plate I., fine background, 2.

do. 6d., pale-brown, Plate II., coarse background, 2.

1885, 8d., orange; the 3d., with error, watermark "2."

Diadem Issue—2d., with wmk. "5."

1855, 8d., imperf., a pair and a single, the pair being used; also the 6d. and 1s., with wmk. "8."

do. Perf. 12, the series complete; including 3d., yellow-green; 6d., purple; 8d., orange; 1s., brick-red; 5s., purple; also the 6d., purple, with error, wmk. "5s."

A block of ten imperf. registered stamps.

The used stamps include over 200 copies of the Sydneys, all picked copies.

NEW ZEALAND.

First Issue—London print, 1d., 3; 2d., 1; 1s., 3.

do. do. bleute, 2d., 1.

do. Colonial print (blue paper), 1d., 5; 2d., pair and strips of 3 and 4; 1s., 2.

Thick paper, 1s., imperf., seven copies in shades.

Thick paper, perf. 13, 2d., blue, 2.

Wmk. Star, imperf., 2d., slate-blue, 2; 3d., mauve.

Pelure paper, 1d., 2d., and 1s., imperf.; 2d., 6d., and 1s., perf., more than one of each; also the 1d., vermilion, perf. 13 (used).

Wmk. "N Z," imperf., 6d., 3.

Wmk. Star, perf. 13, 3d., brown-lilac, 3.

do. perf. $10 \times 12\frac{1}{2}$, 6d., blue.

Wmk. "N Z," perf., 1d., brown, two used copies.

Halfpenny, wmk. "N Z," perf. $12\frac{1}{2} \times 10$; also a copy of the same stamp with no wmk.

Issue of 1873, 2d., rose, perf. $10 \times 12\frac{1}{2}$.

Among the used stamps—London print, 1d., six copies; thick paper, 1s., pairs in shade; blue paper, 1d., strip of five; a copy of 2d. with value omitted.

QUEENSLAND.

Imperf., 1d., 4; 2d., unused, strip of three, and single copies, also used single copies, including two pairs, 6d., 3.

1860–1.—Star wmk., rough perf., the 2d., imperf. horizontally, and several copies of the 1s., unused.

1868–74.—Truncated Star wmk., perf. 12, 6d., dark green, strip of three; 1s., claret, several copies.

AUSTRALIAN NOTES.

BY OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.

AFTER being on sale for upwards of two years, the uncancelled remainders of the O.S. stamps of New South Wales have been withdrawn from sale, and the whole remaining stock destroyed.

The following is the official notice:

[1701] "POSTAL AND ELECTRIC TELEGRAPH DEPARTMENT,
"GENERAL POST OFFICE, SYDNEY,
"20*th August*, 1897.

"His Excellency the Governor, with the advice of the Executive Council, has been pleased to approve of the sale of O.S. Postage Stamps (which, in accordance with authority given in July, 1895, have hitherto been sold to the public, on the understanding that they are not to be used for purposes of ordinary postage) being discontinued; and such stamps will therefore be withdrawn from sale from the 1st proximo. "JOSEPH COOK."

This is the last chapter in the history of the O.S. stamps of New South Wales, as there are now neither reprints, remainders, nor any other class of the official stamps in existence so far as the Postal Department is concerned.

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In accordance with the decision to adopt the Record Reign types of 1d. and 2d. stamps for post cards, envelopes, and wrappers, the following notice has been published in the *Gazette:*

[1703] "POSTAL AND ELECTRIC TELEGRAPH DEPARTMENT,
"GENERAL POST OFFICE, SYDNEY,
"12*th August*, 1897.

"His Excellency the Governor, with the advice of the Executive Council, has, in accordance with the provisions of the 7th section of the Postage Acts Amendment Act, 1893, been pleased to approve of the issue, in substitution of those now current, of 1d. (single) and 1d. + 1d. (reply) post cards, 1d. stamped envelopes, 1d. wrappers, and 2d. stamped envelopes bearing stamps of similar values, of the designs recently issued in commemoration of Her Majesty's Record Reign.

"JOSEPH COOK."

The 1d. (single) Inland and Intercolonial card has just been issued. The stamp is of the type of the 1d. adhesive of the 22nd June, 1897, and the inscriptions, etc., are the same as those of the previous card. I send you a specimen for description in your chronicle of new issues.

DEATH OF MR. HASTINGS E. WRIGHT.

IT is with the deepest regret that we have to record the sad and unexpected decease of this well-known Philatelist and member of the London Philatelic Society. It would appear that Mr. Wright fell a victim to the dread scourge of influenza that has claimed so many useful lives, having had a bad attack early in September. He had, however, recovered, and on the 23rd of September was in London in apparently fairly good health; but, not feeling really well, he returned home, where, however, he rapidly became worse, developing pneumonia, and breaking a blood-vessel in the brain, passed away three days later, on Sunday evening, the 30th September. Mr. Hastings Edwin Wright was born on the 25th of June, 1861, and was consequently but 36 years of age at his lamented death. Although possessed of independent means, he was a civil engineer, and had by no means retired from the practice of his profession, in following which he had spent several years in India. He leaves a widow and four children to deplore his loss, to whom we beg to offer our deepest sympathies in their great bereavement.

Mr. Hastings Wright joined the Philatelic Society in 1891, and rapidly acquired a reputation as a Philatelist of no mean order. His contributions to the *London Philatelist* and other journals are well known as being marked by scientific and accurate work, but his *magnum opus* will always be the work on the Stamps of Great Britain, on which, in conjunction with Mr. A. B. Creeke, he had been engaged for some years. A large portion of this task has been completed and finally passed by Mr. Wright; and we are informed that as regards the remainder, the voluminous notes left by him will enable the book to be completed within a short period. It is, however, very sad to think that the honour of his share of this important work will be entirely posthumous. We are, however, convinced that when it does appear it will constitute an abiding monument to one of the most brilliant Philatelic authors.

As a collector Mr. Hastings Wright will always be remembered as the pioneer of mint condition. Absolutely scrupulous as to the selection of every specimen, his collection contained no stamp that was not faultless. With an intimate acquaintance with the leading collections during the past twenty years, the inspection of Mr. Wright's collection of the stamps of Great Britain yet came as a revelation to the writer as to what constitutes mint condition. It is safe to say that no collection ever yet formed was so absolutely irreproachable as Mr. Wright's English collection which was dispersed some three years since. In other fields in which he became interested later the same discrimination was exercised, and the creed of immaculate condition may have been said to have been created in this country by Mr. Wright's example. Amiable and courteous in all his relations of life, ever ready to give the benefit of his advice, and possessed of profound Philatelic insight, the death of Mr. Hastings Wright leaves a void that cannot be filled, and has called forth the keenest regret from all sections of the Philatelic world.

New Issues.

NOTES OF NEW, AND VARIATIONS OF CURRENT, ISSUES.

(Varieties of Obsolete Stamps, and Discoveries, will be found under "Philatelic Notes.")

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.

Members of the London Philatelic Society, and other readers generally, are invited to co-operate with us in making the columns as interesting as possible. Our foreign readers can especially help us in this direction, by sending copies of any official documents relative to changes in the current issues, or early intimation of any new issue, accompanied, when possible, by a specimen; such information will be duly credited to the correspondent, and, if desired, the specimen promptly returned. Address: EDITOR "LONDON PHILATELIST," EFFINGHAM HOUSE, ARUNDEL STREET, STRAND, LONDON, W.C.

BRITISH EMPIRE.

BRITISH SOUTH AFRICA.—The announcement that the proposed commemorative stamps alluded to last month are not to be issued will be received with pleasure. We are indebted to a correspondent for this information, which has been received from an influential source.

GAMBIA.—The sixpenny stamp has been issued in a new shade—pale green in place of sage-green.

Adhesive. 6d., pale green.

LABUAN.—In our advertisement columns will be found illustrations of the "errors" described on pages 241 and 242; also of the corrected dies, the stamps from which are to be issued in November next. From these illustrations the alterations that have been effected will be plain without any further description. The colours of both issues are to remain as before.

Adhesives.

18 c., black on deep green and black. *Altered die.*
24 c., black on dull lake and blue. „

INDIA.—*Bundi.*—Herewith are given illustrations and description of the various issues for this Native State, which is situated in Rajputana, and of which no mention has heretofore been made in our columns.



I.



II.

We learn from the *Monthly Journal* that illustration I. represents the first issue (½ anna), which is printed on *wove* paper, the sheet consisting of 140 varieties, arranged in 14 horizontal rows of 10 stamps. Illustration II. is that of the second edition (½ anna), on *laid* paper, with a watermark, "a portrait of a gentleman in a tall hat, and with a bouquet of flowers in his hand, and an inscription in three lines," there being 168 varieties, arranged in two panes, each consisting of 12 horizontal rows of 7. The above were issued in 1896.

Five new values of the latter type have just made their appearance, and as these contain 8 annas and 1 rupee values, we fear that the comment of our contemporary on the differences between the Postal and Philatelic requirements is amply justified. Here are illustrations of the new values.



1 anna.



2 annas.



4 annas



8 annas.

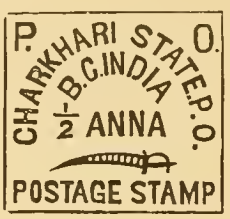


1 rupee.

Adhesives.

½ anna, grey-blue; wove paper; imperf.
½ ,, grey; laid paper.
1 ,, red; laid paper; imperf.; 120 varieties.
2 annas, green ,, ,, ,,
4 ,, ,, ,, ,, ,,
8 ,, red ,, ,, 104 ,,
1 rupee, yellow on *blue;* laid paper; imperf.; 104 varieties (?).

Charkari.—The annexed illustration is that of the stamps described on page 98. In addition to the varieties given there, a second plate is said to exist with an "S" at the end of "ANNA," there is also some new stationery.



Adhesives. ½ anna, purple.
1 annas, green.
2 ,, ,,
4 ,, ,,
Envelopes. ½ annas, purple } *thin white laid paper*
1 anna, green } 140×78 mm.
1 annas, green }
Post Card. ¼ anna, rose-lilac on *buff laid*, 126×78 mm.

Cochin.—From the same source we also learn that the ½ and 2 puttan stamps are now printed on wove paper, with the usual wmk.

Adhesives. ½ puttan, orange.
2 ,, purple.

Duttia.—These are the types of the stamps described on page 98, the third illustration being that of the Maharajah's circular seal used to give the stamps a postal value. The *Monthly Journal*, to which contemporary we are indebted for all our information, describes the 1 anna printed in black in place of red.







Adhesive. 1 anna, black.

Las Bela.—In our July issue we stated that no mention of this State could be found on the map. A correspondent of the *Monthly Journal* informs us that it is a portion of South-Eastern Beluchistan, bounded on the east by Sind, on the south by the Arabian Sea, and on the north and west by Beluchistan. It rejoices in a ruler named "Jam of Las Bela."

NATAL. The sixpenny stamp is current in a new shade, which the *M. J.* terms *magenta.*

Adhesive. 6d., magenta.

NEW SOUTH WALES.—We have received a copy of the post cards referred to by our Australian correspondent last month, with the commemorative stamp of 1d. impressed thereon. The additional inscriptions are—"NEW SOUTH WALES" on a scroll; above the words "POST CARD," with the Arms between the two words; underneath all of which, in a single line, is the usual inscription, "THE ADDRESS ONLY TO BE WRITTEN ON THIS SIDE." The card is thick, and measures 140×88 mm.

Post Card. 1d., carmine, on *straw.*

NEW ZEALAND.—A new perforation of the 4d. stamp.

Adhesive. 4d., sea-green, *perf.* 10×11.

NIGER COAST PROTECTORATE.—We hear that the remaining values of the current set are now in use with the C A wmk.

Adhesives. 2½d., blue, *wmk. C A.*
5d., purple ,,
1s., black ,,

NORTH BORNEO.—The remarks under Labuan apply here.

Adhesives. 18 c., deep green and black (*altered die*).
24 c., dull lake and blue ,, ,,

QUEENSLAND.—From various sources we learn that the following alterations are imminent:

2½d., present issue, to be printed in violet-brown. [The reason for which change is inexplicable. Is not this the colour, or nearly so, of the 5d. stamp?]

3d., figures in each corner; colour, medium brown.

4d., figures in each corner; colour, orange-yellow.

6d., figures in each corner; colour, green.

1s. „ „ „ „ mauve.

UGANDA.—Following the information regarding the "cowrie" stamps contained in our August issue, we herewith reproduce a copy of the following Official Notice, which gives the rates of postage, etc., for which we are indebted to the *M. J.* The stamps paying the postage for the mails are illustrated on pages 170 and 171.

"UGANDA PROTECTORATE.

"Notice is hereby given that from and after 1st May, 1897, the following scale of charges will be made for the conveyance of Postal Matter by the Government Mail:

"*Between Stations in any two districts in the Protectorate.*

Letters . .	3 annas	each per oz.
Newspapers .	1 „	„ 6 oz.
Books and Parcels	8 „	per lb.

"*Uganda District Local Mail* (to include Lubals for Postal Purposes).

Letters . .	2 annas	each per oz.
Newspapers .	1 „	„ 8 oz.
Books and Parcels	3 „	per lb.

COAST MAIL.

"*From* Stations in Uganda, Bunyoro, Toro, Usoga, and Kavirondo *to* Kikuyu.

Letters . .	4 annas	each per oz.
Newspapers .	1 „	„ 4 oz.
Books and Parcels	1 rupee	per lb.

"*From* Stations in the Mau District *to* Kikuyu.

Letters . .	3 annas	each per oz.
Newspapers .	1 „	„ 6 oz.
Books and Parcels	8 „	per lb.

"In all the above cases similar rates will be charged for the Up-Mails.

"No parcel will be taken which exceeds *eleven pounds* in weight.

"(Signed) TREVOR TERNAN,
"*H.M. Acting-Commissioner and Consul-General.*"

EUROPE.

AUSTRIA.—A fresh set of stamps with the new coinage denominations will be issued at the beginning of the year, on similar lines with those of the Hungarian kingdom referred to in this number.

The *I. B. J.* describes a new post card which has inscriptions in German, Ruthenian, and Polish.

Post Card. 2 kr, brown.

BELGIUM.—A card of a novel and highly useful character was issued on 1st June last, by which a receipt from the addressee may be obtained for a package sent through the post. On the face of the card is written the address of the sender, and on the back the contents; to be signed for by the receiver, and posted.

Return Receipt Card. 10 c., green on *buff.*

GERMANY.—We understand that in November next Letter Cards will be introduced into the German Empire, a step which will find much favour with all.

HUNGARY.—Collectors of this interesting country, free from the contamination of provisional and speculative issues, will welcome the announcement that a change is to be made in the present stamps, which have done duty for ten years past. The values of the new stamps will be in Krone and Heller, by which means the currency will be made equivalent to that of Germany, as 1 krone = 1 mark = 100 pfennige, or 100 heller.

The plates of the new stamps are said to be ready, and the values are 2, 4, 6, 10, 20, 30, 48, and 60 Heller, bearing the design of Hungarian Coat of Arms, flanked by figures of value on either side; and 1, 2, and 4 Krone with Coat of Arms, supported by angels. The three latter values will be of large size, and the impressions bicoloured throughout.

MONACO.—The alteration of colours, which has been going on for some time, has been effected throughout the whole series, the colours being of a deeper and brighter shade. The historic 75 c. also has been reissued, only in a new colour—red-brown.

Adhesive. 75 c., red-brown.

SAN MARINO.—The record of this puny Republic as regards speculative issues has been in direct contrast with its dimensions. Writing from San Marino to *Der Philatelist* Herr A. Chelius states that the so-called unpaid letter stamps, issued this year, in no way fulfil their supposed mission, as he has frequently verified by the receipt of insufficiently prepaid letters, on none of which have these labels been placed. He adds that they are really Fiscal stamps, having no postal character whatever. It is pleasing also to read that the three Jubilee Stamps, and the post card of 1897, can still be supplied in large quantities, and that on taking 500 sets half the face value

will be charged! He further adds that the 10 c., green, which is quoted at about one shilling in the catalogues, is still in use, and, with a very short interval, has been on sale for many years.

AMERICA.

BOLIVIA.—The annexed illustration is that of the 1 boliviano value of the new issue. The 2 bolivianos has the "Arms" of the



Republic, and printed in red, yellow, and green makes a handsome, but gaudy, stamp. We were in error in describing the colour of this latter value as black.

CHILI.—We have omitted to mention two new letter cards which have been issued—one of 2 c. and the other of 5 c. The lower value is intended for departmental use only. Blue ruling is inside the cards, and both were prepared by the American Bank Note Company of New York. The Return Receipt Stamp also has undergone an alteration. In place of the letters "A. R." at base, the words "Avis de Paiement" are inserted, and the stamp is now issued in black.

Return Receipt Stamp. 5 c., black, *new type*.
Letter Cards. 2 c., carmine on *rose*, 130×80 mm.
5 c. ,, ,, *white*, 139×91 mm.

ECUADOR.—We illustrate the new issue, and add to the values given last month.



Adhesives. 20 c., yellow.
50 c., ultramarine.
1 sucre, bistre.
5 ,, lilac.

HONDURAS.—*Le Moniteur de l'Empire* announces that the powers of the great Republic of Central America, which is composed at present of Honduras, Nicaragua, and San Salvador, signed on the 15th June last, in the town of Guatemala, with the representatives of Costa Rica and Guatemala, a document by which the five States mentioned will be henceforth known as one Republic, under the name of the Republic of Central America. The document was to be approved by the Parliaments of the different States on 15th September last.

Should this Federation become approved, it is probable that one series of stamps will be supplied throughout the Republic of Central America, with a consequent diminution of Seebeck remainders, and a commensurate increase of Philatelic purity.

MEXICO.—A letter card has been issued of thin white laid paper, containing inside four pages of similar paper for the communication, the whole being wired together. This is a sensible and valuable addition to postal stationery, which our own authorities would do well to imitate.

Letter Card.
4 c., blue and orange on *white laid*, 135×90 mm.

PERU.—Messrs. Whitfield King and Co. send us a provisional post card of 2 c. on 5 c. The surcharge is the same as that made in 1893, except for a difference in the numeral "2." The 5 c. adhesive has changed its colour from indigo to green, and the 5 and 10 c. unpaid stamps have been surcharged obliquely "DEFICIT."

Adhesive. 5 c., green.
Unpaid Letter Stamps. 5 c., vermilion, black surcharge.
10 c., orange ,, ,,
Post Card.
2 c. on 5 c., blue surcharge on black, on *buff*.

UNITED STATES.—The following cutting from *Mekeel's Weekly* would show that there is likely to be a change in at least two of the current values:

"WASHINGTON, *Sept.* 14.—The Secretary of the Treasury and the Postmaster-General, after consultation with the President, have decided to change the colour of the current two-cent postage stamp from carmine to green of the shade now used on Government notes. The ten-cent postage stamp which is now printed in green will be changed to some other colour, possibly carmine.

"It is thought that the green is a more desirable colour than carmine, besides saving the Government about $10,000 in the difference in cost between the two inks."

OTHER COUNTRIES.

CHINA.—We are enabled this month to illustrate a set of the new Chinese stamps issued by the Imperial Chinese Post. Messrs. Whitfield King & Co., who send us the stamps, remark: "The new set was printed in Japan; these were issued on the 1st inst. Three more values, $1, $2, and $5, are to be issued later on." There is a post card of one cent, a copy of which we have also received from the same source. The abolishment of the "Local Posts," consequent on the reorganization of the Chinese Post, will, as we have already remarked, put an end to the local rubbish which has been issued in the past, and collectors will no doubt welcome what to all evidence is a permanent set for the prepayment of genuine postal matter; and we sincerely trust that these stamps will be kept free from any disfiguring surcharges consequent upon "the supply at the Post Office running short."

China is now in the Postal Union, and we annex a Notification which will be read with interest.

The stamps are printed on thin wove paper, perf. 11½, with the conch shell watermark.



Imperial Chinese Post.

NOTIFICATION (PROVISIONAL) No. 20.

Mails.—On and after the 2nd February, 1897 (KUANG HSÜ, 23rd year, 1st moon, 1st day), Mails will be exchanged by every opportunity between the Post Offices now opened at the undermentioned places in China:

Amoy	Ichang	Shanghai
Canton	Kiukiang	Shasi
Chefoo	Kiungchow	Soochow
Chinai (Ningpo)	Lungchow	Swatow
Chinkiang	Mengtsz	Szemao
Chungking	Nanking	Taku (Tientsin)
Foochow	Newchwang	Tientsin
Hangchow	Ningpo	Wenchow
Hankow	Pagoda Anchorage	Whampoa
Hoihow (Kiungchow)	(Foochow)	Woosung
Hokow	Pakhoi	Wuhu
	Peking	

Also with *Hong Kong*, *Macao*, and *Formosa*.

Supplementary Mails, duly advertised, will be made up at the different Post Offices to suit local requirements.

Rates of Postage.—The Domestic Rates of Postage are as follow:

Letters: for each ½ oz. or fraction thereof, 2 cents.

Newspapers: posted singly, Chinese, ½ cent each; Foreign, 1 cent each. When sent in packets, 1 cent per 2 oz. or fraction thereof.

Books, *Circulars*, *Samples:* 2 cents per 2 oz.; patterns or samples not to exceed 8 oz. in weight.

Parcels: 10 cents for first lb., and 5 cents for each succeeding lb.

Registration: 4 cents; return receipts 4 cents.

Prepayment is compulsory. During the winter, when navigation is closed by ice, Mail Matter to and from Peking, Tientsin (Taku), and Newchwang is subject to the Special Tariff and Rules under which the Overland Service is conducted.

Postage Stamps.—The Postage Stamps of the Imperial Post are of the following denominations:

½ cent, 1 cent.
2, 4, 5, 10, 20, 30, 50 cents.
1, 2, 5 dollars.

Domestic Postcards, 1 cent.

Business Hours.—The Imperial Post Offices are open for the transaction of public business on weekdays from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.; on Sundays and Holidays, from 8 to 9 a m.

Deliveries.—Delivery of Mail Matter will take place as follows:

8 a.m., 10 a.m., noon; 2 p.m., 4 p.m., and 6 p.m.

(or at other hours to suit local requirements). Correspondence for vessels in port will, as a rule, be sent to the agents, but, if desired, will be delivered on board at 9 a.m. and 4 p.m., subject to alterations.

Private Boxes.—Private Boxes may be rented at any Post Office. The fee is 10 dollars per annum, payable in advance. Boxholders will be provided gratis with an account-book, and a special account may be opened for the transmission to Chinese ports of certain unstamped printed matter of uniform size and weight, such as Market Reports, Circulars, Invitations, Cards, Bills, &c., each not exceeding 2 oz. in weight, and in packets of not less than 10, the postage—at the rate of 1 cent each—being either payable in cash or charged to the sender's account, which must be settled monthly, and, as a rule, no information can be given as to particulars of matter or charge made in the account.

Inquiries.—Inquiries concerning postal business must be made at the Post Office (Custom House).

Complaints.—All complaints and representations which cannot be adjusted by the Postal Officer should be addressed to the Commissioner of Customs.

By Order of the Inspector General of Customs,
H. KOPSCH,
Postal Secretary.

Inspectorate General of Customs,
Statistical Department,
Shanghai, 27*th January*, 1897.

Adhesives. Half cent, red-brown.
One cent, orange-yellow.
Two cents, orange.
Four ,, bistre-brown.
Five ,, pink.
Ten ,, deep green.
Twenty cents, lake.
Thirty ,, carmine.
Fifty ,, pale green.

Post Card. One cent, carmine on *straw*.

EGYPT.—*Soudan.*—The standing of the recent issue—Egyptian issues surcharged "Soudan"—is defended by a correspondent of *Le T.-P.*, who writes as follows:

"These surcharges have been created to meet a real need, the entire administration of the Soudan being completely detached from other Egyptian administrations. The Soudan is governed directly and entirely by the military governor, commander-in-chief of the army. These stamps have as much right to exist as those of Finland in Russia or Bosnia in Austria.

"I believe they are to be replaced shortly, perhaps after the campaign, by a permanent issue of a different type.

"I believe that you have a bad opinion of the administration of the post offices here. They are among the best established, and a very good point in favour of the Director-General is that he has absolutely refused to agree to any carnival stamps."

The Egyptian labels past and present are of blameless repute; we trust that the same may be said of the recent Soudan incursion stamps.

FRENCH COLONIES.—*Comoro Islands.*—We have received a complete set in the current French Colonial type for use on these Islands, which are off the east coast of Africa.

Adhesives. 1 c., black on *azure*; name in red.
2 c., brown on *buff* ,, blue.
4 c., purple-brown on *grey* ,, blue.
5 c., green on *pale green* ,, red.
10 c., black on *lilac* ,, blue.
15 c., blue ,, red.
20 c., red on *green* ,, blue.
25 c., black on *rose* ,, red.
30 c., cinnamon on *drab* ,, blue.
40 c., red on *yellow* ,, blue.
50 c., carmine on *rose* ,, blue.
75 c., black on *orange* ,, red.
1 fr., olive-green on toned ,, red.

LIBERIA.—We illustrate the 3 cents stamp described last month.



ORANGE FREE STATE.—The one shilling value is now printed in brown, in place of orange.

Adhesive. 1s., brown.

PHILIPPINE ISLANDS.—Certain values of the current issue having become exhausted, some of the obsolete issues were surcharged with an upright rectangular frame, in the centre of which is the value in numerals and words, and "Habilitado Correos Para 1897" around the four sides of the frame. *Le T.-P.* gives the following surcharges created:

Adhesives. 5 c. on 5 c., green, blue surcharge.
,, ,, ,, red ,,
,, ,, ,, black ,,
15 c. on 15 c., carmine ,, ,,
,, ,, red-brown ,, ,,
,, ,, ,, blue ,,
20 c. on 20 c., violet, black ,,
,, ,, bistre ,, ,,
,, ,, ,, blue ,,
20 c. on 25 c. ,, black ,,

ZANZIBAR (French P.O.).—The annexed letter from Messrs. Whitfield King & Co., with reference to the recent surcharges, will speak for itself, and we have pleasure in inserting it. Any comments made by this Journal upon issues of a speculative tendency are made in the interests of all, and in accordance with the general desire to see the Philatelic fold kept free from the ravages of the glaringly speculative and unnecessary issues to which we have been treated during twelve months past. We had no intention of doubting the

good faith contained in our correspondents' letter enclosing specimens of the surcharges alluded to, but the plentiful supply of provisionals of the various nationalities which have emanated from the Island of Zanzibar has aroused in the minds of many a feeling of doubt which is perhaps well merited. We feel confident that—although we hear not only from Messrs. Whitfield King, but several other well-known firms, that there are practically no specimens now available of these surcharges—in the language of transpontine drama, "a time will come."

"In describing the French Zanzibar provisionals in your last issue you make some remarks which we consider most unfair, and not warranted by the information we gave you. You state that the French Post Office is 'probably still producing' the provisionals, and that they were made 'to cope with the demand for the supply of provisionals.' So far from this being the case, the information we gave you, and which is absolutely reliable, is that the stamps were only issued from July 25th to 29th, and that none were at any time sold to the public, but only affixed to letters presented for posting. The entire issue was only 1600 stamps, which used up the whole of the stamps in the office, including the borders, and all were legitimately used. We have no desire to defend speculative or unnecessary issues, and, as you know, we have been instrumental, to a greater extent than any other firm or individual, in exposing such, but we honestly believe this particular issue of provisionals to have been absolutely necessary and without the slightest element of speculation.

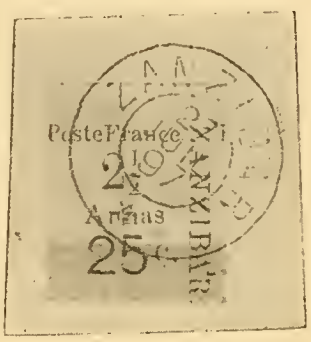
"We are entirely disinterested in this question, as, with the exception of eight specimens for our private collection, and which are not for sale, we have not succeeded in obtaining any of these stamps, nor do we expect to have any for sale. The only previous issue of provisionals by the French Post Office in Zanzibar was a very small one in 1894, and although we have a dozen correspondents in the place, we have failed to obtain a single specimen of that issue. There would have been no difficulty in getting either the 1894 or 1897 provisionals had they been a speculative issue, but we shall be very glad to know where they can be had, as we have had many enquiries for them.

"In the October number of the *American Journal of Philately*,* the Scott Stamp and Coin Company state in reference to these stamps: 'We are reliably informed that no speculative intent attached to the issue in question, and these stamps will no doubt become among the rarest French provisionals.' In this opinion we fully share, and time will show if we are right or wrong."

Through the courtesy of Mr. L. Upcott Gill we are enabled to illustrate both the surcharges and permanent stamps chronicled last month. It will be seen that the larger block illustrates the provisionals type-set on the margins of the sheets.

* Other journals—*e.g.* the *Monthly Journal* and the *Timbre-Poste*—seem, however, less keen.—Ed.





Philatelic Societies' Meetings.

Secretaries would oblige by condensing their minutes as much as possible, so that the portion published should principally contain matters of public interest. All reports should be addressed to—
MR. H. M. GOOCH, EFFINGHAM HOUSE, ARUNDEL STREET, LONDON, W.C.

BIRMINGHAM PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

Honorary President—W. B. AVERY, ESQ.
President—W. T. WILSON, ESQ.
Vice-Presidents—
R. HOLLICK, ESQ. | W. PIMM, ESQ.
Committee—
MR. H. R. BEWLEY. | MR. V. LUNDEBLAD. | MR. C. A. STEPHENSON.
MR. P. T. DEAKIN. | MR. T. W. PECK. | MR. W. S. VAUGHTON.
Hon. Sec. and Treas.—MR. G. JOHNSON, B.A.,
208, *Birchfield Road, Birmingham.*

ANNUAL GENERAL BUSINESS MEETING.

OCT. 7th.—The officers for the ensuing session were elected as above.

The accounts, showing a cash balance in hand of £51 1s. 8d., were audited, found correct, and approved.

The election of the following members was confirmed: Messrs. H. Fiacre (Bavaria), A. Buxton (Manchester), J. Steele-Higgins (Manchester), C. E. Osborn (U.S.A.), H. W. Plumridge (London), G. Rourke (N.S.W.).

The following were unanimously elected members: Rev. W. Bell (Ireland), Messrs. C. L'Estrange Ewen (Dorset), J. B. Neyrond (London), H. C. Slade (N.S.W.), A. W. Hall, B.A. (Birmingham), A. Hill (Greece), Wilcox, Smith & Co. (N.Z.).

During the past session eighty-nine members have been elected, eighteen have died, resigned, or been dropped, leaving a net increase of seventy-one, and making a total of 227 members on October 1st.

The total amount circulated in the exchange packets during the year ending June, 1897, was £35,218 16s. 5d., of which £5401 18s. 4½d. was sold.

The programme for next session was settled as follows:

†Oct. 7—Annual General Business Meeting.
* ,, 21—Presidential Address . . Mr. W. T. Wilson.
†Nov. 4—Display. Ceylon.
* ,, 18—Display (with Notes). African Colonies. Mr. R. Hollick.
†Dec. 2—Display. Western Australia.
* ,, 16—Display. Uruguay and Venezuela.
†Jan. 6—Paper. Hungary. . . Mr. V. Lundeblad.
* ,, 20—Display (with Notes). U.S.A. Mr. C. A. Stephenson.
†Feb. 3—Paper. Mexico ii. . . Mr. W. T. Wilson.
* ,, 17—Display (with Notes). Belgium. Mr. F. E. Wilson.
†Mch. 3—Display. Argentine and Brazil.
* ,, 17—Paper. Queensland. . . Mr. W. Pimm.
*Ap. 21—Paper. Roumania. . . Mr. H. Edelmuller.
†May 5—Paper. Egypt. . . Mr. G. Johnson.
* ,, 19—Paper. Persia. . . Mr. P. T. Deakin.

Members are specially requested to bring their collections of the countries under discussion.

† Meetings to be held at 208, Birchfield Road.
* Great Western Hotel.

MANCHESTER PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

President—W. DORNING BECKTON.
Hon. Sec.—A. H. HARRISON.

THE opening meeting of the session was held at the Grand Hotel, on Friday, September 24th, 1897.

The general business included the election of the following gentlemen to membership of the Society: Mr. W. L. Chew, Mr. G. J. Newman, Mr. E. T. Roberts, and Mr. H. Buckley, corresponding member.

After the general business was concluded, a conversazione and exhibition by members was held, at which over 100 members and friends were present.

The exhibits were of an interesting and varied character. Amongst them we noticed Mr. Vernon Roberts' St. Lucia, which attracted attention at the recent London

Exhibition. These having been so fully described in the Philatelic Press, call for no further comment.

Mr. J. H. Abbott showed a large and varied exhibit, which included Hayti (all unused), 1 c., imperf., 180 specimens, including a reconstructed sheet; 2 c., 100 specimens, showing three printings; 3 c., half-sheet, and large blocks; also three printings 5 c., 7 c., and 20 c., in large blocks and pairs; Suez Canal, 20 c., entire sheet (originals), and large blocks of other values, in which was 1 c. (block), on very deep buff paper (? toned by the gum); Brazil, 1st issue, in pairs and strips, and the slanting figures complete; entire sheets of Virgin Islands and St. Helena.

Mr. Beazley exhibited St. Vincent fairly complete, in single specimens, including all the 4d. and 1s. values; St. Lucia, a nice collection, used, with the 2d., blue, of the second issue in this state; Virgin Islands, including the shillings; Nevis, the engraved, used and unused.

Mr. W. Dorning Beckton's Capes, triangular issue, were one of the great attractions.

Mr. Brown (Salisbury) sent a very interesting exhibit of post cards; also frames containing reconstructed sheets of the two plates of the 2d., blue, no lines, Great Britain.

Mr. C. H. Coote, a strip of six 80 c., France, 1854 issue, the last stamp *tête-bêche*, and other good things.

Mr. G. B. Duerst's exhibit consisted of Roumania, with which he was so successful in London, and a small portion of his large collection of Russian locals and Spain Habilitados, the three rarest stamps of the latter being shown.

Mr. E. Fildes, two sheets of minor varieties.

Mr. O. Gillett, a nice collection of Modena and one entire envelope of Tuscany, on which were a pair and single specimen of 1 soldi and 2 soldi.

Mr. W. Grunewald showed the 1st issue France, unused, in blocks and pairs; 2nd issue, in similar condition, an extremely fine lot of the Bordeaux lithographs. In this exhibit there were 16 *tête-bêche* varieties. The reprints of each value were shown for comparison.

Mr. Heginbottom's general collection, consisting of used single specimens, 15,000, in which were a very large number of rare stamps, including Turks Islands, 1s., prune; St. Vincent, 5s., star, and all the provisionals; Barbados, 1d. on half of 5s. (3); Virgin Islands, 6d., perf. 16, and all the shillings; Nevis, 6d., litho., and 90 c., U.S., Justice.

Mr. R. F. V. Harrison, a varied lot of British Africans, in large blocks, unused.

Mr. J. R. Hesketh, upwards of 200 Mulready envelopes and wrappers.

Mr. A. H. Harrison, part of his collection of Norway and Iceland as shown in London.

Mr. M. W. Jones, the 1893 Columbus Issue of U.S., unused and complete.

Mr. F. W. Lake, 24 c. and 30 c. U.S. Government reprints; Lagos, 2s. 6d., 5s., and 10s., puce, unused; Great Britain, 1d., with alteration of control number; Ceylon, several of the pence issue in blocks, unused; British Guiana, 1853 issue, vertical pair, showing small "o" in "one."

Mr. W. W. Munn, cardboard proofs of U.S., New Yorks, and 1847 issue; 5 c. and 10 c. in a large number of shades; 1851 and 1855 issues, various varieties in each value. A very interesting lot.

Mr. J. C. North, Cyprus, ½d., Plate 19; 1d., Plate 174, strip of 3, unused, with margin and plate number; Plate 220, ½d., medium surcharge; Plate 2s. 6d., a pair unused, long surcharge; Plates 174, 181, 218, and 220, used, double and treble small surcharge; 30 paras on 1 piastre, double surcharge, used and unused. The higher values were fully represented used and unused, as were also the fiscals available for postage, with the Postmaster's signature, including the 10s.

Mr. Oxley, Confederate States, used, on entires.

Mr. D. Ostara, two frames of varieties, the most noticeable being Nevis, block of six of the 6d., engraved, unused, and with full margins; Mauritius, large fillet, and the U.S. periodicals up to 100 dollars.

Mr. P. L. Pemberton, a sheet out of the "Fentoria" collection, illustrating the care with which this lady, even in the olden days, mounted her stamps, so as not to destroy the "O G."

Mr. E. Petri, a fine lot of Italian States, used, all in superb condition. The mounting displayed to advantage the beauties of 2 soldi, Tuscany, in pairs; 60 crazie, 9 crazie, on white paper, and upwards of twenty specimens of 1 soldo; Greece (Paris), Gibraltar, and Portugal, all unused.

Mr. H. Ranck, a frame of the most interesting of the Mexican stamps, including Guadalajara perforated.

Mr. N. Wanstall, a representative collection of Bulgaria.

The proceedings were enlivened by a string band, and a thoroughly enjoyable and, from a Society point of view, successful evening was spent.

ARTHUR H. HARRISON, *Hon. Sec.*
GRASMERE, WHITEFIELD, NEAR MANCHESTER.

CORRECTION.—In our last issue "Mr. T. Roberts" should have been "Mr. Vernon Roberts.'

SUBURBAN STAMP EXCHANGE.

ON the return of the April packets, the accounts for that month were at once submitted, and were settled within seven days. The sales were as follows:

	£	s.	d.
April. A 1 packet . .	107	14	2
„ A 2 „ . .	111	7	4
„ B 1 „ . .	49	19	8
„ B 2 „ . .	39	0	11
Supplementary rounds of A 1 and A 2 packets .	53	2	1

Considering the time of year, this was very satisfactory.

May packets are expected back from the supplementary (non-contributors') rounds very shortly. No packets were made up in June, but sheets received were included in July packets.

The aggregate value of the September packets was well above the average, and many desirable stamps were offered at about half catalogue prices. Old Europeans in good condition seem to be most in demand, N. Americans running a good second. Nine applications for membership have been entertained, and five declined. Total number of members to date, 312. Copies of the new regulations, which meet with general approval, have been sent to every member, and duly signed. Responsible collectors, giving good references, are welcomed by applying to the Secretary—H. A. Slade, Ingleside, St. Albans.

THE COLLECTORS' CLUB,

351, FOURTH AVENUE, NEW YORK.

BOARD OF GOVERNORS.

President—WILLIAM HERRICK. | *Vice-President*—CHARLES GREGORY.
Treasurer—JOHN W. SCOTT, 40, John Street.
Secretary—J. M. ANDREINI, 29, W. 75th Street.

HENRY L. CALMAN. | JOHN N. LUFF. | FREDERICK A. NAST.
HIRAM E. DEATS. | F. E. P. LYNDE.

THIRTEENTH meeting of the Board of Governors held at Club House, 351, Fourth Avenue, August 9, 1897. Present: Messrs. Scott, Nast, Lynde, and the Secretary. The Secretary was instructed to discontinue sending minutes to papers which do not publish them. The report of Special Committee on expenses of addition to billiard-room was then received, and the Committee was authorized to negotiate with landlord for an extension of lease for a period not longer than five years, at an increased rental of about $100 per annum, provided the landlord built the extension at his own expense, and according to such specifications as may be agreed upon. Treasurer's report was accepted. Balance in bank, $743.09, on August 1.

FOURTEENTH meeting of the Board of Governors, held at the Club House, 351, Fourth Avenue, September 13th. Called to order at 8.15 p.m. Present: Messrs. Calman, Scott, Luff, Lynde, Nast, and the Secretary.

Minutes of previous meeting read and approved.

Treasurer's report received, showing $722.07 cash in bank. House Committee report received. Appropriation for cost of re-covering billiard-table, $20.50, approved.

The Secretary was requested to acknow-

ledge receipt of and thank Mr. P. M. Wolsieffer for twelve pieces of music presented to the Club.

Special Committee on lease of Club House reported progress. It was voted to confirm the general understanding that the Club's fiscal year ends on September 30th in each year. The following applicants were unanimously elected stockholders :

Geo. H. Mathews, 146, Bevay, N.Y. City.

C. E. Hussman, 2,736, Dayton Street, St. Louis, Mo.

Frank John Besher, City Hall Market, Kansas City, Mo.

The Treasurer was directed to give each of them a share of stock.

The following were unanimously elected subscribing members :

J. J. Sullivan, 441, Bevay, N.Y. City.

W. P. Todd, Morristown, N.J.

They were thereupon duly declared elected.

An expense of $35 to $50 was authorized by the board for half-tone cuts for year book, to be loaned to I. A. Mekeel, and the Secretary to be their custodian.

Adjourned 9.35 p.m.

J. M. ANDREINI, *Secretary.*

Correspondence.

COMMUNICATIONS.—*All communications of Philatelic matters and Publications for Review should be addressed to the Editor of* THE LONDON PHILATELIST, Kingston Lodge, Richmond Place, Brighton.

ADVERTISEMENTS *should be sent to* MR. H. M. GOOCH (Advertising Department), Effingham House, Arundel Street, London, W.C.

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THE 2/–, BROWN, OF GREAT BRITAIN.

To the Editor of the "London Philatelist."

DEAR SIR,—In your last issue Mr. Harris asks to be informed as to the number of 2/–, brown, that were issued, stating that he had heard it was not in excess of 2000. This estimate is, I venture to assert, much too low. According to a return published in *The Life of Sir Rowland Hill*, the value of the two shilling stamps issued between July 1st, 1867, and December 31st, 1879, amounted to a total of £6,475,820, and the number of labels to 64,758,200, or an average of over 5 millions per annum. The 2/–, brown, was issued from January 1st, 1880, to October 31st of the same year —a period of ten months. Had the use of the two shilling stamps been even over the whole period of its existence, the number printed in brown should have been about $4\frac{1}{2}$ millions. After 1875-6, however, when special stamps were issued for prepayment of telegraphic messages, and most of the high postal rates were reduced, the use of this value became very small. Still, only one per cent. of the *average* would be 43,000 (or 2150 post office sheets or panes). Perhaps Mr. Harris' informant meant 2000 sheets, which would be nearer the mark.

If the varying values of stamps bore any relation to the numbers issued of them, we might get at this number another way. Put the 2/–, brown (used), at 80/–, and the 2/–, blue, at 6d., and the number issued of the former should be about $\frac{1}{160}$th that of the latter, or about 400,000.

The correct number probably lies somewhere between. Yours truly,

H. L'ESTRANGE EWEN.

The Market.

Messrs. Cheveley & Co.
August 20th.

	£	s.	d.
Cape triangular, 4d., on blue paper, block of six, unused	5	5	0
Switzerland, 5+5 (medium)	13	10	0
Ceylon, 8d., imperf.	15	10	0
Mauritius, Britannia, 1/-, yellow-green, imperf., unused block of four	4	5	0
Nova Scotia, 1/-, cold violet; 6d., dark green; 3d., blue; and half of another 3d., used, on piece of envelope	30	0	0
St. Vincent, Star wmk., 1/-, lake, perf. 11½, unused	3	6	0
Bahamas, no wmk., 4d., rose, unused, pair	11	10	0
Ditto, ditto, 6d., grey-lilac, ditto	10	10	0
Trinidad, 1859-61, no wmk., 1d., rosy red, clean-cut perfs., unused, pair	3	6	0
Ditto, ditto, 4d., dull violet, rough perf., pair, unused	3	5	0
United States, 1869, complete set of the reissue made in 1875, without embossing	14	10	0
Ditto, Justice, complete set (10)	12	15	0

Messrs. Ventom, Bull, & Cooper.
September 30th.

	£	s.	d.
Ionian Islands, the set of three, used, on pieces of original	4	17	6
Heligoland, 1873, ¼ sch., green and rose	4	0	0
Ditto, ditto, ¾ sch., rose and green	3	10	0
Bremen, perf., 7 grote, black and yellow, on piece of original	7	0	0
Hamburg, 9 sch., yellow, imperf.	3	12	6
Lubeck, the error, 2½ sch., brown	6	5	0
Mecklenburg-Schwerin, 1866-67, 2 sch., grey-lilac	4	10	0
Mecklenburg-Strelitz, ¼ sch., orange-red	4	6	0
Ditto, ditto, ⅓ sch., green, on piece of original	3	10	0
Schleswig-Holstein, 1st issue, 1 sch., blue	2	10	0
Ditto, ditto, ditto., 2 sch., rose	3	15	0
Oldenburg, 1859, ⅓ gros., black on green	6	0	0
Ditto, 1861, ¼ gros., orange-yellow	3	17	6
Saxony, 3 pf., red	5	5	0
Switzerland, Basle, 2½ rappen	5	5	0
Ditto, Geneva, 5+5 c., on yellow-green	16	0	0
Ditto, Vaud, 4 c., black and red	19	0	0
Ditto, Zurich, 4 rappen, black, horizontal lines	17	10	0
Naples, ½ tornese, blue, "Arms".	16	0	0
Tuscany, 2 soldi, brick-red	5	15	0
Spain, 1851, 2 reales, red	18	0	0
Ditto, 1852, 2 reales, red	8	0	0
Ditto, 1853, 2 reales, red	5	15	0
Ditto, Madrid, 3 cuartos, bronze, on entire	16	0	0
Ditto, 1855, the error of colour, 2 reales, blue	15	10	0
Ditto, 1865, 12 cuartos, rose and blue, imperf., with centre inverted	6	15	0
Ditto, ditto, the same stamp, perforated	9	0	0
Moldavia, 54 paras, blue on green	11	11	0
Levant, 1865, 2 kop., brown and blue	7	10	0
Ditto, ditto, 20 kop., blue and red	6	5	0
India, 1856-64, 2 annas, green	4	0	0
British Bechuanaland, £5, postally used	3	7	6
British Central Africa, £5, sage-green	4	10	0
British South Africa, £10, brown	5	15	0
Cape woodblock, 4d., dark blue	10	10	0
Lagos, 2s. 6d., olive-black	4	5	0
Ditto, 5s., blue	5	5	0
Ditto, 10s., lilac-brown	12	10	0
United States, 1869, 15 c., with inverted centre	10	10	0
Canada, perf., 6d., lilac	4	12	6
Dominica, 1s., mauve	4	0	0
Nevis, CA, 6d., green	5	12	6
Bahamas, CC, 12½, 1s., green, unused	6	0	0
St. Vincent, Star wmk., 1s., rose, unused, no gum	8	5	0
Ditto, 5s., rose-red	14	0	0
Ditto, 1d. on half of 6d., blue-green, unused, pair	14	10	0
Ditto, 4d. on 1s.	13	10	0
British Guiana, 1850-51, 8 c., green, cut to shape	16	10	0
Ditto, ditto, 12 c., blue, cut square	26	0	0
Ditto, 1852, 4 c., deep blue	10	10	0
Ditto, 1856, 4 c., magenta	11	0	0
Buenos Ayres, 4 pesos, vermilion	16	10	0
Ditto, 5 pesos, orange, fair	12	12	0
South Australia, first issue, 1s., violet	7	0	0

Messrs. Puttick & Simpson,
September 21st, 22nd.

	£	s.	d.
British East Africa, first issue, ½, 1, and 4 annas, unused	4	7	6
Natal, wmk. Star, imperf., 3d., blue, unused	11	0	0
St. Helena, imperf., 1d., lake, block of 8, unused	4	7	6
Canada, 7½d., green, unused	8	14	0
United States, Justice, 90c., purple	6	0	0
St. Christopher, CA, 4d., blue, unused	4	10	0
New Zealand, half of 1s., green on blue paper, used as 6d., on original, with date, Otago, August 16th, 1858	4	0	0
Queensland, imperf., 2d., blue	5	7	6

THE

London Philatelist:

THE MONTHLY JOURNAL OF

THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY, LONDON.

VOL. VI. NOVEMBER, 1897. No. 71.

A Sweeping Change.

THE quinquennial deliberations of the Postal Congresses do not, as a rule, present any striking features of interest to stamp collectors, but are mainly occupied in the solution of matters of administration and detail that affect the postal work of the several countries of the Postal Union. That very important innovation—the fixing of an International Postal Rate for all the countries who belonged to the Union—was, however, an exception and of far-reaching import to the Philatelic world, as it was the cause of a great number of fresh issues. The Congress held this summer at Washington has broken the spell of quietude in a startling manner, in passing the resolution as to the future colour of the three denominations of stamps mostly in use for international purposes. After a lengthened discussion, in which the proposed alteration was warmly opposed, as we are informed, by the representatives of Great Britain, the United States, and other countries, it was finally decided that the colours of the halfpenny, penny, and twopence-halfpenny Stamps (or their equivalents in other countries) should be respectively green, red, and blue on January the First, 1898. In order to glean the significance of this change it is but necessary to glance at the Catalogue to realize what the future will bring forth. In the case of this country the halfpenny and the penny will require changes, and the latter will revert to its time-honoured garb of red; the twopence-halfpenny may also require to be modified to "true blue." The appearance of the green halfpenny will probably require a new colour for the one shilling, and the changes, perhaps, may not even rest here. In other important countries such as Spain, France, Belgium, Norway, United States, and many others—not to mention the numerous and important Colonies of the world—important alterations in colour will have to be effected, and there seems every probability of an avalanche of new issues

such as followed the introduction of the CA and Crown watermark in our Colonies, or the forementioned Universal Postal Union Rates. This may, perhaps, be a blessing in disguise, but we fancy that the Philatelic world would have been well content to jog along contented as it is! The collectors of European Stamps—whose name is legion—have assuredly but little cause to complain of any redundancy of new issues; they have been so few and far between that the monthly chronicle of "new issues" for this portion of the globe has frequently been a *lucus a non lucendo*. They will, however, now have a goodly crop of fresh varieties, a benefit they will share with the large section of collectors who take our Colonial Stamps. In any case the flattering unction may be laid to all our souls that these are postal changes in the true sense of the word, and are untainted by the speculative or unnecessary bacilli. To the general collector and the thousands upon thousands who use printed albums these new issues will be heartily welcome. In this section of the Philatelic community, completeness being obviously impossible, the desideratum is to have as many varieties and as many spaces filled as possible, and the impending changes will add to its manifold joys. The publishers of Philatelic albums might also consider whether a postponement of any new issues (such as Messrs. Stanley Gibbons' New Imperial, announced in this journal) until the majority of the changes are effected would not be wise, otherwise the supplement will be almost coincident with the new edition.

To the advanced collector and the Philatelist, who doubtless form the majority of our readers, the issue of these new varieties, almost all of low values, will be received with equanimity. A little trouble and a little extra expense will secure the whole of the new colours in the particular group affected by specialists, and the Philatelist will, in return, have the satisfaction of seeing his ranks materially increased by issues that are in every way legitimate and collectible.

Some Remarks on the Stamps of Grenada.

A Paper read before the Philatelic Society, London, on May 7th, 1897.

By Dr. STANLEY TAYLOR.

I WISH at the outset to make it clearly understood that my remarks with regard to these stamps must not in any degree be taken as authentic, because I have had no official information as to the size of the plates printed from, dates of issue, etc., but that my conclusions are formed simply upon a minute study of the stamps themselves; and I trust these conclusions may form a worthy basis for anyone who, wishing to publish a pamphlet upon the subject, would take the trouble to verify them from any official document he may have access to.

To those who take an intelligent interest in Philately, the stamps of Grenada afford a fruitful field for study. The early issues, in the first place, for example, show in a most marked degree the various difficulties printers had to contend against whilst perfecting the system of perforation.

As far as I am aware, the fullest information we have received with regard to these stamps is given by Mr. Bacon in *The Postage Stamps of the British Colonies in the West Indies*, compiled and published by the Philatelic Society of London in 1891. The information he gives us concerning the earlier issues is simply: "Issue I., June (?), 1861. Description of stamp: On white wove watermarked paper of varying thickness, yellowish gum, machine perf. 15. 1d., green (shades); 6d., rose-red. Issue II., 1864. Same as last, but on wove paper, watermarked with a Six-rayed Star of various sizes. Perf. 14×15 compound. 1d., green (shades); 6d., rose, rose-red, orange-vermilion (shades)." I think a little careful study will show this summary to be very incomplete.

It is finally accepted now, with regard to this Six-rayed Star, that as far as these early issues are concerned there are two distinct Stars—the Large and the Small; and although the Small Star may vary slightly in size, the Large and Small are never found on the same sheet.

As to the paper itself, it was evidently hand-made, and varied considerably in thickness in the same sheet; and stamps of these issues can be found on any thickness of paper, from the so-called "cartridge" to the "*pelure*."

Now I take it, the object of a diligent collector (call him a specialist if you like) is to collect not only a specimen of each issue, but also a specimen of the various supplies of each issue, just as one collects shades of the same stamp that mean generally the different supplies of the same stamp sent out from the printer, but slightly changed in colour. Many of us (I, for one) commenced to collect specimens on thick, medium, and thin paper, until our error was pointed out in Messrs. Bacon and Napier's book on Barbados; even then I was sceptical. I could understand thick and medium thickness on the same sheet, but not thick and thin—the difference is so great; but I have now fully come to the conclusion that thickness of paper is of no interest, especially as Mr. Giwelb's suggestion may be correct—that the parcels of stamps sent out to the West Indies were according to weight; therefore a sheet of thin paper might easily be sent out with the thick, or the three degrees may appear in the same sheet. This question of paper is interesting, because one is continually coming across stamps at enhanced prices because they happen to be on one of the two extremes of thickness of paper.

Issue 1861. No Wmk.

Issue I., June (?), 1861. There is nothing to add to the usual description of this issue, except to draw attention to the method of perforation. It is evidently done by a machine of very primitive character, for the pins or points of the machine never pass *through* the paper. The perforation is a blind one, and I name it Z.

1d., green (shades).
6d., rose.
Imperforate Proofs. 1d. and 6d., rose.

Issues 1864 to 1875. Wmk. Star.

Issue II., 1864. Same as last, but on paper watermarked Small Six-rayed Star upright; *i.e.*, one point pointing directly upwards. The perforation is of the same blind character, Z.

1d., green (shades).
6d., rose, rose-red, orange-vermilion.

Issue III. On examining a large stock of blocks of the stamps on Small Star watermarked paper, one can easily distinguish an advance in the means of perforation between some of them. The perforations, although exceedingly rough, nevertheless pierce the paper through, and so provide improved facilities for the separation of the stamps. This perforation I call Z_2. These stamps are easily recognizable from Issue II., with the perforation Z_1.

1d., green (shades).
6d., rose.

Issue IV. In September, 1865, were issued, according to Mr. Moens, the same stamps, but on wove paper, watermarked Large Star, with the perforation Z_2. On a closer examination of these stamps it will be seen that the watermark of the 1d., green, is *sideways*—that is, two points of the Star slanting upwards; or in other words, the stamps were printed across the paper instead of upright. The watermark of the 6d., rose-red, is always upright. I will content myself for the present by simply mentioning the curious fact of the 1d. being always on watermarked paper, Large Star sideways, and will refer to this peculiarity when I come to discuss the surcharges of April, 1881. I do not know whether the date of issue—September, 1865—of Mr. Moens is correct, for I have found some of the 1d. postmarked 1875. Now as these stamps are comparatively rare, especially unused, it seems strange they could have been in use ten years.

1d., wmk. sideways, dark green.
6d., wmk. upright, rose-red.

Issue V. Among the 1d., green, wmk. Large Star, may be found specimens possessing a clear, well-cut perforation 14. This perforation is unmistakable, and easily recognizable from that of Issue IV.; moreover, the watermark is no longer sideways, but upright, and the colour changed to yellow-green. So different is this stamp, that I have given it an Issue to itself.

1d., wmk. upright, yellow-green.

Issue VI. On examining the stamps of Issue III.—*i.e.*, those stamps whose perforations are more clearly cut, Z_2—one will again find two sets: one belonging to Issue III., with watermark upright; and another set with watermark sideways. Also the 1d., green, is found with a more clearly cut perforation of $14 \times 15\frac{1}{2}$, with Star sideways.

1d., wmk. sideways, perf. Z_2, green (shades).
6d. „ „ „ orange-vermilion, rose.
1d., clear cut perf. $14 \times 15\frac{1}{2}$, green.

I have not placed this last 1d. in a separate Issue, because I cannot satisfy myself that the perforations are so clearly cut as those of Issue V.

Thus, then, are the two Issues of Mr. Bacon changed into six. I have placed Issue VI. last simply because the earliest dated postmark I have found is 1879. I am perfectly aware that this is not sufficient to go upon, as the postmark of the early Issues was A 15; but when one takes into consideration the relative rarity of the stamps watermarked Large Star, and the fact that the next issue of a 1d. stamp was the surcharge of 1883, I think one is justified in assuming that some Small Star stamps were issued after the Large Star.

The 6d., orange-vermilion, has exercised my mind considerably. I have placed them in this issue, however, because by far the greater number are watermarked Small Star *sideways;* a number also are found with the blind perforation Z_1, Star *sideways*, which will not fit into any of my issues; and I have found one specimen with Star *upright*—perforation Z_1 (Issue II.). Again, the 6d., rose, comes into this Issue V., although rarely, as I have only seen two specimens.

Issues 1875 to 1881.

Of the September, 1875, Issue, 1s., blue surcharge on purple, I have nothing to add, except to emphasize what I think is now generally accepted, viz.—that the surcharge "SHILLINS" is a myth. The supposed terminal "S" is only a defective "G" made to appear like an "S" by the peculiar spotted condition of the background of the stamp. The only real variety I have as yet found is "SHLLIING."

In the surcharge of 1881, "½d.," "2½d.," and "Four Pence," black surcharge on purple, dull red and blue, it is easy to see that two founts of type were used indiscriminately in setting up the surcharges; the letters of one measure 1½ mm. in height, the other 1¾ mm. The different combinations of the two types are so numerous that practically every surcharge on the 120 stamps of each value varies.

The chief varieties common to each value are:

"PO" of "POSTAGE" closer than usual.
"ST" „ „ „
"ST" „ farther apart.
"P" „ higher than the rest of the letters.
"S" „ lower „ „ „
"TA" „ closer than usual.

The principal varieties peculiar to the ½d. are:

Period instead of hyphen between "Half Penny," No. 5.
Long hyphen between "Half Penny," Nos. 6, 13, 21, 25, 32.
No hyphen between "Half Penny," Nos. 88, 90.
"OSTAGE," No. 100 on the sheet.

There are also specimens showing the surcharge printed twice.

The principal variety peculiar to the 2½d. is:

No period after the value.

The principal varieties peculiar to the 4d. are:

"F" in "Four" lower than the other letters.

"F" „ farther away from the other letters.

Length of surcharge "Four Pence" much shorter (11 mm.), the usual length being about 12½ mm.

These three stamps are on paper watermarked Large Star, but the "½d." is *always* sideways, whereas the watermark of the "2½d." and "4d." is *always* upright. This is a curious fact, and one I cannot explain. I have an entire sheet of the ½d., and it is very nearly square in shape.

The sizes of the half-sheets of paper, according to Messrs. Bacon and Napier in their book on Barbados, are only very slightly out of the square, therefore it would make very little difference which way the plate was printed; and if the sheets had been printed indiscriminately upright or across the paper one would not have been surprised, but the ½d. is *always* on paper watermarked Large Star sideways, and the 2½d. and 4d. on Large Star upright.

The 2½d. and 4d. are also found on the broad, or South Australian Star watermarked paper, the 4d. being much the rarer.

1883 Provisionals.

In January, 1883, the yellow fiscal, watermarked Small Star *upright*, with a Crown and "One Penny" printed in green, was surcharged "POSTAGE," and used as a penny stamp; this surcharge was firstly (?) written across the stamp. Of the four written surcharges I have seen (three of which I possess, the fourth being in the possession of Baron A. de Reuterskiöld) "POSTAGE" reads from S.W. to N.E.; Mr. Bacon catalogues one reading from N.W. to S.E.

The word "POSTAGE" was then printed in Roman capitals, 3¾ mm. in height, across the stamp. To form the "½d." this word was printed twice diagonally across the stamp, reading the same way on both halves from S.W. to N.E.

As, I suppose, "POSTAGE" in letters 3¾ mm. high took up too much space, the word was printed in smaller letters, 2½ mm. in height, generally from S.W. to N.E., though I have one lower half on which the letters read from S.E. to N.W. In this type the surcharge is always inverted on the lower half.

The words "One Penny" vary in length. Mr. Bacon gives two lengths, 9½ and 10½ mm., measuring, I presume, the bottom of the surcharge, and he distinguishes one from the other by the "O" of "One" and "P" of "Penny," in the 10½ mm. measurement, being taller than the other letters. Messrs. Stanley Gibbons give three lengths, 10, 10¾, and 11 mm., measuring, I presume, the top of the surcharge. I cannot agree with either of these lists. Although I have learnt a very great deal from the admirable manner in which Messrs. Stanley Gibbons' books are kept, I cannot accept their 11 mm. measurement. All their specimens I have seen have "O" of "One" and

"P" of "Penny" high; and I have found that the 10¾ mm. of their measurement (Mr. Bacon's 10½ mm.) varies somewhat from a small 10¾ mm. to a good 11 mm., mainly owing, I think, to the thickness of printing. When we begin to discuss the differences of ¼ mm., one has not much to go upon; nevertheless, I have found three distinct variations of length. Measuring the bottom of the surcharge, I have found 9½, 10½, and 10¾ mm. My 9½ and 10½ mm. are distinguished from one another just in the same way as Mr. Bacon's and Messrs. Stanley Gibbons' measurements, by the "O" of "One" and "P" of "Penny" being taller than the other letters; but my 10¾ mm. measurement is altogether another stamp, the letters are always even, and the measurement of the surcharge "One Penny" is never less than 10¾ mm., and varies even up to 11 mm.

Calling the measurement 9½ mm. A, 10½ mm. B, and 10¾ mm. C, and the word "POSTAGE" measuring 3¾ mm. in height Type I., and the word "POSTAGE" measuring 2½ mm. in height Type II., my synopsis of these surcharges is :—

I. The word "Postage" *written* across the stamp with pen and ink.

A. The words "One Penny" measure 9½ mm.
The word "Postage" written across the stamp with pen and black or red ink.

C. The words "One Penny" measure 10¾ mm.

II. With surcharge 3¾ mm. in height (Type I.).

A. The words "One Penny" measure 9½ mm.
"½d." black surcharge on the two halves of 1d., green on orange.
"1d." „ 1d., green on orange.

B. The words "One Penny" measure 10½ mm., and the letters "O" of "One" and "P" of "Penny" taller.
"½d." black surcharge on the two halves of 1d., green on orange.
"1d." „ 1d., green on orange.

C. The words "One Penny," measure 10¾ mm.
"1d." black surcharge on 1d., green on orange.

III. With surcharge 2½ mm. in height (Type II.).

A. The words "One Penny" measure 9½ mm.
"½d." black surcharge on the two halves of 1d., green on orange.

B. The words "One Penny" measure 10½ mm., and the letters "O" of "One" and "P" of "Penny" taller.
"½d." black surcharge on the two halves of 1d., green on orange.

C. The words "One Penny" measure 10¾ mm.
"½d." black surcharge on the two halves of 1d., green on orange.

I possess specimens of all these types except the ½d. of III. B, which is in Baron A. de Reuterskiöld's collection.

The word "POSTAGE" is usually very evenly printed, but I possess a specimen where "TAGE" is printed lower than the other letters; and the whole word is sometimes doubly printed.

Issue 1883. De La Rue Type.

This issue, engraved by Messrs. De La Rue & Co., on paper watermarked Crown CA, has been the subject of an article in *Le Moniteur Philatelique*, of Ghent, Belgium, by Mons. E. Dmalexemma. He possesses a half-sheet of the 6d., and explains three types, the third being much the rarer, occurring only seven times in the half-sheet of sixty, the other two types being pretty equal. His types are dominated by the position of the letter "E" of "POSTAGE" above, and the letter "E" of "PENCE" below, to the diamonds in the upright straight labels of solid colour at the sides of the stamps. In Type I. the letter "E" comes just up to the diamonds; in Type II. the letter "E" ends over the diamonds; and in Type III. the letter "E" comes almost to the end of the space. This is of very little interest, and I have seen it for a long time not only in the 6d., but also in all the other values. It is simply a matter of centring of the inscriptions in the white spaces provided for them. If the words be properly centred, for example, above, "GRENADA POSTAGE" would begin over the diamonds on one side, and finish over the diamonds on the other; a little deviation either way would give types enough. This can be found in all stamps where the words are not engraved on the plate, and so, I consider, not worthy of attention.

Provisionals, 1886 to 1890.

Of these I have remarked that the Issue "1d." on 1½d., and "1d." on 1s., are on paper watermarked Large Star upright. The "1d." on 4d. is catalogued by Messrs. Stanley Gibbons as on paper watermarked Small Star. I regret to say I have been unable to verify this, as the watermarks of the stamps I have examined have been almost impossible to trace. The other issues, with the various values—"HALF PENNY POSTAGE," "1d." between "POSTAGE AND REVENUE," "1d." below "POSTAGE AND REVENUE," and "4d. POSTAGE"—are on paper watermarked Small Star sideways.

There is one variety common to all the surcharges of 2s.—namely, a wider space between "Two" and "Shillings," first pointed out to me by Mr. Giwelb. Another variety in the "1d." between "POSTAGE AND REVENUE," and the "4d." on 2s., is the letter "T" of "Two" *lower* than the other letters. This variety probably exists on the other two surcharges. The variety with the straight or Roman "d" is catalogued by Messrs. Collin & Calman as being the end stamp of the sheet. My specimens prove this not to be so.

Of the 1892 Issue, "2½d." surcharged on 8 Pence, I have an entire sheet. It is printed *tête-bêche*, and it presents two varieties of the "2" in the "½"; in the upper half of the sheet the "2" has a curly head, and in the lower half of the sheet the head is straighter.

No. 23 on the sheet has a comma instead of a period after the letter "d."

No. 54 has a third line under the figure "2" of "½."

No. 60 has two short thin lines under the "2" of "½."

This stamp also exists with a double surcharge, one inverted over the value "8 Pence."

With this issue I terminate my remarks on the stamps of Grenada; but before I finish I should like to point out two curious coincidences which have presented themselves to me long after I had tabulated my facts.

In the early issues of 1864 and 1865 I have placed those stamps with wmk. Small Star upright first, those with Large Star the second, and those with Small Star sideways third. Examine the provisionals of 1883, 1886, and 1888–90. The stamps of 1883 have wmk. Small Star upright, those of 1886 Large Star, those of 1888–90 Small Star sideways.

Again, in Issue IV., 1865, the stamps of the lower value, 1d., are on paper wmk. Large Star *sideways;* the higher value, 6d., on paper wmk. Large Star *upright.* Examine the issue of 1881. The lower value, "½d.," surcharge is on paper wmk. Large Star *sideways;* the higher values, "2½d." and "4d.," on paper wmk. Large Star *upright.*

Are these simply coincidences, or are they an effort of the printers to guard against forgery?

Mr. L. L. R. Hausburg, who is now travelling round the world, has sent us one or two comments on Dr. Stanley Taylor's able paper, as follows:

"I do not quite agree with some of Dr. Taylor's remarks and division into issues. For instance, he divides into three classes the 1d. and 6d. with Small Star; viz., II., those with blind perfs., Star upright; III., Small Star upright, perfs. cleaner cut; VI., Small Star *sideways*, perfs. cleaner cut. His reason for putting these so late is that the earliest postmark he has found is 1879.

"He omits altogether the Small Star sideways, rough perfs., of which I have several; and I have found a 1d., Star sideways, of his Issue VI., dated 1873.

"My own idea is that there should be two instead of three separate issues.

"1. 1d. and 6d., blind perfs., Small Star upright and sideways.

"2. 1d. and 6d., perfs. cleaner cut, Small Star upright and sideways.

"This seems to me a more reasonable arrangement, as those with blind perfs. are evidently the earlier.

"He also lays stress on the ½d., black on mauve, 1881, having wmk. Large Star sideways. I have found three copies with Star upright."

The Stamps of British East Africa and Zanzibar.



IN the September issue of this journal was inserted an interesting note from Mr. Cyril H. Bowden, giving the substance of an interview with Mr. T. U. Remington, the Postmaster at Zanzibar, and also tables of the various numbers of stamps overprinted. Mr. Bowden made out a good case as regards the postal necessity for the very numerous issues that have emanated from this quarter of the world, and it must be borne in mind that, as Mr. Remington observes, the very existence of the large demand for stamps by collectors and dealers occasionally exhausts the Post Office stock in an unexpected manner, and thus itself causes a necessity for a temporary issue.

The uneasiness as to these redundant new issues felt by collectors has also affected the trade, who have large capitals involved, and Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Limited, took the bull by the horns and wrote to Sir A. Hardinge, Her Majesty's Agent and Consul-General at Zanzibar, and in reply were directly authorized by the Marquis of Salisbury, under date October 19th last, to publish the following extracts received at the Foreign Office from Mr. Remington:

"According to your instructions I have the honour to submit the following explanation with regard to the overprinting and surcharging the East Africa and Zanzibar Protectorates' stamps.

"When it was known that the Imperial Government had decided to take over the territory of the late British East Africa Company, I thought it quite possible that the question of supplying stamps might be overlooked; and in order to avoid, as far as possible, any inconvenience to the public this would result in, I wrote to the late Company asking for a large supply of stamps. The reply I received was to the effect that the stock in Mombasa was sufficient for the remainder of the time the Company would hold the territory, and that they declined to send me any more.

"My surmise proved to be correct, and I had only the small supply of stamps on hand on the 1st of July, 1895, the date of the transfer of the territory, as shown on inclosed list, to carry on with, and out of this supply I had to forward 736 of each value to the General Post Office, London, as specimens. This supply was not sufficient for one month's requirements, and when it is remembered it was not until the 19th May, 1896, ten months after the date of transfer, that the first supply of the present permanent issue of the Protectorate's stamps was received, some idea may be formed as to the very great difficulty and inconvenience I was put to in endeavouring to meet the public requirements.

"On the 10th November, 1895, the Zanzibar Government took over the Indian Post Office at Zanzibar, and with it the stock of Indian stamps on hand. By this time the East Africa Protectorate's stamps were naturally all but exhausted, and when I pointed out to the Acting Consul-General (Mr. Cave) the absolute necessity of supplying stamps to the East Africa Protectorate until the arrival of the permanent issue, it was decided to request permission of the Director-General of the Indian Post Office to use part of the Indian stamps on hand in Zanzibar, and overprint them 'British East Africa.' This permission was kindly granted, and so the difficulty of supplying the East Africa Protectorate with stamps was, for the time, overcome.

"Unfortunately, however, the late Postmaster of the Indian Post Office at Zanzibar had run short of 2½ annas stamps; 2354 was the exact number handed over, and this ridiculously small quantity had to be shared between Zanzibar and the East Africa Protectorate. This quantity not being sufficient for even a week's supply, it therefore follows that it was absolutely necessary to issue a provisional 2½ anna stamp for both territories, and the 1½ anna stamps, being the largest of any value taken over, were surcharged.

"During this time the Zanzibar Government, not previously having made any provision for its permanent issue of stamps, was in correspondence with the stamp contractors as to design, price, &c. On the 10th April, 1896, the contractors wrote stating my instructions were perfectly clear, and that it would be fully three months before the stamps could be shipped. This letter I acknowledged, and requested to be supplied with the stamps as soon as possible. On 28th August the contractors, notwithstanding the letters referred to above, wrote regretting the death of His Highness the late Sultan of Zanzibar, and asked for further instructions. On receipt

of their letter I immediately telegraphed them to send stamps immediately, but the failure on the part of the contractors to supply the stamps at the time stated again caused me considerable difficulty in meeting the demand, and I was compelled, after consulting Sir Lloyd Mathews, to issue provisional stamps.

"As neither the East Africa Protectorate nor the Zanzibar Government had made any provision whatever to supply any postage stamps on the date of the transfer of the respective Post Offices, I was placed in the very awkward position of having to manage as best I could with one month's supply of stamps taken over from the late Company for nine months and a half for the East Africa Protectorate, and a totally inadequate supply of stamps taken over from the Indian Post Office to be shared between the two Protectorates for twelve months pending the supply of the permanent issue for each Protectorate.

"It is entirely owing to this that it has been absolutely necessary to issue provisional stamps, and to my endeavours to eke out my stocks in the face of an exceptionally heavy demand for stamps from dealers and collectors, pending the arrival of the permanent issues.

"In addition to this, I would also beg to state that one consignment of stamps lay at Aden more than a month, it having missed the steamer from Aden to Zanzibar, also that another case of stamps was over-carried by the Messageries Maritimes Company to Madagascar, which also involved a month's delay in receipt at Zanzibar.

"Had it not been for the kindness of the Director-General of the Indian Post Office in allowing the Protectorates to overprint and use Indian stamps as well as supplying them, I should not have been able to meet the difficulty as successfully as I think I have done. Had the Director-General declined to supply the Protectorates with Indian stamps, there would not have been a single stamp of the East Africa Protectorate to be obtained from October, 1895, to May, 1896, or one Zanzibar stamp in existence until twelve months after the transfer of the Indian Post Office to the Zanzibar Government.

"Now the permanent issue of stamps both for the East Africa and Zanzibar Protectorates can be obtained, I am glad to say that no further need of issuing provisional stamps will occur.

"As regards the various types used, this is a matter that is entirely out of my hands. The stamps had to be overprinted and surcharged, and the only place to get this done in Zanzibar is at the Zanzibar *Gazette* Office. The staff of printers at the *Gazette* Office is entirely composed of natives, who, I suppose, do not understand the importance, from the stamp dealer's point of view, of the least difference in type, and their plant and appliances being very limited, they did the best they could under the circumstances.

"I quite readily admit that had I had the knowledge a year ago that I now have of the enormous demand for stamps by dealers and collectors, over and above those required for purely postal purposes, the necessity for one or two provisional issues might have been avoided; but, as I have already stated, I had no means of knowing this beforehand.

"In proof of this, in my estimate of stamp sales for 1896–7 for British East Africa, I estimated Rs. 25,777—whereas the actual quantity sold was Rs. 62,800, and my estimate for Zanzibar was for Rs. 36,000—whereas the actual quantity sold was Rs. 70,547."

The S.S.S.S.



E have received the following appeal to support the objects of this Society, which we venture to cordially recommend to our readers. It will be seen that the subscription is a nominal one, the object being to have a wide circle of supporters; and we trust that the majority of our readers will hasten to enrol themselves as members of an Association founded wholly and solely for the benefit and *security* of Philately.

"Effingham House,
"Arundel Street, Strand,
"London, W.C.

"The Society for the Suppression of Speculative Stamps.

"Dear Sir,—As no doubt you may have seen in the Philatelic journals, the Society has been entirely reorganised. The Special Committee of the Philatelic Society, London, has been entrusted with the work of considering all unnecessary and speculative issues, and the results of their deliberations will be notified periodically in the various Philatelic publications throughout the world. In order that the work of the Society may be carried on with vigour, and receive the support of all Philatelists, it has been decided to reduce the subscription to 2s. 6d. (3 fr.) per annum. It is therefore hoped that with this small subscription a large number of members may be enrolled to assist in maintaining the purity of stamp collecting. I trust, therefore, you will continue your membership (if already a member), or, in case you are not a member of the Society, that I may have the pleasure of adding your name to the list.

"Subscriptions may be paid by postal order, or in the *permanent* current stamps of any country, and will cover the period ending 31st December, 1898.

"I am, dear sir,
"Yours faithfully,
"Herbert R. Oldfield,
"*Hon. Sec. and Treasurer.*"

FORM OF APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP.

Please enrol me as a member of the Society for the Suppression of Speculative Stamps, for which purpose I enclose the amount of my subscription (2s. 6d.) for the year 1898.

Name .....

Address .....

The Hon. Secretary,
The Society for the Suppression of Speculative Stamps,
The Philatelic Society, London,
Effingham House,
Arundel Street, Strand, London, W.C.

CIRCULAR NO. 6.

The Society for the Suppression of Speculative Stamps.

President—MR. M. P. CASTLE, J.P. | *Vice-President*—MAJOR EVANS.
Hon. Secretary & Treasurer—MR. H. R. OLDFIELD.
Effingham House, Arundel Street, Strand, London, W.C.

Committee of General Management—

MR. R. EHRENBACH. | MR. J. A. TILLEARD.
MR. E. J. NANKIVELL. | MR. GORDON SMITH.

NOTICE is hereby given that the Special Committee of the Philatelic Society, London, having taken into consideration the undermentioned issues, are of opinion that the same are speculative or unnecessary.

In making public the above opinion this Society recommends collectors to refuse to purchase the undermentioned stamps, and so assist the Society in preventing the issue of stamps intended mainly for the purpose of sale to collectors and speculators. This practice, if attended with successful results, is calculated to seriously prejudice the interests of all Philatelists, and to bring Philately into disrepute.

1. CANADA.—Jubilee Set.—The objections to these stamps are that the set includes high values for which there is no postal use, and that certain of the values were not issued to the public in the regular way, and could only be purchased in complete sets, and not separately.

2. NEWFOUNDLAND.—Cabot Issue.—This was wholly unnecessary, and did not supersede the regular issue, the plates having been destroyed after a limited number of stamps had been printed.

3. NEW SOUTH WALES HOSPITAL STAMPS.—These were entirely unnecessary for postal purposes, and were only made available in order to induce collectors to buy at enhanced prices.

4. VICTORIA HOSPITAL STAMPS.—The same remarks apply to this proposed issue.

5. LEEWARD ISLANDS.—Overprinted "Centenary."—This was a temporary issue entirely unnecessary for postal purposes. The remainders are being offered for sale by public tender, and as an inducement it was officially stated that the die used for the overprinting had been destroyed.

6. MAURITIUS.—Proposed Jubilee Issue.—It is believed that the usual objections will apply to this issue. Collectors are advised to regard it with suspicion until it has been ascertained whether it is intended to be of a permanent nature, or merely commemorative.

7. URUGUAY.—"Paz" Issue.—The stamps were available for only three days in September, 1897, and were not issued to meet any postal requirements.

8. BRITISH SOUTH AFRICA.—An announcement having been made that a stamp in commemoration of the completion of the railway as far as Buluwayo was to be issued, the Committee are pleased to state that the London officials of the Company have given their assurance that no such issue will be sanctioned.

9. OLYMPIAN GAMES STAMPS.—The condition under which these stamps have been issued having been modified, so that they have now become a permanent issue, the objections mentioned in a previous circular no longer apply.

By order of the Committee,
HERBERT R. OLDFIELD,
Hon. Secretary and Treasurer.

November, 1897.

Philatelic Notes.

NOTE.—*The co-operation of Philatelists is invited in order to make this column of a varied and interesting nature.*

DANGEROUS FORGERIES.

IN the issue of the French Republic of 1875 the sheet of the 10 c., bistre on rose, is well known to contain an error consisting of the numeral "15" in lieu of "10." This error has, in sympathy with the great demand for French stamps of late years, greatly risen in value, and has hence attracted the attention of the forgers as affording a likely snare for the unwary. At the last meeting of the Philatelic Society of London a pseudo pair of these stamps were lent for inspection, which had remained the unsuspected possession of a very well known firm of dealers for a lengthened period. The fraud consisted in the alteration of the two figures "5" on one of the pair of normal stamps to "0," and was so well done as to require careful examination in order to detect it. The high values, 1, 4, and 10 pesetas of the 1874 issue of Spain have been known for some considerable time to leading collectors and dealers, but it would seem that it is only lately that they are being introduced on the market in any quantity. We think it, therefore, well to warn our readers against them, as they are exceedingly well done. Their general appearance leaves nothing to be desired, and it is only when the detail is carefully examined that the points of divergence appear. The readiest test is the small size and bad drawing of the numerals of value of the forgery, within the white circle, containing the well-known figure of Justice.

DISCOVERIES.

VICTORIA: *Emblems.*—The variety chronicled in our last issue, with impression on reverse, should be described as with Star watermark, and not, as inadvertently stated, on no watermarked paper.

With reference to the other variety there alluded to, we have pleasure in recording the remarks of Mr. David H. H. Hill, the well-known Philatelist of Melbourne, who writes as under to the *Australian Philatelist*, and corroborates the opinion we expressed as to the date of its appearance:

"Many thanks for your letter of the 23rd instant, enclosing Victoria, Emblems (Type VII.), watermark single-line 6, for my inspection. This is as much a novelty to collectors as the 6d. blue, watermark double-line 2, you unearthed some time ago. Comparing the watermark on the stamp you send with others bearing the same numeral, it looks a bit thin; but, coming from such a source, I have no reason to doubt its genuineness, as I find it corresponds in size with other specimens.

"The only explanation I can offer to account for this 'error' is that a sheet of single-line 6 paper may accidentally have been placed with the single-line 2 paper by the storekeeper, and issued for the 2d. stamps. The single-line 6 paper was first

received in March, 1863, and between that date and March, 1864, when the 2d. of Type VIII. became obsolete, only four printings were made, the last being on the 17th of February, 1864. The stamp must, therefore, have been printed between those dates. As the supply of single-line 2 paper was not exhausted during this period, there would be no reason for using any other paper for the 2d. stamps, and the occurrence of the watermark 6 can only be looked upon as accidental. With paper in stock bearing so many different watermarks, it would no doubt be difficult to prevent a stray sheet or two being placed on the wrong bundle, especially where the paper was in the custody of the storekeeper, who might not see the necessity of keeping each watermark separate, so long as he could account for the aggregate quantity."

THE SIERRA LEONE 5s. ON 1s., GREEN.

THE Philatelic status of this stamp has already been discussed in this journal (see pages 221, 237, and 259), and Messrs Whitfield King & Co. now forward a further contribution to the subject as follows:

"St. Christopher, W. I.,
"*12th October*, 1897.

"Messrs. Whitfield King & Co.

"Dear Sirs,—In reply to your inquiry, I beg to say the Sierra Leone shilling green postage stamps, with the price 5s. overprinted thereon, were usable as postage as well as revenue stamps. There was nothing to indicate that they were anything else but postage stamps, and as such they should be regarded.

"The circumstance that they were not so used, except in one or two instances, as the postmaster of that period has stated they were, does not do away with the fact that they were so officially overprinted, though they were all subsequently withdrawn.

"Mr. Campbell wrote some time afterwards and asked for information respecting them. I regret that I unintentionally appear to have misled him, for I said they were issued for fiscal purposes only, which was quite true as regarded the original intention but incorrect as to what they actually became, viz., surcharged postage stamps.

"As I knew, however, that not more than a couple or so had been used postally, and as Mr. Campbell desired to purchase some of them as postage stamps if any were for sale, he was informed they were not for sale and had been issued for fiscal purposes only.

"Yours truly, T. R. Griffith."

Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. write:

"Mr. T. Risely Griffith, C.M.G., who was Colonial Secretary of Sierra Leone when the above stamp was issued, is now Administrator of St. Christopher and Nevis, and we wrote to him for further information about the stamp in question, forwarding him a copy of Mr. Campbell's letter as published in the *London Philatelist*. We have to-day received the enclosed reply, which we shall be glad if you will publish. It now appears that the stamps were originally intended to be revenue stamps only, but were sold at the post office for both postage and revenue, and two or three copies only were postally used. This should, in our opinion, establish their claim to a place in a postage stamp collection."

We must record our opinion that no strong position is made out for them, and at the best these stamps are on a par with the 8d. brown Great Britain or other stamps—prepared for issue only.

SIERRA LEONE 1896 *PROVISIONAL ISSUE.*

MR. W. L. CHEW kindly writes us as follows:—"I enclose the copy of a letter I have received from the acting Col. Postmaster-General of Sierra Leone, with reference to the Provisional Stamps which were issued by that Colony last spring, which may possibly be of interest to your readers."

[COPY.]

"GENERAL POST OFFICE,
"FREETOWN, SIERRA LEONE,
"25*th October*, 1897.

"SIR,—In compliance with the request contained in your note of the 8th inst., I furnish hereunder the information asked for in regard to the issue of stamps of this Colony, surcharged 'POSTAGE AND REVENUE' in sheets of 120 stamps.

240	sheets	issued	and	sold	of Revenue	1d.,	surcharged 'POSTAGE AND REVENUE.'
74	,,	,,	,,	,,	3d.	,,	,,
98	,,	,,	,,	,,	6d.	,,	,,
35½	,,	,,	,,	,,	1s.	,,	,,
2	,,	,,	,,	,,	2s.	,,	,,

Also surcharged 2½d.

"I have the honour to be, Sir,
"Your obedient servant,
"(Signature illegible),
"*Acting Col. Postmaster General.*"

U.S. OF COLOMBIA, 1863 *ISSUE.*

DR. MICHELSEN, formerly resident in Bogota, but of latter years in Hamburg, has contributed to the columns of a Continental contemporary the commencement of an article on the stamps of this country that, judging from his lengthened experience therein, should be of much interest. In referring to the issue of 1863—the octagonal-shape stamps without any solid background—Dr. Michelsen alludes to the scarcity of the 50 c., error of colour, in red in lieu of green; and stating that he has never seen or heard of an unsevered pair, expresses his inability to say how the error arose, whether from a misplaced *cliché*, or from a sheet printed in the wrong colour. We are able to enlighten our friend on this point, as in the Tapling Collection there is an unused vertical pair, the 50 c. above, and the 20 c. below; and also a horizontal used strip of three, the left-hand specimen being a 50 c. and the remaining two 20 c.; the latter bears as a postmark "Rio Negro," in blue ink. These very interesting and apparently practically unique specimens indicate that the 50 c. red arises from a misplaced *cliché* in the sheet of the 20 c. red. The converse error, 20 c. green—as Dr. Michelsen justly observes—does not exist: it was well hunted over in olden days by us all, but nothing beyond the woolly-looking reprint was to be discovered. It will be remembered that Dr. Michelsen showed his very fine collection of Colombian stamps, including many entire sheets, gaining a silver medal, at the London Philatelic Exhibition.

Occasional Notes.

TRADE COMMENT ON SPECULATIVE ISSUES.

WE have pleasure in presenting the views on speculative issues of a well-known member of the Stamp Trade, from which it will be seen that, even with those dealers who feel themselves unable to belong to the S.S.S.S., there is a strong feeling of sympathy with the Society in its endeavour to prevent rubbish being foisted upon collectors. With regard to the Greek Olympian Stamps it must be remembered that at the outset this Issue was distinctly stated to be commemorative, and it was also understood that it was of a temporary nature. It has, however, remained continuously in use, and the ban originally placed upon it by the S.S.S.S. would naturally have long since been removed had the Society continued its active operations. An article in the *London Philatelist*, so far back as May, 1896, explicitly states that the conditions of issue had been altered, and that the Society would wisely reconsider its excommunication. We have, however, good reason to believe that, had it not been for the existence of the S.S.S.S., this Olympian Issue would have been as skilfully cornered and as limited in issue as other recent glaring examples.

"With regard to Jubilee Issues generally, if the occasion is a national one of sufficient importance, there will always be a demand for the stamps in the country of issue by non-Philatelists, and I don't think the S.S.S.S. can stop them, though they may be able to restrict the sale in this country. Then you have the vast army of unattached collectors who belong to no society, and perhaps take in no Philatelic papers; many of these will buy the Jubilee Issues if the dealers will import them. I hope the S.S.S.S. will not condemn any issues without satisfactory *proof* of their speculative nature. You would have condemned the French Zanzibars without evidence, simply from their appearance, and from the fact of the varieties being somewhat numerous. On such grounds as these you might also condemn the whole of the type-set and surcharged British Guianas, and all the surcharged Transvaals.

"I shall always do all I can to expose worthless issues, but I intend to act independently, as I always have done, and shall sell any stamps which in my opinion have been condemned unjustly or unreasonably, and I don't think you can blame me for this. Both the issues about which I differed from the S.S.S.S. are at this moment in use, which proves that I was right. I refer to the Greek Olympian Games and the Borneo surcharges on the dollar stamps, which are still the ones used for International Postage.

"I have been instrumental in exposing many bogus and unnecessary issues—a reference to the Circulars issued by the S.S.S.S. proves this—and I would co-operate with the new Society to put down rubbish; but I broke off from the old one because they were drifting into condemning legitimate issues, for which there was a great demand (I refer especially to the Greek Olympian Games), and I did not consider that I could consistently remain a member and sell the tabooed stamps at the same time, though I know of more than one member who did.

"Quite recently I exposed the shady speculation of the 36 c. on 45 c. Seychelles, and when I have direct evidence, not hearsay or guesswork, of anything of that kind, I shall not hesitate to make it public for the benefit of Philately. I have had several letters from Rhodesia offering to send me the Railway Stamps when issued, but I don't intend to deal in them, nor in any of the Australian 'disease' stamps. Of the Leeward Islands 'Sexagenary' Stamps I only imported four sets, one for my collection (I take everything—good and bad) and three to oblige customers. I have been offered nearly all the Morocco locals at discounts varying from 10 to 25 per cent. under face for quantities, but I only sell those of Tangier-Fez and Mazagan-Marrakesh, which I believe to be the only thoroughly legitimate ones in Morocco. I only mention this to show you that I am as much against really speculative issues as you can be, but a dealer who has agents and correspondents on the spot is better able to discriminate than those whose business consists entirely in buying and selling collections."

THE EXPERT COMMITTEE—CHANGE OF ADDRESS.

WE have to call the attention of Philatelists to the new arrangement made by this Committee, by which stamps for examination by the Expert Committee of the London Philatelic Society should be addressed in future to "The Expert Committee, London Philatelic Society, Effingham House, Arundel Street, Strand, London, W.C.," instead of to Major Evans as hitherto. The fee—*2s. 6d.* for a single stamp, or *2s.* each for two or more sent together—must as hitherto in all cases accompany the stamps.

With the object of diminishing the extensive calls upon the time of its members, the Committee have been compelled to modify some of the arrangements, and in addition to the above the Committee will in future make their examination once a week only. Collectors should, therefore, send specimens to Effingham House at the end of each week for examination on the following Monday.

ENGLISH STAMPS AT THE LONDON PHILATELIC EXHIBITION.

MR. L'ESTRANGE EWEN, whose labours in the popularization of our own stamps are generally recognized and appreciated, has been at the pains in the *English Specialists' Journal* to tabulate the *pièces de résistance* at the recent Exhibition. It should be borne in mind that Mr. Eliot Levy's fine collection was not available for inspection, not being on movable leaves. Statistics are notoriously unreliable, however, and English stamps want weighing as well as counting!

	White.	Willett.	Selby.		Total.
1d., black . . .	79	9	15	...	103
1d., black, V.R. . .	8	4	5	...	17
1d., L.C., 16 . . .	14	4	8	...	26
2d., no lines . . .	13	10	10	...	33
2d., S.C., 16 . . .	3	4	2	...	9
2d., S.C., 14 . . .	22	4	2	...	28
2d., L.C., 16, Plate 5 . .	2	1	1	...	4
2d., L.C., 16, Plate 6 . .	1	3	—	...	4
1s., octagonal . .	20	16	3	...	39

	White.	Willett.	Selby.		Total.
10d., octagonal . .	26	18	13	...	57
6d., octagonal . .	31	18	10	...	59
4d., Small Garter . .	4	5	2	...	11
4d., Medium Garter, on azure .	3	2	—	...	5
4d., Medium Garter, on white .	6	3	3	...	12
4d., Large Garter . .	28	11	12	...	51
4d., Plate 10 . . .	9	1	7	...	17
6d., Plate 6, Emblems . .	8	1	7	...	16
8d., brown . .	11	1	1	...	13
9d., Plate 4, Emblems . .	9	2	6	...	17
10d., Plate 1, Spray . .	32	6	7	...	45
2s., blue . . .	25	8	11	...	44
2s., brown . . .	21	2	4	...	27
5s., Wmk. Cross . .	11	4	10	...	25
10s., Wmk. Cross . .	4	2	3	...	9
£1, Wmk. Cross . .	3	2	2	...	7
5s., Wmk. Anchor . .	7	2	3	...	12
10s., Wmk. Anchor . .	2	2	1	...	5
£1, Wmk. Anchor . .	2	1	—	...	3

PRESENTATION TO THE TAPLING COLLECTION.

In addition to the several donations announced last month, we are pleased to add the following—with keen regret that so distinguished and illustrious a Philatelist as the donor should have passed away—

Russia.—Eight proofs of the 5 k. and 7 k. stamps of 1864 and 1879.—The late Grand Duke Alexis Michailowitch of Russia.

THE POST OFFICE MAURITIUS.

The recent sale of the two specimens from Dr. Legrand's collection, at such an enormous price as £1920, elicited many enquiries as to the number of copies known, and how far the number justifies the figure. The specimens known are, we believe, nearly, if not quite, twenty, and it is obvious that with this quantity these stamps are not so rare as others that could be named—it is their prestige that has made, and always will make them the "king and queen of stamps." They will celebrate their fifty years jubilee next year—possibly by selling for over £1000 apiece! In this country there are one of each value in the Tapling Collection and that of Mr. W. B. Avery. A collector in Austria is credited with the pair, and there are, to our belief, one or two specimens in other portions of the globe. Almost all have, however, emanated from France, and there it is that the most copies remain. Herr von Ferrary has four copies—two of each, M. J. Bernichon holds Dr. Legrand's two; another well-known collector has the like; and the *Gazette Timbrologique* states that one recently-found specimen of the 1d. is held in Bordeaux, and that two copies of the 2d. were sold in Paris some years since. This would possibly include the specimen of the 2d., blue, on original letter that was shown at the London Philatelic

Exhibition of 1897. It will be seen, therefore, that there are in all from seventeen to twenty specimens extant.

"AS OTHERS SEE US"—IN VICTORIA.

THE Melbourne *Age* of the 11th of August last devotes a column and a half to the usual irrelevant and imaginary twaddle published by outsiders when they write upon special subjects, but, after finding no epithets too violent to discharge upon the head of the poor Philatelist, proclaims its cordial approval of the methods by which the Victorian Post Office wishes to replenish its coffers at our expense. We quote:

"There is, however, one comforting reflection amid all this folly—that it may be made to contribute handsomely to the depleted revenues of the hospitals, and it is to be hoped that the postal authorities 'will work it for all it's worth,' as the Yankees elegantly say.

"The Victorian Postal Department ought to think twice before fixing the selling price of the Hospital Stamp issue, if it be true that similar stamps are selling at a considerable premium in Sydney. It is reported that the New South Wales 2½d. stamps, sold at 2s. 6d. by the Government, now fetch 12s. 6d. when bought by stamp collectors, and if there is likely to be a similar 'bull' movement in the market here the Department ought to see that the hospitals benefit to the fullest possible extent, and that a large part of the premium does not go into the pockets of speculators. One order alone came in last week for stamps to the value of £500, and these are evidently taken by some dealer who wishes to retail them to collectors."

The last statement is of the Baron Munchausen order, and the "good taste" of the article is on a par with its accuracy.

"HEALTH VALUE OF A HOBBY."

UNDER the above title *Tit-Bits* recently advocates something for idle hands to do, and includes Philately as the *dernier ressort!*

"A well-known doctor is convinced of the health value of a hobby. He says:—'If you cannot find pleasure in the study of the very many wonders that surround you, if you care not for geology, natural history, or astronomy, collect walking-sticks, buy and cherish old and cracked china, fill up albums and scrap-books, or even gather together autographs *and postage stamps;* anything sooner than be idle.'"

Even read *Tit-Bits*, perhaps!

SALE OF THE LEEWARD ISLANDS JUBILEE SET.

NOT with a view of encouraging the sale of this pernicious rubbish, condemned by the S.S.S.S., but rather to open the eyes of collectors to the quantities remaining unsold, do we publish the following Official Notice from the *Leeward Islands Gazette* of October 1st, 1897:

"COLONIAL SECRETARY'S OFFICE,
"*1st October*, 1897.

"His Excellency the Governor directs the publication for general information of the following Return of Jubilee Stamps sold in the several Presidencies of the Leeward Islands:—

PRESIDENCY	½d.	1d.	2½d.	4d.	6d.	7d.	1/-	5/-
Antigua . . .	4113	4200	2075	1672	1220	1241	779	320
St. Kitts-Nevis .	5361	5191	4707	1913	1049	1023	724	384
Dominica . .	2398	2400	2264	600	240	240	120	50
Montserrat . .	958	834	664	499	120	120	60	20
Virgin Islands . .	133	186	123	63	61	63	60	10
Total . .	12,963	12,811	9833	4747	2690	2687	1743	784

"N.B.—It is hereby notified that the die used for over-printing the stamps issued as Diamond Jubilee Stamps has been destroyed in the presence of His Excellency the Governor, the Acting Colonial Secretary, and the Postmaster.

"By command, E. ALEXANDER FOSTER,
"*Acting Colonial Secretary.*"

"COLONIAL SECRETARY'S OFFICE,
"*1st October*, 1897.

"Tenders are hereby invited, up to the Thirty-first day of December, 1897, for the purchase of the following unused Jubilee Stamps:—

DENOMINATION OF STAMP.	1st Lot.		2nd Lot.		3rd Lot.	
	Sheets.	Separate Stamps.	Sheets.	Separate Stamps.	Sheets.	Separate Stamps.
½d. . .	7	39	7	39	7	39
1d. . .	7	90	7	90	7	89
2½d. . .	15	3	15	2	15	2
4d. . .	4	18	4	18	4	17
6d. . .	2	104	2	103	2	103
7d. . .	2	25	2	24	2	24
1/- . .	1	80	1	80	1	80
5/- . .	1	80	1	80	1	80

"Persons desirous of tendering can do so for the purchase of one or more of the lots shown in the above statement.

"All Tenders should be submitted in a sealed envelope, addressed to the 'Colonial Secretary of the Leeward Islands, Antigua,' and be marked on the envelope, 'Tender for Jubilee Stamps.'

"The Government will not bind itself to accept the lowest or any Tender.

"By command, E. ALEXANDER FOSTER,
"*Acting Colonial Secretary.*

"N.B.—Each sheet contains 120 stamps."

It will be seen that, counting the sheets, there are 15,349 stamps of all values yet to be sold, and when it is remembered that the vast majority of those sold in the Leeward Islands are held by speculators, collectors and dealers will be well advised to let this rubbish severely alone.

Reviews.

HELIGOLAND AND ITS STAMPS.*



HERE has been no lack of literature affecting the stamps of this celebrated little island, ceded by this country to the German Empire, in exchange for territory in Africa, on the 9th August, 1890. M. Moens' work, which has now been issued in book form, has been appearing for many months in instalments in the pages of some of our contemporaries, and, as is usually the case with literature "to be continued in our next," will be far better appreciated as a whole than in disjointed parts. It would seem difficult to realize that 270 odd pages are occupied—needless to say well occupied—by M. Moens' history of the stamps of so tiny a country, but so complete and exhaustive is the treatment of the subject that not one page is superfluous. The adhesives are treated with great fulness; the most minute variations of the dies, the disposition of the stamps on the sheets, the several reprints, the perforations, the gumming, the quantities printed and sold, and the forgeries of stamps or obliteration, are all exhaustively considered. The envelopes, bands, and post cards are also most scientifically handled, and contain the fullest particulars of all the issues and the reprints. An interesting preface gives the history of the island and its posts, with appropriate illustrations. Throughout the book these latter are frequent, illustrations including reduced representations of entire sheets, showing the various settings-up. The full-size reproductions of the single stamps do not, however, come out so well as might be expected, possibly owing to the nature of the paper employed, which is somewhat rough and porous. A novel feature is that the colours of the island are followed by the leaves of the book, which are alternately green, red, and white—a smart effect, but rather trying to the eyes. The cover and title-page, printed likewise in green and red, have a bird's-eye view of the island, with the name in the fancy capitals of the post cards of 1878, numerous tailpieces and initials adorn the pages, and in width of margin and general appearance the book is almost an *edition de luxe*.

It is beyond our space limits to give a detailed excerpt of the many interesting Philatelic points, but we would mention that M. Moens refuses to credit the 1 and 5 marks perforated 11½ with any other standing than that of essays. They were clearly not accepted for issue by the authorities, and the mere fact of a copy or two having been allowed to pass the post in no way rehabilitates them. It also appears that the last printing of the 1 mark took place a week after the suppression of the stamps (16 August, 1890), and is therefore practically a reprint. The first printing of this stamp should be rare, as also Type 2 of the ½ sch. rouletted, judging by the small number issued. M. Moens quotes August 26, 1868, as the earliest postmark for this stamp, which is the same as on an envelope with two copies in the writer's possession. We congratulate the brilliant Philatelist, who is the author of this book, on yet another laurel to his fame.

* *Heligoland et ses timbres.* J. B. Moens, Rue de Florence 42, Brussels.

MR. WESTOBY'S WORK ON EUROPEANS.*

The second portion of this work treats of Baden, Bavaria, and Belgium. Hungary is finished and Bosnia is commenced, a practice that we think inadvisable, as each part should contain the whole of certain countries. As we have previously stated, Mr. Westoby's work is of a high order: perspicuity, system, and definite lines are the prominent features, commendably adhered to, despite the author's deep Philatelic knowledge to lure him beyond the scope of the work—the instruction of the disciple. The history of the Baden stamps will be found of considerable interest, explaining the changes of colour in the numeral issues, and the reason for the scarcity of the 3 kr. of 1862, perforated 13½. In Bavaria the issues of 1867 with silk thread, and those following to 1876, are commendably condensed, and the "New Collector" is not bothered with the details of three or four varieties of papers of small Philatelic importance. Belgium is a country that Mr. Westoby has always had a liking for. We remember his old collection, in which these stamps were very choice, and sadly sigh at the memory of wasted opportunities. Mr. Westoby quotes the first perforated series, 1863, as gauging 13, 13½, and 13 (vertical) × 13½. In the writer's collection they are divided—(*a*) Perf. 12½, the first issued with subvarieties of 1 and 10 c., perf. 12½ (horizontal) × 13½; (*b*) 12½ × 13½; and (*c*) the last issued, 14½. By his recent discovery, that the London impression of the 1865 issue consisted only of the 1 franc, the author has shown that he was still in touch, and a study of the excellent list here prepared further bears this out. Printing, paper, and illustrations are again excellent. It is a pity, however, that better specimens were not selected for this purpose.

* *The Adhesive Postage Stamps of Europe.* Part II. By W. A. S. Westoby. L. Upcott Gill, 170, Strand, London, W.C.

New Issues.

NOTES OF NEW, AND VARIATIONS OF CURRENT, ISSUES.

(Varieties of Obsolete Stamps, and Discoveries, will be found under "Philatelic Notes.")

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.

Members of the London Philatelic Society, and other readers generally, are invited to co-operate with us in making the columns as interesting as possible. Our foreign readers can especially help us in this direction, by sending copies of any official documents relative to changes in the current issues, or early intimation of any new issue, accompanied, when possible, by a specimen; such information will be duly credited to the correspondent, and, if desired, the specimen promptly returned. Address: Editor "London Philatelist," Effingham House, Arundel Street, Strand, London, W.C.

BRITISH EMPIRE.

British East Africa.—Several journals announce the issue of a ½ anna Reply Post Card, with stamps of the current type, and perforation between the two cards.

Post Card. ½+½ anna, yellow-green on *buff.*

Canada.—From the *A. J. of Ph.* we cut the following Notice, which has been sent to all Canadian postmasters:

"*Circular to Postmaster.*

"New Issue of Postage Stamps, etc.

"The Postmaster-General has made arrange-

ments for a new issue of postage stamps, letter cards, stamped envelopes, post cards, and post bands. These will be supplied to the postmasters in the usual way.

"Postmasters are, however, instructed not to sell the stamps of any denomination of the new issue until the stamps of the corresponding denomination of the present issue are disposed of. The filling of requisitions by the Postage Stamp Branch will be regulated by the same principle—that is to say, no item of the proposed issue will be sent out until the corresponding item of the present issue has been exhausted.

"To conform to the regulations of the International Postal Union, the colour of the new 1 cent stamp will be green, and that of the 5 cent stamp a deep blue.

"R. M. COULTER,
"*Deputy Postmaster-General.*

"POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT, CANADA,
OTTAWA, 25*th October*, 1897."

We have received from Mr. E. Y. Parker, of Toronto, a specimen of the new issue, the ½ cent value, the only one issued at the date of writing. A central oval is occupied with a recent portrait of Her Majesty the Queen, which however appears to be too large for the space allotted. Around this oval is a band of solid colour, on which are the words, "CANADA POSTAGE" at top, "HALF CENT" at base, in white letters. The four corners are filled in with a leaf from the maple tree—the emblem of the Dominion.

Adhesive. ½ cent, black; perf. 12.

HONG KONG.—The forger has been at work on the 1 dollar stamp, which is the 96 c., brown on red, surcharged "1 DOLLAR." This surcharge has been forged on the 10 c. current issue, which is of the same colour as the 96 c. All the one dollar stamps have been called in and a temporary stamp has been issued, for which purpose the two dollars Fiscal Stamp has been surcharged "ONE DOLLAR," with the additional Chinese inscription.

Adhesive.

One dollar on Two dollar, sage-green; black surch.

INDIA.—*Duttia.*—The *M. J.* announces some more labels; the supply will no doubt continue so long as there is any demand. This time (see accompanying illustration) the name of the State is spelt "DATIA." We think the four stamps comprised in the issue must include the new one anna, of which we spoke last month.



Adhesives. ½ a., black on *green.*
1 a., black.
2 a. ,, on *yellow.*
4 a. ,, ,, *red.*

NEWFOUNDLAND.—Owing to a temporary dearth of one cent stamps a provisional stamp, the first in the history of the Colony, has been issued. It consists of the 3 c. (1890 type) surcharged "ONE CENT" in one line of capitals between two parallel bars. Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. send us some copies of this provisional, from which we find that there are three types of the surcharge: 1, Roman; 2, larger Roman; 3, sans-serif.

Adhesives.

One cent on 3 c., slate-lilac; black surcharge; 3 *types.*

NEW SOUTH WALES.—We have received some more stationery from our Australian correspondent: an envelope of the usual commercial size, bearing the 2d. Jubilee Stamp; a 1d. reply post card of the same type as the single card chronicled last month; and a wrapper with the 1d. Jubilee Stamp impressed thereon. The two former items had not been circulated at the time our correspondent wrote, as the supply of the previous types was not exhausted.

Envelope. 2d., blue on *white laid.*
Post Card. 1+1d., carmine on *straw* (reply).
Wrapper. 1d., carmine on *manilla, laid,* watermarked "One Penny."

ST. VINCENT.—Mr. Proudfoot informs us that on October 6th last the 1d. stamp was issued printed in light lilac, and surcharged "3d." in black. This stamp is to take the place of the 3d. Revenue Stamp which has been abolished, and to pay the postage and registration fee to Grenada and St. Lucia.

Adhesive. 3d. on 1d., lilac; black surcharge.

SARAWAK.—Two new stamps have been issued in the 1888 type, value 50 c. and 1 dollar; also a post card.

Adhesives. 50 c., grey-green and blue-green; perf. 14.
1 dollar, grey-green and black.
Post Card. 3 c., carmine on straw; 140×88 mm.

UGANDA.—The *M. J.* announces the following additions to the various issues:

Adhesives.

1895. *Letters* "U. G." *and numerals.*
25 (cowries), black.
35 ,, ,,
5 ,, violet.
15 ,, ,,
25 ,, ,,
1896. *With* "V 96 R" *and name.*
30 (cowries), violet.
40 ,, ,,
60 ,, ,,

VICTORIA.—Our Australian correspondent writes that this Colony has issued a 1½d. stamp for newspaper postage. The shape is the same as that of the ½d., and the colour emerald-green.

EUROPE.

HUNGARY.—The *M. J.* has received some post cards which are employed by the inhabitants of Hungary, and by persons visiting that country, for the purpose of notifying to the police of Budapest their arrival, departure, and other movements. Each card is folded in three, and contains six pages of printed forms and instructions, all in Hungarian, including a reply portion on which, we presume, is given the permission (or otherwise) of the police for residence, departure, &c. The cards measure 305 × 72 mm. when open, and are described as follows:

Post Cards.

2+2 kr., blue on *buff*; "*Notification for settled inhabitants and their servants.*"

2+2 kr., blue on *blue*; "*Notice of Departure for the above.*"

2+2 kr., brown on *buff*; "*For use of non-residents, journeying through the town, and staying only a short time in hotels, &c.*"

2+2 kr., brown on *blue*; "*Notice of Departure for use of non-residents, &c.*"

GERMANY.—The Letter Cards mentioned last month have been issued, and form the most sensible piece of stationery, in our opinion, which has as yet been supplied by any Post Office for use of the public. In addition to the ordinary inside space for the reception of the communication, there is an extra flap which folds inside, allowing a clear writing space of $10\frac{5}{8} \times 5$ in. The usual 10 pf. stamp and inscriptions occupy the front, and the extra payment if used abroad inscription the back, the card itself being of a very thin material, duplex tinted.

Letter Card. 10 pf., carmine.

SPAIN.—The *M. J.* publishes the following translation of an extract from the *Diario de Cadiz* of October 11th, 1897. From the extract it would appear that we may expect a new issue in January next.

With nineteen values of adhesives, the 1898 issue of Spain should afford scope for the specialist!

"We have already announced that a Decree has been signed, giving the new general tariff of the Posts and Telegraphs for Puerto Rico and the Philippines, and the corresponding stamps.

"To suit these new tariffs there will be twenty varieties of stamps and eight post cards.

"The stamps will be of the following values: 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5 milésimas of a peso; 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 8, 10, 15, 20, 40, 60, and 80 centavos of a peso; 1 and 2 pesos.

"The post cards will cost 5 milésimas; 1, 2, and 3 centavos, and double the price each for reply-paid cards.

"The stamps will bear a special design.

"The new tariff will come into force from the 1st January, 1898."

SWITZERLAND.—The 2 c. wrapper has undergone the same alteration as that which was effected on the 5 c.; description on page 225.

Wrapper. 2 c., carmine on *straw*.

AMERICA.

ARGENTINE REPUBLIC.—By a decree dated 7th May, 1897, this Republic has decided to advertise its attractions by illustrating the Post and Letter Cards with views and other illustrations. This is "an advance in civilization" which is neither serious nor expedient. The decree referred to states that the illustrated cards are intended to "push the public use of the cards, and at the same time to enlighten strangers as to the advancement of the civilization of our country," etc.

We think the "private" Post Card concession is a decided boon in the light of such misuse of official stationery.

BOLIVIA.—We annex an illustration of the 2 bolivianos value, and give the corrected chronicle.

Adhesive. 2 b., black, red, yellow, and green, perf. $11\frac{1}{2}$.



MEXICO.—The *A. J. of Ph.* has received the 20 c. and 1 peso adhesives with a new watermark—the Mexican Eagle and the letters "R.M." in Roman capitals.

Adhesives. 20 c., brown-lilac, perf. 12.
1 peso, brown ,,

URUGUAY.—The "Paz" issue of September last has already received just condemnation, but on June 26 last, according to a cutting from the *Montevideo Times*, sent us by Messrs. Whitfield King & Co., the following were issued for permanent (or annual) use:

"7 cents, orange; 10 cents, red; 20 cents, violet and black; 25 cents, rose and blue; all of the same designs as the corresponding values in the emission of Dec. 5, 1895.

"50 cents, green and dark chestnut; 1 peso, chestnut and blue; 2 pesos, ochre and carmine; 3 pesos, lilac and carmine; all of the same designs as the corresponding values in the emission of Jan 2, 1896. (We follow the official description of the colours, not having seen the stamps ourselves.)

"In addition to the above, the long-felt want of postcards, envelopes, and wrappers will at last be supplied by the issue of the following postal stationery:

"*Postcards.* For Interior. 2 cents, single, maroon ink; 4 cents, reply-paid, bright maroon; 3 cents, letter-card, light green; 6 cents, letter-card, reply-paid, red ink.

"*Postcards.* For Argentina. 2 cents, single, blue ink; 4 cents, reply-paid, violet ink.

"For other parts of the Postal Union. 3 cents, single, violet ink; 6 cents, reply-paid, blue-violet.

"*Envelopes.* 5 cents, red ink.

"*Wrappers.* 1 cent, blue ink.

"The usual period of 90 days is allowed for the withdrawal or exchange of previous issues, after which they will be valueless for postal purposes."

We have not yet seen any of the above novelties. When we have we will give formal chronicle.

UNITED STATES.—The destruction of the rollers and plates of the obsolete issues was made the occasion for a "new issue" of a decidedly novel character. When the plates had been melted, a portion of the metal was re-cast into paper-weights, the same being in the new form of a profile bust of Columbus. These paper-weights were presented to prominent officials in the various departments at Washington.

OTHER COUNTRIES.

CHINA.—We have received from Mr. David Benjamin a complete set of the new issue, from which our illustrations of the three high value stamps are taken. We find that the perforation of the stamps measures from 11 to 11½, and not 11½ all through as stated last month.

These stamps are printed 80 to a sheet. Mr. Benjamin also writes that all the remainders of the recent surcharged stamps have now been withdrawn.

Adhesives. 1 dollar, carmine.
2 dollars, deep orange.
5 ,, green and flesh.



ERITREA.—The new 1 c. and 2 c. adhesives have received the surcharge "ERITREA."

Adhesives. 1 c., brown; black surch.
2 c., red ,, ,,

FRENCH COLONIES.—*Comoro Islands.*—The *I. B. J.* adds a list of stationery to the new stamps described last month.

Envelopes. 5 c., green and red on *green.*
15 c., blue ,, ,, 3 sizes.
25 c., black and red on *rose*; 3 sizes.
Letter Cards. 15 c., black and red on *grey.*
25 c. ,, ,, on *rose.*
Post Cards. 10 c., black and blue on *green.*
10+10 c., black and blue on *blue.*

HAYTI.—The *A. J. of Ph.* has received some sheets of the current 1 c. imperforate vertically.

PHILIPPINE ISLANDS.—The illustration gives the type of surcharge chronicled last month. In sending us copies of these provisionals, Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. write, "The cause of the surcharge is explained by the fact that all obsolete issues are demonetised after a certain period, during which they may be exchanged for the new issue. After the period has elapsed, stamps of the old issue in the hands of the public can neither be used nor exchanged. The stock of current 5 c. and 15 c. having run out, the remainders on hand of an obsolete issue were overprinted to make them available for use."



SIAM.—There is a new surcharge on the 1 att stamp, this value having overprinted "4 atts" in two sizes; one measuring 8½ mm. and the other 11 mm.

Adhesives. 4 atts on 1 att, green; black surcharge.

TRANSVAAL.—The single card of one penny has been issued with the stamp in two colours.

Post Card. 1d., carmine and green.

Philatelic Societies' Meetings.

Secretaries would oblige by condensing their minutes as much as possible, so that the portion published should principally contain matters of public interest. All reports should be addressed to—
MR. H. M. GOOCH, EFFINGHAM HOUSE, ARUNDEL STREET, LONDON, W.C.

BIRMINGHAM PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

Honorary President—W. B. AVERY, ESQ.
Hon. Sec. and Treas.—MR. G. JOHNSON, B.A.,
208, *Birchfield Road, Birmingham.*

OCT. 21st.—The following were unanimously elected members: Messrs. F. S. Carter (Derby), E. H. Eglington (Staffs.), E. Legendre (France).

Mr. W. T. Wilson then gave his presidential address, dealing mainly with the London Exhibition, and comparing it with the previous one, and advocating the holding of an exhibition in Birmingham.

NOV. 4th.—Rev. P. E. Raynor (Ipswich), Messrs. G. Mackey (Birmingham), and W. Marchbank (Newcastle-on-Tyne), were unanimously elected members.

Then followed the display of Ceylon. Messrs. Wilson and Pimm, and Major Stockdale, showed fine collections.

MANCHESTER PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

President—W. DORNING BECKTON.
Hon. Sec.—A. H. HARRISON.

THE second meeting of the seventh session was held at the Grand Hotel on Friday, October 1st, 1897. The President in the chair, supported by fourteen members. After the formal business, which included a vote of thanks to Mr. Grunewald for the loan of twenty-four large frames, used (with others belonging to the Society) at the inaugural meeting of the session, Mr. Ernest Petri read a paper on the recent London Jubilee Philatelic Exhibition. This paper showed that the writer had carefully, and with very critical eyes, inspected the various exhibits, giving great praise in some instances, and in many others pointing out where, to his mind, the particular exhibit was wanting. Mr. Petri's observations covered every exhibit of note, and were much appreciated by the members present. The President afterwards explained that though great care had been taken in the past as to the election of new members, the Committee had decided to make the regulation as to the admission of future members. He explained at some length what these restrictions were.

THE third ordinary meeting of the session was held at the Grand Hotel on Friday, October 15th, at 7.30 p.m. The President in the chair, supported by the following members: J. H. Abbott, F. Barratt, C. H. Coote, G. F. H. Gibson, O. Gillett, W. Grunewald, A. H. Harrison, M. W. Jones, W. W. Munn, J. C. North, T. Oxley, and E. Petri.

After the minutes of the previous meeting had been read and confirmed, a ballot was taken, which resulted in the unanimous election of the following gentlemen: Messrs. W. Armistead, Herbert Lund, F.R.C.S. Eng., John J. Leech, and Dr. Jago (of Cadishead) as ordinary members, and Mr. J. H. Thackrah (of Leeds) as a corresponding member.

Mr. M. W. Jones, F.C.S., then read a paper on "Gums" and "The best methods for detecting cleaned stamps," premising his remarks by a short account of the circumstances that led to the substitution of various vegetable starches for gum arabic. Owing to the failure in the supplies of the latter article, and the consequent high prices, caused by the Napoleonic wars during the first decade of this century, manufacturers and consumers were under the necessity of using cheaper substitutes, and hence the almost universal adoption and retention of these vegetable starches. Chief among these is dextrine, prepared from "farina,"

or occasionally from farina and maize; and it will doubtless be news to many Philatelists that this preparation has invariably been applied as a mucilage to English adhesives, ever since postage stamps were first issued, in the year 1840. After an exhaustive analysis of the properties of dextrine, in the course of which Mr. Jones incidentally explained that, although usually perfectly white, any depth of colour may be obtained by the process of roasting, or exposure of dextrine to heat in a moist atmosphere, reference was made of the admixture in dextrine of mineral acids, which, it was conceivable, although but a small millage, might injuriously affect certain delicate colours, especially where circumstances were favourable to the action of the acids, as in the case of stamps affixed to covers made of inferior papers, heavily sized with chemical ingredients.

Finally, attention was called to the subject of cleaned stamps, which may be readily detected, not only by the taste left by the powerful acids used for such purposes, but also by the greater transparency of all stamps thus treated, which are invariably more or less thinned by the elimination of the size originally contained in the paper.

A hearty burst of applause greeted the conclusion of a very scientific paper, which was highly appreciated by all present.

THE fourth ordinary meeting of the session was held at the Grand Hotel on Friday evening, October 29th, the President in the chair, supported by fourteen members.

After the minutes of the previous meeting had been read and confirmed, the following gentlemen were elected members of the Society, viz.: Mr. John Cooper, Longsight, as an ordinary member; and Messrs. W. A. Boden, Cardiff, and W. K. Skipwith, Leeds, as corresponding members.

The President then read a short paper on the stamps of Nevis, prefacing his remarks with a description of the physical features and general conditions of the Leeward Islands, in the course of which he suggested that the design of the first issues of Nevis was evidently adopted with a view to advertising the healing properties of the hot mineral springs, and attracting visitors to the island. In dealing with the varieties of type, which have been known to Philatelists for some thirty years, attention was called to the strange fact that the engraved series are so extremely rare in the entire sheet, those on blue paper being unknown in this condition.

On the conclusion of the paper the Hon. Secretary passed round, for inspection, a number of entire and reconstructed sheets of Nevis, which had been kindly lent for the occasion by Mr. C. J. Phillips.

Mr. G. B. Duerst terminated the proceedings by giving some interesting particulars about the recent Philatelic Exhibition held in Leipsic.

ARTHUR H. HARRISON, *Hon. Sec.*
GRASMERE, WHITEFIELD, NEAR MANCHESTER.

THE COLLECTORS' CLUB,

351, FOURTH AVENUE, NEW YORK.

President—WILLIAM HERRICK. | *Vice-President*—CHARLES GREGORY.
Secretary—J. M. ANDREINI, 29, W. 75th Street.

FIFTEENTH meeting of the Board of Governors held Oct. 11, 1897, at the Club House, Fourth Avenue. Present: Messrs. Scott, Luff, Lynde, Nast, Gregory and the Secretary.

Vice-President Gregory as the Chairman called the meeting to order at 8.10 p.m. Minutes of the previous meeting read and approved.

The Secretary read communications from Messrs. Ackerman, Wolsieffer, Luff, Deats, Mekeel, Mathews, Carion, and Collin.

Appropriation of $5 for binding books was made at the request of the Library Committee.

Request of Mr. Mathews granted.

Special Committee on Cuts reported the expenditure of $36, as authorized.

Report of Committee on Amusements was then received. House Committee report received.

Treasurer's report, embodying receipts and expenditures up to the end of the Club fiscal year, duly examined by the Auditing Committee, was then presented, and it was accepted with congratulations. Balance in bank on Sept. 30th, $650.04.

Appropriation of $40 for ivory balls was passed, and Chairman of House Committee authorized to purchase a set.

Upon ballot the following candidates were unanimously elected subscribing members of the Club: Reginald Stelfox, Demarest, N.J.; D. H. Bacon, Derby, Conn.; P. M. Wolsieffer, 201, S. Clark Street, Chicago, Ill.; Henry F. Lyons, jun., 383, First Street, Brooklyn, N.Y.; William Brown, St. Thomas Square, Salisbury, Eng.; W. H. Sussdorff, Woodside, L.I.; and they were declared duly elected.

The following application for membership was reported: Erik Enequist, 136, Liberty Street, proposed by John W. Scott, seconded by Walter S. Scott, and his name was ordered to be posted.

The Secretary reported having issued a two weeks visitor's ticket to Mr. Ed. L. Smiley, of Boston.

An informal discussion was then held on the subject of amendments to the constitution, proposed by Mr. Luff.

J. M. ANDREINI, *Secretary.*

THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY, NEW YORK,

351, FOURTH AVENUE.

President—CHARLES GREGORY.
Vice-President—J. M. ANDREINI.
Secretary—FREDERICK AUGUSTUS NAST.
Treasurer—HENRY CLOTZ.

THE regular monthly meeting of the Society was held September 20th, at the Collectors' Club. Present: Messrs. Clotz, Dejonge, Smith, Andreini, Luff, Tuttle, Scott, Lynde, and Nast. Vice-President Andreini in the chair. Visitors, Major Baker and Walter S. Scott.

The minutes of the preceding meeting were read and approved. The Secretary read a communication from Mr. Quigley resigning his office as Librarian owing to expected absence from town during the winter. A motion to accept Mr. Quigley's resignation with regret was carried unanimously.

Mr. Thorne, who was unable to be present, sent his little collection of "One hundred rare stamps," which had won a gold medal at the London Exhibition, for the examination of the members.

The stamps were of the kind that are usually not found in any collections except those of world-wide reputation, made by Philatelists of many years' standing.

Stamps of Nevis shown by Mr. Andreini in two volumes were the admiration and despair of the members present. Practically everything in sheets, and plated sheets both used and unused, on every kind of paper, in all shades and perforations, including those used fiscally; there was hardly anything to be filled out, excepting a few vacant spaces in the used sheets in course of construction.

Much regret was expressed at the absence of so many members, to whom these collections would have given great pleasure.

THE regular monthly meeting was held October 18th, at The Collectors' Club. Present: Messrs. Scott, Andreini, Lawrence, Gregory, Thorne, Tuttle, Brunner, and Nast; the President in the chair. The minutes of the preceding meeting were read and approved. Mr. W. H. Sussdorf, Woodside, New York, was unanimously elected a member of the Society.

The stamps of the Far East, Hawaii, China, Japan, etc., of which the extensive collection made by Mr. John N. Luff and exhibited at this meeting formed the basis of the discussion, were then taken up.

The topic for discussion at the November meeting will be the British Colonials, Messrs. Andreini and Thorne promising to have parts of their collections for exhibition to the members present.

SUBURBAN STAMP EXCHANGE.

MAY packets came back from the supplementary rounds on the 5th instant, and accounts were submitted for settlement with the least possible delay. Sales were as follows:

	£	s.	d.
May A 1 packet . .	99	4	7
„ A 2 „ . .	127	4	2
„ B 1 „ . .	51	17	11
„ B 2 „ . .	31	0	4
Supplementary rounds of A 1 and A 2 packets .	48	19	1

No packets were circulated in June, sheets received during that month being included in July rounds; these are expected back from supplementary rounds in about three weeks.

October packets were despatched on the 24th ult., and contained selections valued at £1904 11*s.* 11*d.* Africans were specially good at reasonable quotations. During the past month nine new members were elected, three resignations accepted, and eleven applications either held over or declined. Total number of members to date, 318. Collectors with few duplicates, but wishing to see packets, will be welcomed, as more buyers are wanted. Metal boxes are now in use for circulating sheets. Rules, etc., to be obtained on application to the Secretary—H. A. Slade, Ingleside, St. Albans.

Correspondence.

COMMUNICATIONS.—*All communications of Philatelic matters and Publications for Review should be addressed to the Editor of* THE LONDON PHILATELIST, Kingston Lodge, Richmond Place, Brighton.

ADVERTISEMENTS *should be sent to* MR. H. M. GOOCH (Advertising Department), Effingham House, Arundel Street, London, W.C.

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. ($1.50). *Subscribers' remittances should be sent to* Mr. H. M. GOOCH, EFFINGHAM HOUSE, ARUNDEL STREET, STRAND, LONDON, W.C.

THE RECORD OF CONTINUOUS COLLECTING.

To the Editor of the "London Philatelist."

DEAR SIR,—In last month's *London Philatelist*, in the course of an interesting reference to Dr. Legrand's collection, you say, "It is probable that thirty-five years is a record for the unbroken holding of stamps by any Philatelist." I venture to think that you are in error here, for there are, I trust, many excellent collections now in the possession of their original owners which were commenced more than thirty-five years ago. I cannot claim the term "excellent" for my own collection, but, such as it is, I have held it and continued it uninterruptedly since I first commenced making it in 1859. I well remember the circumstance which first called my attention to stamps. My father had gone to India, and my interest was aroused by seeing the curious stamps (the first 2 and 4 annas) that came home on his letters. The second type of these values was in issue at this time, and I can only account for my father using the first types by assuming that in the Western provinces, where he was stationed, the old stock had not been used up. I also noticed the 6d. and 1s. stamps used on the replies, and asked him to return them. With these I laid the foundation (in a partly-used Darnell's copy-book, with the old familiar green covers) of the collection which I am now proud to possess. It has no special merit in number or value, being a general collection of perhaps 16,000 or 18,000 varieties, but it has afforded me continual and ever-increasing pleasure through my school days and my whole subsequent life. It is quite possible that some of the specimens now in my albums are the identical ones which at one time reposed in the aforesaid copy-book, and I am at all events prepared to assert that I can point to an unbroken holding of stamps for thirty-eight years. My first catalogue was Mount Brown's, and my first price list that I remember was Young and Stockall's, dated May, 1865. These I still have, as well as many other old lists and catalogues, and the complete sets of the *Stamp Collector's Magazine* and *Philatelist*. I don't know that these facts are of interest to anyone but myself, but your reference to thirty-five years as a record has prompted me to recall them.

Yours truly,

WALTER SCOTT.

52, RICHMOND ROAD, CARDIFF,
November 15th, 1897.

[We insert with pleasure Mr. Scott's interesting letter, and acknowledge that he has so far broken the record of a continuous Philatelic holding. We can only hope that he may be spared for many years to make his experience unique.—ED.]

The Market.

Messrs. VENTOM, BULL, & COOPER.

Sale on October 14th and 15th.

	£	s.	d.
Great Britain, 2s., brown, unused	5	10	0
Heligoland, first issue, ½ sch., green and rose (2), and 1 sch., rose and blue-green, used, on entire, with postmark, "GEESTEMUENDE ZOLLVEREIN"	8	8	0
United States, Carrier's Stamp, blue on pink	7	0	0

28th and 29th.

Labuan, wmk. sideways, 12 c., carmine, unused	4	4	0
Lagos, 10s., lilac-brown, unused	13	0	0
Mauritius, Britannia, prov., 4d., black on green, unused	9	0	0
Nevis, lithographed, 1s., pale green, horizontal, unused, strip of 3, imperf. between	20	0	0
St. Vincent, 1d. in red on half 6d., blue-green, unused pair	8	10	0
Tobago, Crown CA, 6d., bistre-brown, unused	7	0	0
Virgin Islands, 1887–89, 6d., deep violet, entire sheet of 24	5	0	0
Antioquia, first issue, 1 peso, red	7	0	0
Bolivar, first issue, 10 c., green	5	10	0
P.S.N. Co., 1 real, blue	5	7	6
Peru, medio peso, rose, *fair*	9	0	0
Brazil, slanting figures, 600 reis, black	4	0	0
N.S.W., Sydney, 2d., blue, Pl. I.	5	5	0

November 11th and 12th.

We have to congratulate this firm, who have played the leading part in the resuscitation of Philatelic Auctions in this country, upon the one-hundredth sale. It will be seen, from the following excerpt of the lots, that not only were the stamps submitted of a fine class, but that throughout good prices were realized. In the majority of instances, notably the European stamps, the stamps were in fine condition, and were this usually the case at sales, our foreign contemporaries would cease to wonder at the *apparent* hiatus in price between Catalogue and Auction prices. With careful and *reliable* descriptions (and we are glad to note an improvement herein this season), with catalogues issued well in advance—to reach foreign bidders—and with the *fine stamps all illustrated*, we are convinced that really fine and rare stamps are capable of the attainment of full dealers' prices. No reasonable collector could wish for more—as a seller!

Great Britain, £1, brown-lilac; wmk. "Three Crowns"	3	7	6
Gibraltar, first issue, complete, unused	4	10	0
Mecklenburg-Schwerin, 1864, ¼ sch., red, rouletted (no gum)	7	10	0
Hanover, first issue, 1 ggr., black on blue (no gum)	6	5	0
Ditto, 10 gros., green, unused	3	3	0
Oldenburg, first issue, $\frac{1}{10}$, black on yellow, unused (no gum)	6	6	0
Ditto, second issue, 1859, ⅓, black on green	5	10	0
Saxony, 3 pf., red	11	0	0
Ditto, 1851, ½ ngr., black on pale blue (error)	10	0	0
Ditto, 1851, 2 ngr., dark blue	5	5	0
Baden, 1862, perf. 13½, 3 kr., rose, unused, (no gum)	4	0	0
Bavaria, 1870–73, 1 mark, imperf., unused horizontal pair	4	8	0
Wurtemberg, 1857, 9 kr., rose, unused	5	12	6
Ditto, 1859, thick paper, 9 kr., carmine, unused	5	5	0
Ditto, 1869–73, 70 kr., rose-lilac, unused	4	15	0
Ditto, 1875–79, 2 marks, yellow, unused	5	5	0
Ditto, ditto, 2 marks, vermilion on orange, unused	5	2	6
Hungary, lithographed, 15 kr., brown, unused	3	12	6
Belgium, 1850, 40 c., unused	3	10	0
Bulgaria, 1882, 5 stot., rose, "error"	11	0	0
Switzerland, Basle, 2½ rappen, unused (creased)	5	0	0
Ditto, Winterthur, 2½ rappen, unused	5	10	0
Naples, ½ tornese, "cross"	5	5	0
Spain, 1851, 2 reales, red, unused	27	15	0
Ditto, 1853, 2 reales, vermilion	9	10	0
Servia, 1st issue, the error "2 para," dark green on pale rose, unused	10	10	0
Russia, 1884, 3½ and 7 roubles, unused	3	7	6
The Levant, 1865, 20 kop., blue and red, unused	8	0	0
Finland, 1867–70, wove paper, 10 p., purple-brown on grey, error	4	2	6
Sweden, the error "tretio," on 20 öre, vermilion	16	10	0
Denmark, 1st issue, 2 rbs., blue, unused	4	7	6
Ceylon, "Service" 2/–, red on blue, imperf., horizontal pair	16	10	0
India, 1st issue, ½ anna, red	6	15	0
Ditto, 4 annas, red and blue, unused horizontal pair	5	10	0
Ditto, "Service," 1867, 2 annas, green on purple, unused	5	15	0

	£	s.	d.
Mauritius, Post Paid, 2d., blue, early plate, error "Penoe," unused	25	0	0
Ditto, Greek border, 2d., blue	5	0	0
Cape of Good Hope, triangular, 1/-, emerald-green, unused	8	0	0
Ditto, ditto, ditto, 1/-, dark green, unused	4	15	0
British Bechuanaland, 1889, surcharged "Protectorate," 1/-, 2/-, 2/6, 5/-, and 10/-, unused	13	0	0
Zululand, collection nearly complete, with 5/-, unused	4	0	0
Gold Coast, CA, 1d., blue, unused	10	0	0
Lagos, 5/-, blue, unused	7	0	0
Sierra Leone, wmk. CA, 4d., blue, unused	16	0	0
British East Africa, 1st issue, ½, 1, and 4 annas, unused	3	15	0
Canada, 10d., blue on thick paper, unused	7	15	0
Ditto, 12d. on laid paper (defective)	26	0	0
Newfoundland, 4d., orange, unused	11	0	0
Ditto, 1/-, orange, unused	27	0	0
Ditto, 6½d., carmine, unused	10	15	0
Nova Scotia, 1/-, violet, large margins	22	5	0
United States, 1851, 24 c., lilac, imperf., unused	10	0	0
Ditto, 1861, 5 c., mustard	5	15	0
Ditto, "State," $5, unused	19	5	0
Ditto, ditto, $10, unused	10	5	0
Ditto, ditto, $20, unused	9	0	0
Grenada, 1890-92, 2½d. on 8d., grey-brn., inverted surcharge	4	15	0
Montserrat, CA, 4d., blue, unused (no gum)	4	10	0
St. Christopher, CA, 4d., blue, unused	4	0	0
Nevis, litho., 4d., orange, unused	8	8	0
Ditto, ditto, 6d., grey, unused	7	15	0
Virgin Islands, perf. 15, 1/-, rose-carmine, double-line frame, unused	3	5	0
Barbados, 5/-, rose, unused	4	15	0
British Honduras, CC, perf. 14, 6d., rose, unused	4	7	6
Tobago, CA, 6d., bistre-brown, unused	8	0	0
St. Vincent, 5/-, rose, unused	15	10	0
Ditto, 1d. in red on half of 6d., blue-green, unused pair	18	0	0
Ditto, Star wmk., 1d., drab, unused	4	10	0
Turks Islands, 4d. on 1/-, lilac, (Type XVI.), unused	4	4	0
British Guiana, 1862, provisional, 4 c., black on blue, pearl in heart border, full roulettes, on original	14	5	0
Buenos Ayres, 4 pesos, red, unused	22	5	0
Ditto, 5 pesos, orange, unused	27	17	6
Mexico, Eagle, 3 c., brown, unused	5	5	0
New South Wales, laureated, 8d., orange, on piece of original	6	15	0
Victoria, 5/-, blue on yellow, unused	18	5	0
South Australia, 1st issue, 1d., green, unused	9	10	0
New South Wales, laureated, 8d., orange-yellow, no leaves to right of "South"	6	10	0

Mr. W. Hadlow.

October 19th.

UNUSED GREAT BRITAIN.

	£	s.	d.
1d., black, block of 12	6	12	6
10d., octagonal, light brown, pair	5	5	0
2d., blue, Small Crown, perf. 14	5	10	0
4d., carmine, wmk. Small Garter, pair (one stained)	22	0	0
4d., rose, wmk. Medium Garter, on *white*	10	10	0
3d., rose, secret dots, perf.	6	17	6
1½d., lilac-rose, on bleuté, pair	3	15	0
5s., rose, Plate IV., wmk. Anchor	10	0	0
8d., brown-lilac, unused	5	5	0
10s., grey, wmk. Maltese Cross	18	0	0
2s., red-brown, imperf.	5	0	0
2s., „ perf., a pair	12	10	0
4d., sage-green, Plate XV., entire pane (60)	11	15	0

Messrs. Puttick & Simpson.

October 19th and 20th.

	£	s.	d.
Nova Scotia, 6d., yellow-green, unused	7	7	0
Bahamas, imperf., 1d., lake	3	0	0
Barbados, 1d. on half 5s., rose, the large numeral with oblique serif, reading downwards, pair	25	10	0
Dominica, CA, 1s., mauve, unused, block of 4	8	2	6
Trinidad, lithograph, 1d., blue, early impression	4	12	6
British Guiana, 1 c., rose, No. 16 on plate, rouletted on three sides	8	10	0
British Guiana, 4 c., blue, No. 15 on plate, full roulettes.	13	0	0
New Zealand, wmk. "N Z," 1d., brown	14	10	0

November 2nd and 3rd.

	£	s.	d.
Barbados, imperf., 1s., black, block of 4 (corner block)	6	0	0

Messrs. Cheveley & Co.

October 30th.

	£	s.	d.
Ceylon, imperf., 8d.	14	15	0
Cape, woodblock, 1d., carmine-red, unused	13	10	0
Vancouver Island, 5 c., imperf.	13	10	0
United States, 1869, 24 c., centre inverted	22	0	0

THE

London Philatelist:

THE MONTHLY JOURNAL OF

THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY, LONDON.

VOL. VI. DECEMBER, 1897. No. 72.

The Spirit of the Age.

THE dominant feature in our tail-end of the century is undoubtedly a burning desire to become possessed of a very full share of this world's goods, with the slightest expenditure of either our labour or our time. The eight hours day would not do for the modern racer after riches—the patience of plodding is none of his. For him it is the concentrated excitement of a few minutes—the bold bid as to the "futures"—the cool calculation of what should be worth buying or selling in big operations, or the concerted action to secure the monopoly or corner the market. A day's work, and sometimes a risk of a life's fortune!

The "childlike and bland" pursuit of Philately is not altogether unacquainted with the species. In the earlier portions of this half century collectors pursued their placid way and watched the gradual growth of their treasures, content to think that perfection of accumulation was the work of a lifetime, or many years at least. Whether for better or worse remains to be seen; but this is vastly changed. Nowadays a man decides after dinner that he will "take up," say, Patagonia, and the next morning charters a cab, buys every Patagonian, wholesale or retail, from the trade in his own city, writes or wires to all the leading dealers abroad, and in about a week has more Patagonian stamps than the rest of the world combined, and has spent more money than an old-time collector did in a decade. We have some doubts as to the advantages of the new system. The price is put up against himself by the purchaser, and the meal is too heavy and too rapidly taken to permit of due Philatelic digestion. The best collector is "he who goes slowly," as "he goes far," whereas an inevitable result of rapid accumulation is the frequently equally rapid disenchantment that follows. The operator for rises or falls who "buys up"

all stamps of a certain issue or country, and who endeavours to corner the market, is a true child of the age, and one of a prolific family. He does not, however, always emerge without burnt fingers, as the process of "unloading" a cornered article may develop a considerable amount of friction. The speculator who buys only things likely to rise, or rare stamps, is on slower or surer footing than the class we have just alluded to, but he misses all the real pleasure of collecting. The steady and scientific collector, with infinite patience, will be found best off in the long run.

Nor is the reckless race confined to amateurs. Weird tales are repeated from month to month of the rapid accretion of cash or stocks on the part of leading members of the trade, and in their haste to grow rich no "appreciation of price" is too great, or no rise too rapid for their balance at the bank. In older days a trader in stamps was considered a fortunate man who secured a competence after half a lifetime's work. At the end of the century a handsome fortune is the expected guerdon of a few years' trading.

The soundest business is that which is carried on without haste to grow rich, and the safest investment is that which ripens slowly with the passing years.

Notes on the Railway Letter Fee Stamps of Great Britain and Ireland.

A Paper read before the Philatelic Society, London, on November 19th, 1897.

By C. F. DENDY MARSHALL.

THE stamps which are issued by railway companies for the purpose of franking letters sent by train present a field which is as full of interest as it is as yet unexplored. Though they were first issued six years ago, Philatelists seem for the most part to have left these stamps severely alone, and it is only quite recently that any notice has been taken of them, and already some have become obsolete and almost impossible to obtain.

In these days of Jubilee issues and Hospital labels it is a relief to turn to the harmless *necessary* Railway stamp, for many a great Colony stoops to tricks for obtaining money under false pretences which any small, self-respecting railway company would scorn to avail itself of.

These stamps should appeal to all specialists of our own country, as they are an issue sanctioned by the Government, and on that account entitled to rank above College stamps, which some people set great store by. Then the fact of their association with letters ought to make them take precedence of Telegraph stamps; in my opinion they come next to the regular official issue of Postage stamps in point of interest.

So little being generally known on the subject, it perhaps will be well to describe the circumstances under which these stamps are used.

When it is desired to send a letter by train, an ordinary penny stamp is

put on,† and the letter is taken to the parcels office at a railway station and handed over to an official, together with twopence, in return for which he forwards the letter by the next train, having previously affixed a Railway stamp. According to the address, it is either posted on arrival at the nearest point to its destination or left at the station to be called for by the addressee. These stamps are difficult to obtain in an unused state, as many companies decline to sell them.

The system came into operation on February 2nd, 1891.

All, with a few exceptions, conform more or less closely to one general type, and are lithographed in green on wove paper without any watermark. The general type is about the size of the 5s. postage stamp. The central design is a white shield, bearing a large figure "2" with a small capital "D.," below which is a dash, and below this a dot. The background to the shield is solid colour. Round it is a circular band, containing the words "FEE FOR CONVEYANCE OF SINGLE POST LETTERS" in block capitals. At the top and bottom of the stamp are two oblong labels, containing the name of the railway; on each side are vertical ornaments, consisting of short thick lines surrounded by thin ones. The triangular spaces at the corners, formed by the circular band, are filled either with diagonal lines or with foliate ornaments.

All in the following list will be understood to be of the general type, green in colour, and perforated, unless specially described. Occasionally differences of perforation may be met with, but for the present it has been thought best to ignore these.

A list will be found in the *Postal Guide* of the railway companies which have entered into an agreement with the Postmaster-General to convey letters. But this list is unsatisfactory from a collector's point of view for two reasons: firstly, it sometimes includes and sometimes omits those that have become obsolete; and secondly, many lines are set down therein which have never had any stamps of their own. The following list contains any remarks which apply to individual stamps. In each case, with the exception of those marked with an asterisk, which I have not seen, the title of the railway given is in the exact words or abbreviations used on the stamps.

I. ENGLAND, WALES, AND SCOTLAND.

Aylesbury & Buckingham Railway. These stamps are now obsolete, having been superseded by the Metropolitan. They were printed in sheets of twelve, in two horizontal rows of six. They are rouletted, and bear a black control number.

Ayrshire and Wigtownshire Railway.* These are also obsolete. The stamps now used in this part of the country are Glasgow and South Western, and Portpatrick and Wigtownshire Joint.

Barry Railway. These have a black control number.

Brecon & Merthyr Railway.

Caledonian Railway Company.

† Although we do not gainsay the interest attaching to these stamps, we consider that the postage is defrayed only by the adhesive Government stamp, and that the Railway stamps only represent a fee for accelerated service.—ED.

Cambrian Railways. These are of a peculiar design; there is no shield, and the corners are filled in with a lattice-work pattern.

Cheshire Lines Committee.

City of Glasgow Union.* These are obsolete. I am by no means certain that they ever existed.

Cleator & Workington Junction Railway.

Cockermouth, Keswick & Penrith Railway.

Colne Valley Railway. These are peculiar, as they have an ornament of leaves in the vertical spaces on either side.

East and West Junction Railway. Black control number.

Eastern and Midlands Railway. These are obsolete, having been superseded by the Midland and Great Northern Joint.

The Furness Railways. Rouletted with coloured lines.

Garstang & Knot End Railway. Rouletted, black control number.

Glasgow & South Western Railway.

Great Central Railway. Issued 1897.

Great Eastern Railway.

Great North of Scotland Railway.

Great Northern Railway.

Great Western Railway. There are two very distinct types of these; the space between the shield and the circular band in the first is as usual solid colour, in the second it is composed of thin horizontal lines.

The Highland Railway Company.

Hull & Barnsley Company. These are on laid paper.

Lancashire & Yorkshire Railway.

Lancashire, Derbyshire, & East Coast Railway. These show no attempt to imitate the usual type. "$2\frac{D.}{-}$" is in an oval with the longer axis horizontal, the sides have a zigzag ornamentation, the title of the railway is wholly at the top, and the words "Fee for conveyance," etc., are contained in a space below the figure instead of a circular band.

London and North Western Railway. Rouletted, with black control number.

London and South Western Railway. These are printed in sheets of twelve in four horizontal rows of three.

London, Brighton, and South Coast Railway.

London, Chatham, & Dover Railway.

London, Tilbury, & Southend Railway.

Macclesfield Committee.

Manchester & Milford Railway. Rouletted, with black control number.

Manchester, Sheffield, & Lincolnshire Railway. These are now obsolete, as the name has been changed this year to Great Central. They were printed in sheets of twelve in four horizontal rows of three. The second and fourth stamps down the left side are different from the rest, as they have a single line instead of two along the top of the stamp.

Manchester, South Junction, & Altrincham Railway. Black control number.

Maryport & Carlisle Railway Company.

Metropolitan Railway. These are red-brown, with a black control number. They are only used on the section between Baker Street and Verney Junction.

Midland Railway. These words occur both at the top and bottom of the stamp. There is a black control number.

Midland & Great Northern Joint Railways.

Midland & South Western Junction Railway.

Neath and Brecon Railway.

Northampton & Banbury Junction Railway.

North British Railway Company.

North Eastern Railway. The first issue of these was red in error. The inscription is also curious. That in the circular band, instead of the usual formula, is "To be used only for letters bearing a postage stamp." At the top is "North Eastern Railway," and below are the words "Railway Letter Post." These were withdrawn almost immediately, and their place was taken by green ones with the usual inscriptions. Both kinds have a black control number.

North London Railway. Rouletted, with black control number.

North Staffordshire Railway.

Oldham, Ashton, & Guide Bridge Railway.

Pembroke & Tenby Railway. Black control number.

Portpatrick & Wigtownshire Railways.

Rhondda & Swansea Bay Railway.

Rhymney Railway. Rouletted, with black control number.

Severn and Wye and Severn Bridge Railway.

Sheffield & Midland Railways Committee.

South Eastern Railway. There are two distinct types of these; besides all other points, the earlier ones have the corners filled with diagonal lines, whereas the later have foliate ornaments. Both of these, together with those of the four following railways, have black control numbers.

Southwold Railway. Rouletted.

Taff Vale Railway.

West Lancashire Railway.

Wrexham, Mold, and Connah's Quay Ry. Rouletted.

II. IRELAND.

Bllycastle Railway. This and the two following railways are printed in a pale olive shade.

Belfast and County Down Railway.
Belfast and Northern Counties Railway. } Both of these are printed in sheets of nine in three rows of three.

Cavan, Leitrim, and Roscommon Lt. Raily.

Clogher Valley Tramway Co., Ltd.

Cork, Bandon, and South Coast Railway. These have a tiny control number in green just above the left top corner of the stamp.

Cork, Blackrock, and Passage Railway.

Cork & Macroom Direct Railway. These are ultramarine, in sheets of eight in two horizontal rows of four.

Donegal Railway Company. Rouletted, with coloured lines.

Dublin, Wicklow, & Wexford Railway.

Dundalk, Newry, and Greenore Railway.

Finn Valley Railway Company. These are obsolete, as this has been amalgamated with the West Donegal, and the whole system is now known as the Donegal Railway.

Great Northern Railway Company. (I.)

Great Southern and Western Railway.

Kanturk & Newmarket Railway Company. These are now obsolete, as the line has been taken over by the G.S. and W.R. (1896).

Londonderry & Lough Swilly Railway Company. (I.) These are the most startling departures of all, as they are dark blue, and instead of the shield being inscribed "2D." it bears the legend "1D." They are slightly longer than the general type.

Midland Great Western Railway.

Sligo, Leitrim, and Northern Counties Railway. These are pale olive.

Waterford and Limerick Railway. There are two distinct printings of these, one rather fine, and the other thick and rough. They are now obsolete, the name having been changed to Waterford, Limerick, and Western.

Waterford and Tramore Railway.

Waterford, Dungarvan, & Lismore Railway. These are scarlet, printed in sheets of twenty-four in four rows of six.

Waterford, Limerick, & Western Railway.

West Clare Railway Company.

West Donegal Railway.* (See note on Finn Valley.)

I think it will be well in conclusion to give a list of those companies which are included in the list in the *Postal Guide*, and have hitherto been given in catalogues, but which, I have ascertained on good authority, have never had stamps of their own, but use those of some larger company.

Central Wales & Carmarthen Junction.
Liverpool, Southport, & Preston Junction.
Seacombe, Hoylake, & Deeside.

Athenry and Ennis Junction.
Athenry & Tuam.
Clara & Banagher.
Derry Central.
Enniskillen, Bundoran, & Sligo.
Fermoy & Lismore.
Kilkenny Junction.
Limerick & Kerry.
Rathkeale & Newcastle Junction.
Southern.
Tralee & Fenit.

Philatelic Notes.

NOTE.—*The co-operation of Philatelists is invited in order to make this column of a varied and interesting nature.*

GOLD COAST, 1D., *CA.*

MR. W. T. WILSON writes to inform us that he has seen that desirable stamp, the 1d., blue, wmk. C A, perf. 14, with a postmark dated October 31st, 1883. The date of issue is variously given in the catalogues; *e.g.*, Stanley Gibbons, 1884; Moens (?), 1884; Senf, 1883; and Scott Stamp and Coin Company's Advanced Catalogue, 1886.

CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.

ALTHOUGH the last find is not a discovery as to a new variety, it is in legal phrase a "discovery" of a remarkably interesting nature. One of the charms of stamp collecting is the infinite possibilities of bygone issues being unearthed, but it is rare indeed that these relics of the past are turned up in uncut sheets—except in the disturbed dream of the Philatelist. The stamps in question are the One Shilling, green, printed by Messrs. Perkins, Bacon and Co., and the so-called emerald-green of the Cape of Good Hope, that was printed by Messrs. De La Rue & Co. on the old paper. The following extract from the minutes of the Birmingham Philatelic Society of the 18th November includes some interesting observations as regards the former:—

"Dr. Lyon exhibited a complete uncut sheet of 1s. medium green triangular Capes in mint condition. This valuable and interesting exhibit allowed the members an opportunity of noting the arrangement of the stamps, the spacings, and the watermarks. The whole sheet, allowing an average for the deckle edges, is $28\frac{1}{8}$ inches by 11, the space occupied by the stamps—240 in number in 15 rows of 16—is $19\frac{3}{4} \times 10\frac{3}{10}$ inches. The space between the stamps making a pair is fairly even all over the sheet, and is about $1\frac{1}{4}$ mm. The space between pairs in the same row is much more irregular, and varies from $1\frac{1}{4}$ to 2 mm. The spaces between the rows are nearly twice as great as between the stamps on each row, and vary from $2\frac{1}{2}$ to 3 mm.

"The Anchor wmk. is very evenly placed in the centre of each stamp, while the whole sheet is surrounded by a watermark of five parallel lines, the total width of which is $\frac{7}{20}$ of an inch. The outer four lines are interrupted in six places, once at the top, once at the bottom, and twice at each side by the word POSTAGE, $2\frac{7}{16}$ by $\frac{3}{10}$ inches, in open Roman capitals."

As regards the latter—the De La Rue Issue—we have not had the opportunity of inspecting the sheet, but are informed by those who have, that it is in very fine condition, and that it was a real find, having turned up in a mass of old papers, supposed to be of very little value, but containing

a certain number of curiosities, amongst which this will certainly take the highest place.

The November number of the *Monthly Journal* describes this sheet as follows, but it is very curious that, contrary to the statement therein made as to no other specimen having been seen, a second sheet of such previously issued sheet should also turn up!:—

"The sheet is in excellent condition, perfectly clean, with original gum, and margins, except where a single pair has been cut out, quite complete; and one can only wonder what led its original owner to stow away nearly £12 worth of stamps (face value) in this manner, for there can be little doubt that it has never before been in the hands of a stamp collector, and it would appear to have been accidentally preserved, as no other stamps of so early a date have yet been found in the pile. The impression is not even in tint throughout, and it seems evident that either one end of the plate was somewhat worn, or that end was not so heavily inked as the other when this impression was printed, one end of the sheet being distinctly paler in shade, and showing a slight want of ink at some of the points where the corners of four stamps meet. The other part of the sheet is of a beautiful deep colour."

ZANZIBAR AND B. E. AFRICA.

WE have to acknowledge with thanks the following interesting note from Mr. Cyril H. Bowden, written at Zanzibar on the 26th November, and heartily welcome the intelligence that there is likely to be peace in the land:

"I am enclosing a few additional particulars anent the provisional issues of Zanzibar and British East Africa, which I trust you may find of interest.

"I think there remains little further to be said regarding the above issues, and it appears most unlikely that any necessity will arise in the near future for surcharging or overprinting.

"An impression, I understand, exists that the current Zanzibar stamp is likely to be superseded by another type of adhesive, bearing the portrait of the present Sultan.

"I am assured by Mr. Remington, however, that any such change is most improbable, and that the only one at present in contemplation is in connection with the Protectorate stamps, the higher values of which it is proposed to increase to a size corresponding with that of the current British India and Zanzibar issues."

CURRENT ISSUE, ZANZIBAR.

STAMPS OVERPRINTED 'B. E. A.'

January 1–5, 1897.

Annas.		No. Issued.
½		1500
1		4200
1	surcharged 2½	3000
2		2400
3	surcharged 2½	3600
4½		1800
5		1800
7½		1800

B. E. A. STAMPS.

OVERPRINTED 'ZANZIBAR.'

June 1st, 1896.

Annas.	No. Issued.
½	1800
1	1800
2½	1200

August 12th, 1896.

4½	2460
5	1800
7½	1800

'ZANZIBAR' SURCHARGE.

January 5th.

4	surcharged 2½	4200

"NOTE.—The 1 anna surcharged 2½, as catalogued, was never officially printed and issued for *Zanzibar;* and, if in existence, must be fraudulent. I should be glad to know if the red surcharge appears to have been stencilled instead of printed."

Occasional Notes.

INTERNATIONAL POSTAL INCOMES.

WE had always proudly thought our prepaid postal system was not only the first but the largest in the world. Our insular pride has, however, been rudely shocked by reading the enclosed in the daily papers. We fancy, however, that the concluding sentence must be of considerable import, and that "postal traffic" covers a multitude of business :—

"The statistics for 1896, just published by the World's Postal Union, reveal the fact that the postal traffic of Germany involves a greater expenditure and brings in a larger income than that of any other country in the world. The five most important countries from a postal point of view are:—Germany: income, 486,000,000 f.; expenditure, 469,000,000 f. America: income, 398,000,000 f.; expenditure, 449,000,000 f. England: income, 286,000,000 f.; expenditure, 202,000,000 f. France: income, 224,000,000 f.; expenditure, 174,000,000 f. Russia: income, 160,000,000 f.; expenditure, 116,000,000 f. One reason for the largeness of the figures for Germany is the fact that the telephone is a Government monopoly."

POSTAGE STAMP SWINDLES.

A CORRESPONDENT has kindly sent us a cutting from a recent number of *Tit-Bits* under the above heading, which for vain and unblushing effrontery must be almost "unique." We can only trust that the publicity afforded by the Press may be the means of stopping the nefarious career of this scoundrel, who certainly ought to see the inside of the Old Bailey, even if he has been there before :—

"Recently I visited the workshop of a foreign stamp-faker. His rooms, situated in an obscure court in the City, looked like the abode of a waste-paper merchant, from the number of sacks of paper and old envelopes stowed in every corner. After a satisfactory explanation as to my business, I was permitted to enter a small room behind the shop. The first thing noticeable was the extraordinary number of rubber and brass stamps hung on racks round the wall. These were used for postmarking stamps which had been placed on telegrams. Although these stamps are very good and clear specimens, they are practically valueless to most collectors without a postmark. This our worthy friend supplies. I was then shown a parcel containing about 600 sixpenny Gold Coast stamps, which had been used on bills of lading for the stamp duty and cancelled by writing the date in ink across them, as we do receipt stamps. These our dealer had bought for a nominal sum (about four a penny), and which in the course of a day or two he hoped to sell—all bearing a postmark, and in every way identical to the legitimate postage stamps—at 4d. each, showing a handsome profit of £9 7s. 6d. on the parcel. His process of converting the fiscal stamps to postal is extremely simple. By means of an acid used on a fine gold pen he

carefully removes the ink marks, then with a hand-stamp the postmark, date, etc., are applied, and this, when done neatly, covers any trace of the acid manipulation, and thus the stamp is ready for the unsuspecting buyer. By this means some really valuable stamps, which when used on telegrams would only realize a few pence, are converted into specimens worth several shillings. Our dealer then showed me with pride two of the penny black English stamps, one of which had a Maltese cross in each corner, and the other V.R. in the top corners, the former being worth to-day 1d. and the other £5; yet he assured me they were both the same stamps, and before he had removed the top crosses with chemicals and etched the V.R. in their place were worth only 1d. each. The transformation had been so cleverly done that in spite of a powerful hand-glass I was unable to detect any alteration. He then showed me an old Australian stamp, catalogued by the dealers when a perfect specimen at £20. This appeared in excellent preservation, and after a careful examination I pronounced it perfect. He then wetted it, when a fine line was observed running across its face. This, he explained, was caused by its being joined or pieced together from two damaged stamps cut into pieces to fit. The joins were so accurate as to be unnoticeable until wetted."

KRÖTZSCH'S HANDBOOK ON GERMAN STAMPS.

THIS elaborate and scientific work has been in course of publication for the past two or three years, but has been temporarily suspended with a view to the members of the Dresden Philatelic Society becoming subscribers. It would appear that the time allowed for notification on the part of members to Mr. Krötzch has expired, but that only 54 names have been sent in out of the 2000 members of that body! It is to be hoped, now that the author has extended the time of notification of subscription to the 1st January next, that the requisite number will be forthcoming, and that no further delay may take place in the appearance of a work of such great importance and excellence. The information contained in the handbook is of the greatest value to the collector, while the copious illustrations, inclusive of all postmarks—reproduced in *fac-simile* by photo-lithographic process—should be simply invaluable to the student of German stamps. The Fatherland boasts many of these, and it will not redound to the credit of Philately in Germany if so brilliant a piece of work is allowed to go under. In the writer's experience this work has repaid itself many times by the knowledge it has imparted. Intending subscribers should apply as early as possible to Mr. H. Krötzsch, 22, Lange Strasse, Leipsic.

AWKWARD FIGURES IN LEEWARD ISLANDS SURCHARGES.

WE have received communications from Mons. J. B. Moens, Messrs. Whitfield King and Co., and others, on the subject of the Sexagenary stamps. The official returns, which were given in our last issue, are apparently not very reliable. After comparing various figures which have been supplied to us, we can only come to one of two conclusions: either that in order to make up the remainders into saleable lots, as shown in the official document of October 1st, a reprint of certain values has taken

place prior to the destruction of the die, which was certified on the date given above, or else that stocks purchased for the purposes of speculation have been returned to the authorities.

The following table gives at a glance the various official figures which have been supplied:—

Value.	No. Printed.	No. Sold.	Remainders.	Tenders for.
½d.	15,600	12,963	2637	2637
1d.	15,600	12,811	2789	2789
2½d.	15,000	9833	5167	5407*
4d.	6000	4747	1253	1493*
6d.	3480	2690	790	1030*
7d.	3480	2687	793	793
1/-	1800	1743	57	600*
5/-	900	784	116	600*

How comes it then that tenders are invited for a quantity of stamps which in the 2½d., 4d., 6d., 1/-, and 5/- values exceeds considerably the totals printed, and that in the 1/- and 5/- values the quantity to be tendered for is *exactly* 600 of each value?

The absurdity of the whole business, from a Philatelic point of view, as well as the more serious reflection upon the probity of the Colonial Post Office in the island, will be apparent to everyone.

Collectors may judge from the present instance only of the absolute necessity for the active operations of bodies like the S.S.S.S. Without some such means of calling the attention of the Philatelic world to these abuses of authority, they would inevitably increase and multiply.

REDUCTION OF CANADIAN POSTAL RATES.

WE notice from various of our contemporaries that the Dominion of Canada Government has decided to reduce the postal rates between the Colony and the other portions of the British Empire. The importance of this step, which we trust may be the means of hastening a similar action on the part of the Home Government, will be seen when we say that after January 1st next it will be possible to send a letter of one ounce weight from Canada to any portion of the British Empire, outside the Dominion, for a sum of 1½d. instead of, as at present, 5d.

THE REQUIREMENTS OF A MODERN CATALOGUE.

IN reviewing the new Scott Stamp and Coin Co.'s Catalogue we have made certain remarks as to the advisability of not overloading a work required for general use. On previous occasions our views have also been expressed that the minute variations of type, shade, etc., are better left to the handbook or specialised catalogue. As elsewhere mentioned in this number, we do not counsel the absolute passing over of these minor varieties, but think that anything important *should* be included in the ordinary catalogue,

but as a sub-type *in smaller print*, while the less striking varieties and *minor* shades could be hinted at in footnotes to the respective issue.

There are, however, many dissentients even from this modification, and we have heard and read many adverse comments hereon, both in this country and America.

The *Philatelic World* for December, which has come to hand since our remarks on the new catalogue were printed, has some very pertinent and sensible remarks in allusion to the new "Scott," which we venture to reproduce to our readers, as clearly setting forth the views of the opponents of over-elaboration :—

"While the book is undoubtedly a great addition to Philatelic literature, we are sorry that the publishers have seen fit to include shades, errors, etc., in a catalogue which is meant to be for general use. The number of people who collect shades and minor varieties probably does not exceed one-half of one per cent. of the number who will buy the catalogue, and a large number of the other 99½ per cent. will try their patience sorely in a vain endeavour to determine whether the 12 öre Denmark they have is bright lilac and grey, dull magenta and grey, dull magenta and slate, dull lake and grey, or dull lake and slate. We venture to assert that out of, say, 25,000 of any one stamp that comes in shades, there could be found many times as many distinct shades as are catalogued in the 1898 Scott Catalogue. Then why attempt to catalogue shades when it is impossible to give a complete list? and any list of shades complete or incomplete only tends to bewilder and confuse the average collector. If shades are to be catalogued at all the proper place for them is in a catalogue like *The Catalogue for Advanced Collectors*, and not in a catalogue intended for the average collector and those just starting a collection."

THE POSTAL UNION COLOURS.

THERE is one point made very clear by the official *démenti* inserted among the New Issues; *i.e.*, that no alteration is to be made on the 1st January next. The date for the presumed alteration in the colours of these low value stamps was given to us on credible authority as January 1st, 1898, but it is obvious that January 1st, 1899, is nearer the mark. It remains, however, to be seen whether many of the Governments will not antedate this; *e.g.*, Austro-Hungary, which announces a new issue early in the year, would surely be well advised to at once select the colours that are required by the Postal Union.

THE HOSPITAL STAMP.

A GENERAL meeting of the Council of the Prince of Wales' Hospital Fund for London was held on the 20th December at Marlborough House, the Prince of Wales, President of the Fund, taking the chair.

In his financial statement Lord Rothschild, the Treasurer, said that "there was at the present moment, at the Bank of England and other banks, a sum of £187,000, a part of which—£99,000—had been invested in Securities. Of that £187,000, £20,500 had been received as annual subscriptions, and

£1500 as interest from moneys invested; so that the income of the Fund so far amounted to about £22,000. In addition, the Fund would receive towards the end of the year £38,000 to £40,000 from the sale of the Hospital Stamps."

In the course of his speech, H.R.H. the Prince of Wales said: "I am ready to spend every sixpence of our income, but I confess it was with great reluctance that I gave way on the point of spending any of our capital. At the same time, the question of the Hospital Stamps, which will realize about £40,000, is a special thing, and I think we may put this amount aside from the sums we have received from other institutions and from other people."

The raising of no less than £40,000 by means of selling adhesive receipt labels is indeed "prodigious"; and while we most heartily congratulate the illustrious Chairman upon the success of the scheme, we none the less realize that stamp collecting has been brought within the purview of countless thousands of the British public.

MR. M. GIWELB'S COLLECTION.

IT will be remembered that Mr. Giwelb was awarded a silver medal for his display of one hundred rare stamps at the Philatelic Exhibition of this year, a reward that was doubtless in no inconsiderable measure due to the fine condition of the stamps shown. The collection from which these were chosen, and which has been Mr. Giwelb's especial delight to collect for some years, is now in process of disintegration, and its many fine stamps will pass to other owners, none of whom will, however, worship their condition more than their quondam owner! The collection includes a fine set of Antioquia, first issue, a choice lot of Mauritius, including the very rare 1s., perforated, unused, and Spain, complete, unused, except the 1 r., light blue, 1854, and the three inverted centres. The British North-American and West African and West Indian Colonies, as well as many other of the European and South Amercian countries, are represented by practically complete collections —in single specimen—and all in Mr. Giwelb's mint condition.

BINDING—SPECIAL NOTICE.

THE attention of members of the London Philatelic Society and subscribers generally is drawn to the facilities offered for having their volumes of the *London Philatelist* bound in stock style, half marone Morocco, gilt top. Any of the back volumes can be so bound, all the volumes matching one another.

Copies of Volume VI. to be bound should be sent as early as possible, the cost of binding, SEVEN SHILLINGS per volume (which includes return postage and packing), accompanying the order.

Copies from ABROAD should be accompanied by a M.O. for EIGHT SHILLINGS, which includes return by registered book post. Address: Mr. H. M. Gooch, Effingham House, Arundel Street, Strand, London, W.C.

Reviews.

THE STAMPS OF ROMAGNA.*

THIS *brochure* has been reprinted from the columns of the *Timbre-Poste*—or rather, the columns themselves have been bodily transferred, but will, none the less, be found of interest to collectors of Italian stamps. The particularly uninteresting labels that form the sole issue of "the Romagnas" (as Dr. Diena terms it, no doubt correctly) would hardly have seemed to have formed a basis for seventy or eighty pages of printed matter, but the accomplished author has gathered together a complete history of all that pertained to the issue and withdrawal of Romagna's only issue. The question of the (unworthy) disposal of the remainders and the obsolete dies by the Government is dealt with at considerable length, and notably so by M. Moens. It would appear that the battered types were used for reprinting by M. Moens himself and others; but the former seems never—or "hardly ever"—to have sold any of the products. When, however, in common with so much other trash, the types wended their way to Hamburg, it was *autre chose!* In our opinion there is (only on the question of reprints *bien entendu*) but one act that a dealer can commit worse than reprinting stamps himself—*i.e.*, to sell the dies to another man! *Verb. sap.*

THE STANDARD CATALOGUE.†

In their 1898 issue, which has already appeared, our enterprising Transatlantic friends have introduced one or two marked innovations, which certainly also constitute improvements over previous editions.

(1) Following to a certain extent Messrs. Stanley Gibbons' plan, the post cards are now eliminated, a space of some sixty pages being thereby gained, and the work reduced to the legitimate pocket dimensions that are nowadays considered absolutely necessary.

(2) The system of printing the variations from the normal stamps in smaller print immediately following, has in our opinion always formed one of the best characteristics in M. Moens' world-renowned catalogues; but it has found comparatively few followers as yet. The Scott Co. have, however, very wisely followed their lead in the 1898 edition, and the catalogue is thereby immeasurably improved and *simplified*. The great object of this class of work is to be comprehensive without being involved, to give an idea to the specialist or advanced collector of all that exists,

* *The Postage Stamps of the Romagnas*, by E. DIENA; *With a Study of their Reprints*, by J. B. MOENS. J. B. Moens, 42, Rue de Florence, Brussels.

† *The Standard Postage Stamp Catalogue*, 1898. The Scott Stamp and Coin Co., Ltd., 18, East 23rd Street, New York.

and at the same time to present to the average collector a list of varieties that shall not frighten him. No better plan can be devised therefore than this subordination—by the use of smaller type—of all that varies from the normal and standard issues. The main objective of these catalogues is to encourage the general collector and not to frighten him off, hence we warmly welcome and recommend the further adoption of this system, so ably inaugurated in the catalogues of M. Moens. The aid of footnotes could also be more largely resorted to with advantage by Messrs. Scott, as *in the case of shades* it avoids the undue lengthening of the lists, while indicating to the specialist that the limits of his acquisitions are not confined to the numbers of the catalogue.

The general excellent features of this work are continued, paper, illustrations, and type leaving little to be desired. In the present edition many new issues and other varieties and discoveries are incorporated, and, taken as a whole, it is fully up to date and in every way worthy of the firm that issues it, and its large circle of readers on both sides of the Atlantic. There is still a tendency to price too much, but in the main there is no very marked rise in values—a welcome feature.

The first portion of the list, that contains the U.S., is naturally a very prominent feature, and betrays evidence of the labour that has been devoted to make it complete.

Mr. Stanley Castle, who is the possessor of one of the finest collections of United States stamps in this country, writes us as follows with regard to this portion of the Catalogue :—

"A comparison of the above with the previous edition, as far as concerns the stamps of the U.S.A., may prove of interest to collectors. Incidentally I observe that the illustrations are identical in both editions. The most prominent features in the fifty-eighth edition are the inclusion of (1) bisections and (2) the principal varieties of shades of the various issues. With regard to the bisections I incline to the opinion that the inclusion of these is unnecessary on two grounds, namely, that it is carrying the search for varieties to too great a length, and that bisecting was never, so far as I am aware, authorised by Government ; and therefore these stamps are at the best only provisionals of a purely private origin.

"The listing of shades, which has been very carefully and thoroughly carried out, on the other hand is a distinct improvement with regard to the General issues, but there do not appear to be sufficient varieties of shade in the Departmental stamps to warrant a separate grouping of the stamps printed by the Continental Bank Note Company, although it is well known that there were, in many cases, large numbers of remainders of Departmental stamps.

"Another improvement is the listing of the stamps of the 1869 issue ungrilled, and on this subject I may mention that the 3 c., 6 c., 10 c., and 12 c. are not included ; the other values apparently command very high prices. The new edition now includes the 24 c., 30 c., and 90 c., 1873, Continental Bank Note Company's printing, and complete sets of all values of each of the Continental and American Bank Note Companies' re-issues are now quoted, instead of only four values as in the earlier edition.

"The listing of ribbed and double papers of the Continental Company's printing, both in the General and Departmental issues of 1875, and also the inclusion of various stamps imperforate, are to my mind doubtful improvements.

"Exception might reasonably be taken to a stamp described on Issue 1879, American Bank Note Company's printing, as '10 c., yellow-brown, National Plate.'

"I have seen a pair of 10 c., yellow-brown, on soft porous paper, showing one stamp with and the other without the secret mark, thus indicating that this variety is only the result of the wearing away of the secret mark on the Continental Company's plate in the course of production, and that the old National Company's plate was not used again.

"One other salient feature is the division of Carrier stamps into 'official' and 'semi-official' issues; and under this head I may add that certain stamps, hitherto considered as local stamps, have been included in the latter category. The reason for this I am unable to conjecture.

"Prices are practically identical with those of last year, the most noteworthy rises being 1855, 1 c., blue, Type II., and 1870–1, National Company's printing, without grille, 30 c., black, and 90 c., carmine. The falls are slight, and only occur in the cases of a few used stamps, with one exception—the 90 c., Justice, which has been very properly reduced, both used and unused; but the stamp is still, in my opinion, overvalued."

New Issues.

NOTES OF NEW, AND VARIATIONS OF CURRENT, ISSUES.

(Varieties of Obsolete Stamps, and Discoveries, will be found under "Philatelic Notes.")

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.

Members of the London Philatelic Society, and other readers generally, are invited to co-operate with us in making the columns as interesting as possible. Our foreign readers can especially help us in this direction, by sending copies of any official documents relative to changes in the current issues, or early intimation of any new issue, accompanied, when possible, by a specimen; such information will be duly credited to the correspondent, and, if desired, the specimen promptly returned. Address: EDITOR "LONDON PHILATELIST," EFFINGHAM HOUSE, ARUNDEL STREET, STRAND, LONDON, W.C.

BRITISH EMPIRE.

BARBADOS.—We regret having to announce that a Jubilee issue has been put into circulation, consisting of nine values. No news is as yet to hand as to whether this will supersede the permanent set, but it is scarcely likely; and we advise collectors to exercise due caution until their status is announced from the proper quarter.

FIJI.—A correspondent writing to the *Australian Philatelist* from Suva, Fiji, announces the 2d. value in a new shade, bright emerald-green; the paper also is slightly thicker.

Adhesive. 2d., emerald-green.

GREAT BRITAIN.—A letter having been sent to the Secretary of the General Post Office by the writer to ask at what date the changes of colour necessitated by the decision of the recent Postal Convention would take place, the following was received in reply:—

"GENERAL POST OFFICE, LONDON,
"*7th December*, 1897.

"SIR,—In reply to your letter, which reached this Department on the 29th ultimo, I am directed to inform you that no change is contemplated in the colours of the ½d., 1d., and 2½d. adhesive stamps. "I am, Sir,

"Your obedient Servant,
"L. BRIDGER,
"*Secretary.*

"M. P. CASTLE, Esq."

The language of officials is not always intended to be understood of the public, and the "contemplation" may be applicable only to a limited period. Time will show, as the Delectus hath it.

*

The 5s. has lately been appearing in a very deep rich carmine, which was apparently more lavish of colour than intended by the printers, as on making a further requisition for this shade we found it had reverted to its previous tone.

HONG KONG.—Mr. David Benjamin has sent us a specimen of the provisional 1 dollar stamp alluded to last month. We illustrate the surcharge, which is in black on the two dollars sage-green, with Cr. CC; perf. 15½ × 15.



NEWFOUNDLAND.—Prior to the issue of the one cent provisionals chronicled last month a hand-stamp was used, bearing the words "Paid All" within a circle. The date of the famine would appear to be 18.11.97, as this is the postmark on an envelope sent us by Messrs. Whitfield King & Co., with an impression of the hand-stamp described.

NEW ZEALAND.—We may expect shortly the first arrival of the new stamps, which will in all ways be a desirable acquisition in the light of the current poorly-printed and perforated issue. The dies are being prepared by Messrs. Waterlow & Sons, and we could wish that the printing was also to be executed by that firm.

We are informed that a Jubilee set of

stamps is to be issued by this Colony, to be sold at twelve times their face value! The object of this issue is to provide a Free Public Library for Dunedin at the expense of unoffending stamp-collectors—in other countries! The scheme is even more audacious than those of the sister Australian Colonies, as they were appealing for a charitable purpose, though to the wrong quarters; and we can only hope that all collectors will be sensible enough to take no notice of such rubbish.

SARAWAK.—Mr. David Benjamin has also sent us specimens of the 50 c. and $1 stamps chronicled last month; the former is in one colour—green—however, and not bicoloured. The *Aust. Ph.* adds a 2 c. stamp, issued conjunctly with the two higher values. Stamps of 16 c. and 32 c. have also been ordered, and by this time should be in use.

Adhesive. 2 c., lilac and carmine.

VICTORIA.—The new 1½d. value mentioned last month has come to hand from Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. We find that the watermark is V and Crown, and the perforation 12.

Adhesive. 1½d., emerald-green

EUROPE.

BAVARIA.—A Letter Card has been issued, bearing a stamp similar to that on the 5 pf. post card, with the "Arms" in the top left corner.

Letter Card. 10 pf., carmine on *grey.*

HOLLAND.—Notwithstanding statements that have been made to the contrary, we now hear that upon the attainment to majority of Her Majesty the Queen of the Netherlands a new issue of postage stamps will be introduced. We announce this, however, with due reserve.

ROUMANIA.—The *M. J.* announces the 25 bani perf. 11½ in place of 13½.

Adhesive. 25 bani, violet; perf. 11½.

RUSSIA.—Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. inform us that early next year a new set of postage stamps will be issued, including all the present values, with the addition of a 6 kopecs stamp.

WURTEMBERG.—A Letter Card was also issued for this country on November 1. The design of the same we do not know, but the card is duplex tinted.

Letter Card. 10 pf., carmine on *white*, *blue*, and *red.*

AMERICA.

CHILE.—Following our contemporaries we have to announce that the 1 peso value of the Postage Due stamps now has the value reading "100 centavos."

Unpaid Letter Stamp. 100 c., red on *straw.*

MEXICO.—The *A. J. of Ph.* adds to the stamps with the new watermark chronicled last month:—

Adhesive. 4 c., yellow-orange.

URUGUAY.—We give below a list of new stamps which, excepting in the case of the 10 c., are the 1895 series with the colours changed. For the 10 c. a stamp of the accompanying design has been prepared.



Adhesives.

7 c., orange.
10 c., red.
20 c., lilac and black.
25 c., rose and blue.
50 c., green and brown.
1 peso, brown and blue.
2 ,, ochre and carmine.
3 ,, lilac and carmine.

OTHER COUNTRIES.

CHINA.—Mr. David Benjamin writes as follows:—"Regarding the China stamps recently issued, I understand that an issue on improved paper, &c., has been ordered out some time ago, from Waterlows in London, or some such well-known London firm (the present stamps being printed in Japan). They are expected early next year, and as soon as received they will be issued, and the remaining stamps of the present Japan print withdrawn. It was at first hoped that the surcharged stamps would last till the arrival of the London-printed ones, but towards September the surcharged stamps were nearly exhausted, so it would have been necessary to reprint a new lot of the 1894 stamps, and then surcharge them; and as this would have taken a lot of time, and given a lot of trouble, it was thought simpler to issue the Japan print *pro tem.* until the receipt of the London ones. I have not heard yet whether there are to be any changes in the design, etc., of the stamps being printed in London." We most decidedly hope not! Any multiplication of Chinese varieties would be most undesirable. We have scarcely recovered from the provisional plague.

Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. write that some sheets of the 50 c. value were printed in the wrong shade, dark blue-green, instead of light yellow-green. There is also a shade variety in the 4 c. stamp, this being obtainable in both light and dark brown.

DUTCH INDIES.—A 30 c. Unpaid stamp has been issued in the current type, perf. 14.

Unpaid Letter Stamp. 30 c., carmine and black.

ERITREA.—Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. inform us that the 1 c. and 2 c. stamps have not been issued as stated last month, there being still a large stock of the old types on hand.

FERNANDO PO.—We have received from Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. the 6 c. violet surcharged "5 cent." in an oval.

Adhesive. 5 c. on 6 c., violet; surch. red.

JAPAN.—The 1 sen is now printed in olive-green, replacing green.

Adhesive. 1 sen, olive-green.

PERSIA.—The *Austria Philatelist* announces three new provisionals created by surcharging the 8 shahi and 5 kran of the current issue in Persian and Latin characters.

Adhesives.

5 sh. on 8 sh., brown; surch. violet.
1 kran on 5 kran, blue and silver; surch. violet.
2 ,, ,, ,, ,, ,, carmine.

SPANISH COLONIES.—*Le T.-P.* illustrates a pleasing design which has been adopted for the forthcoming new issues for Spain, Cuba, Philippine Islands, and Porto Rico, on January 1st next. The "baby" king has grown the "boy" king, and is so represented on the stamps. A label at top bears the name and the dates "1898 and 99." The issues for Spain and the three Colonies will afford no less than eighty new varieties!

ZANZIBAR (French P.O.).—We learn that the era of surcharges at this Post Office is not yet ended, but in this case the new varieties do not seem dangerous. The Postage Due stamps of the French Republic have been surcharged "ZANZIBAR" with the value in annas, as follows:—

Adhesives. ½ anna on 5 c., blue; surch. carmine.
1 ,, 10 c., bistre ,, ,,
1½ ,, 15 c., green ,, (?)
3 ,, 30 c., carmine ,, black.
5 ,, 50 c., lilac ,, ,,

With reference to the late provisionals, which have formed the subject of considerable comment in this journal, Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. send us the following letter, restating their absolute belief in the genuine need for this issue, and their inability (through various channels) to procure a single specimen.

"ZANZIBAR, *3rd November*, 1897.

"Messrs. WHITFIELD KING & Co., Ipswich.

"DEAR SIRS,—I am in receipt of your favour, dated September 28th.

"Being a collector of British Colonial adhesives only, the French Post Office issues for Zanzibar have never interested me.

"So far as I can glean, however, as a result of enquiries made since the receipt of your letter, the information supplied by you to Mr. Castle is substantially correct; and I may add that the opinion of the French residents is that the recent issue of *provisional* provisionals was, under the circumstances, necessary.

"I possess none of the stamps in question, nor have I made any great endeavour to obtain specimens.

"So far I have only seen two sets in Zanzibar, both of which were incomplete.

"Yours faithfully,
(Signed) "C. BOWDEN."

Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. further write us:—"We enclose official letter from the British Consul at Zanzibar, which we received this morning. We hope you are now satisfied about those French Zanzibar stamps. We have taken some trouble herein, but we have no motive or interest in championing these stamps other than a desire to prevent the bringing of new issues generally into disrepute, which would be a far worse calamity to Philately generally than any amount of commemorative issues. Since we first wrote you about the French Zanzibar stamps we have been unable to obtain one single specimen." Messrs. Whitfield King have clearly established that these stamps were produced by genuine necessity, and that none are available, as far as can be seen, for Philatelic purposes.

"ZANZIBAR, *November 28th*, 1897.

"GENTLEMEN,—I beg to inform you, in reply to your letter of 6th ultimo, that from enquiries made by me respecting the provisional stamps issued by the French Post Office here in July last, it would appear that the action of the Postmaster was unavoidable, as he had completely exhausted his supplies of 2½ and 5 anna stamps. I am informed that none of these stamps were sold to collectors, and that letters had to be brought to the Post Office to be stamped there in order to avoid any speculation in connection with them.

"I am, Gentlemen,
"Your most obedient humble Servant,
(Signed) "BASIL S. CAVE,
"*H.M. Acting Diplomatic Agent and Consul-General.*"

Philatelic Societies' Meetings.

THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY, LONDON.

Honorary President—H.R.H. THE DUKE OF SAXE-COBURG AND GOTHA, K.G., &c.

Council for the Year 1897-98:

President—H.R.H. THE DUKE OF YORK, K.G.

Vice-President—M. P. CASTLE.

Hon. Secretary—J. A. TILLEARD. | *Hon. Assistant Secretary*—R. PEARCE.

Hon. Treasurer—C. N. BIGGS. | *Librarian*—T. MAYCOCK.

W. B. AVERY.	R. EHRENBACH.	T. WICKHAM JONES.
E. D. BACON.	E. B. EVANS.	H. R. OLDFIELD.
W. D. BECKTON.	D. GARTH.	GORDON SMITH.

THE first meeting of the season 1897-98 was held at Effingham House, on Friday, 22nd October, at 7.45 p.m. The following members were in attendance: Messrs. M. P. Castle, E. B. Evans, H. R. Oldfield, R. Ehrenbach, R. Meyer, R. Frentzel, A. R. Barrett, W. Silk, E. D. Bacon, T. W. Hall, J. E. Joselin, C. McNaughtan, F. E. Owen, A. B. Creeke, E. J. Nankivell, R. Pearce, Gordon Smith, and J. A. Tilleard, with one visitor.

The chair was taken by the Vice-President, and the minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. The receipt of the following gifts for the Society's Library and rooms was directed to be acknowledged with thanks; a framed portrait of the late President, Earl Kingston, from Mr. Otto Pfenninger; a frame of proofs of stamps of Newfoundland, presented by Mr. Hadlow; a bound volume of the *Revista de la Sociedad Filatelica Argentina*, 1894-97; *O Colleccionador de Sellos*, two bound volumes for 1896-97, presented by Mr. Belido and Mr. Huehn; *La Posta nel Secoli* and *Le Poste nel Mezziogiorno d' Italie*, presented by Mr. E. Melillo; *Anales Sociedad Filatelico Santiago;* and *Le Questionneur Timbrophilique*, 1892-95, presented by Mr. Pierre Mahé.

The Vice-President read a letter from Dr. Diena, enquiring whether any of the Society's works could be obtained for the Postal Museum at Rome, and it was decided to present a copy of *India and Ceylon* as the only work remaining in stock.

The Secretary reported the loss sustained by the Society through the death of Mr. Hastings Wright, and the Vice-President, having referred to the service rendered to the Society and to Philately by the late member, moved:—

"That the members of the Society having heard with very great regret of the death of Mr. Hastings E. Wright, desire to record their sincere sympathy with Mrs. Wright in her affliction." The resolution, seconded by Mr. Creeke, was carried unanimously.

An explanation was given by the Secretary as to the work upon which Mr. Hastings Wright was occupied in collaboration with Mr. Creeke, who will complete the book. Mr. Eliot Levy, proposed by Mr. W. T. Wilson, and seconded by the Secretary, and Mr. C. P. Krauth, proposed by Mr. H. E. Deats, and seconded by Mr. J. M. Andreini, were elected members of the Society.

The question of the meetings and the business of the season was then considered, and it was determined to hold the general meetings fortnightly during the present season, extraordinary meetings being called from time to time as occasion might require. The Secretary reported that the Council had appointed a Committee to arrange for the business of the meetings, and various suggestions were made for their guidance.

Major Evans then read a report on the work of the Expert Committee since the commencement of its duties in 1894, and on the motion of Mr. H. R. Oldfield, seconded by Mr. Robert Ehrenbach, a very hearty vote of thanks was accorded to the

members of the Committee—Mr. Castle, Major Evans, and Mr. Bacon—and the report was directed to be entered on the minutes.

The Society for the Suppression of Speculative Stamps having requested the Special Committee of this Society to undertake the whole of the work of deciding as to stamps to be denounced as speculative or unnecessary, it was decided to agree to the request, and the Committee, consisting of Mr. Oldfield, Mr. Ehrenbach, and Mr. Nankivell, was increased to six members by the addition of the names of Mr. Castle, Mr. Gordon Smith, and Major Evans.

The Secretary reported that at the recent Exhibition seventy medals had been gained by members of the Society.

REPORT OF THE EXPERT COMMITTEE.

"This Committee, which was appointed in April, 1894, has now been in existence for three years and a half. The object of our appointment was, we believe, a two-fold one: first, to act as an Expert Committee in the ordinary sense of the term, giving an opinion to the best of our ability upon stamps submitted to us; and, secondly, to be a kind of Registration Committee, to which the owners of rarities might submit their stamps for the purpose of obtaining what might be termed a Certificate of Identity, which would accompany the particular specimen as in course of time it changed hands, and might thus furnish a history of the specimen in question in future years.

"The utility of a Committee for the first of these purposes is, we think, sufficiently proved both by the number of stamps that have been submitted to us during the last three and a half years, and by the fact that the specimens submitted each year show a considerable increase in number over those of the preceding year; and we can congratulate ourselves upon the fact that as the work of the Committee has become more widely understood, the value of its certificates has apparently become more highly appreciated.

"As regards the second of the two objects, we are unable to report that it has to our knowledge been attained to any considerable extent. We cannot say that any number of undoubted specimens of rarities have been submitted to the Committee for purposes of registration alone. At the same time our record of stamps examined and photographs of those which are pronounced genuine serve as a register and a means of identification of those copies; and the certificates which we give in those cases are in such a form as to be the Certificates of Identity which a Registration Committee might give. But it must be acknowledged that if the second of the two objects has thus been effected, it has rather been done as a result of carrying out the first than as a distinct and separate matter.

"Our first consideration when we were appointed as a Committee had reference to the form which our certificates should take when we expressed a favourable opinion upon the stamp submitted, and we decided that in order to prevent any fraudulent use of these certificates it was absolutely necessary that each should include a photograph of the stamp to which it referred. This serves at the same time to make those certificates form the Certificates of Identity required for our second purpose.

"In the case of stamps upon which our opinion was not favourable, we did not consider it so necessary to identify them, and we hesitated to make it a condition that we should be permitted to mark such specimens in any way, as we could not claim to be infallible. We fixed the fee for examination with a view to its being sufficient to cover the expenses involved, and believing that the large majority of the stamps submitted would probably be genuine, we made the fee at first 2s. 6d. for each stamp, so as, although that sum would not cover the cost of passing round and afterwards photographing one single stamp at a time, it was likely to be enough if several stamps were circulated together, and more especially if some of them were not genuine, and therefore not photographed. Later, when we found that the genuine stamps sent to us were decidedly in the minority, and believing that it was not the intention of the Society that the Committee should form a regular source of revenue, we decided to reduce the fees, and they now stand at 2s. 6d. for one stamp submitted at a time, 2s. each for two or more sent together, reduced in each case to 1s. 6d. for each stamp not pronounced genuine and not photographed.

"On this basis there is still some profit (as is shown by the accounts), which has been handed over from time to time to the Treasurer of the Society; but we believe that the fees could not be further reduced without risk of loss, and we consider besides that a Committee of this kind, appointed by this Society, is not intended for the purpose of examining the commoner class of stamps.

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"To conclude with a few statistics. We have examined in all 844 stamps down to the present date. Of these, 300 were pronounced genuine, and upon the remainder our opinion was unfavourable or undecided. It may be thought fairer to still further reduce the fee in future in the case of stamps upon which no decided opinion is given; but collectors who submit specimens (especially unused copies) of stamps which bear comparatively simple surcharges, should be aware that it is practically impossible to certify the genuineness of these overprints, and that a decided opinion is only possible where the surcharge does not agree with the genuine type.

"During the first twelve months, from the beginning of May, 1894, to the end of April, 1895, we examined 121 stamps; during the second year 213, during the third 358, and since the beginning of May, 1897, during the period which includes the summer months, 152, showing, as we stated before, a constantly-increasing amount of work.

"Finally, we would express our hearty thanks to the specialists, members of this Society, and others, who have rendered us assistance, without which it would have been impossible for us to have carried out our duties."

THE second meeting of the season 1897–98 was held at Effingham House on Friday, 5th of November, at 7.45 p.m. The following members were in attendance, viz.: Messrs. M. P. Castle, E. D. Bacon, R. Ehrenbach, H. R. Oldfield, R. Meyer, R. Frentzel, Rev. G. H. Raynor, L. S. Wells, T. W. Hall, C. N. Biggs, A. R. Barrett, H. F. W. Deane, W. Silk, T. H. R. Crowle, T. Maycock, T. Wickham Jones, J. G. Tolhurst, F. West, Gordon Smith, E. J. Nankivell, R. Pearce, E. B. Evans, H. J. White, N. Newton, R. T. Stevens, A. B. Creeke, B. D. Knox, and J. A. Tilleard, with four visitors. The Vice-President having taken the chair, the minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed.

The Secretary reported the receipt from Messrs. C. E. Baker, T. A. Rance, and E. F. Hubbuck, of letters announcing their desire to resign their membership at the end of the year owing to inability to attend the meetings of the Society, and the resignations were directed to be accepted with regret.

After a few words from the Vice-President on the subject of the death of Her Royal Highness the Duchess of Teck, with whom the President, H.R.H. the Duke of York, was so closely connected, it was resolved: "That this meeting of the Philatelic Society, London, desires to record its great regret at the loss sustained by the Royal Family and the nation in the death of Her Royal Highness the Duchess of Teck, and the deep sympathy of the members with the President and Her Royal Highness the Duchess of York in their bereavement."

Mr. Castle then showed a forgery, sent by Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., for inspection, consisting of a pair of French stamps, apparently the 10 c. and 15 c., bistre on rose, *se-tenant*, but being in reality a pair of the 10 c. stamps with the figure altered on the second stamp. The alteration is very skilfully effected, and collectors should be on their guard against this dangerous forgery.

The business of the evening consisted of a display of the stamps of Great Britain. The unused collections of Mr. White, Mr. Castle, Mr. Selby, and the Rev. G. H. Raynor, and the used collection of Mr. West, were passed round, and were inspected by members with great interest. The collections shown probably constituted the finest collections of the stamps of this country ever brought together at one time. Amongst the stamps not shown at the recent exhibition were a used copy of the 2s. postage stamp, Plate 3, and a magnificent unused copy of the 5s. telegraph stamp, Plate 3, on the "Anchor" watermarked paper, both shown by Mr. White. Mr. West also called attention to several used copies of the 1d., red, Die 2, imperforate.

On the motion of Mr. Bacon, seconded by Mr. Creeke, the very cordial thanks of the meeting were voted to the several gentlemen named for their kindness in submitting their collections for inspection by members attending the meeting.

THE third meeting of the season 1897–98 was held at Effingham House, on Friday, 19th November, at 7.45 p.m.; the members in attendance being Messrs. M. P. Castle, E. D. Bacon, C. F. Dendy Marshall, R. Meyer, R. Frentzel, T. H. R. Crowle, W. Silk, A. R. Barrett, C. N. Biggs, T. W. Hall, E. J. Nankivell, Gordon Smith, J. A. Tilleard, and B. D. Knox.

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 communication from the President in acknowledgment of the resolution passed at the last meeting.

Mr. C. F. Dendy Marshall then read a short paper on the Railway stamps used on letters in pursuance of arrangement with the General Post Office, entered into in 1891, and invited the consideration of members on the status of such stamps in Philately. In his paper Mr. Dendy Marshall explained the circumstances under which the stamps came into existence and the uses to which they are devoted, giving a list of the several issues, and a description of the general designs and of the number of stamps on the sheets, with particulars of all the companies by which the stamps are employed. The paper was illustrated by the writer's collection of the stamps under consideration, in which nearly all the varieties described were represented. A series of stamps of the South Australian Railway, employed since 1885 for purposes similar to those of the English companies, were also passed round, having been sent by the Rev. P. E. Raynor for inspection by members attending the meeting.

On the motion of Mr. Castle, seconded by Mr. Gordon Smith, a hearty vote of thanks was awarded to Mr. C. F. Dendy Marshall for his interesting paper, which will be published in the *London Philatelist.*

In the course of the discussion which ensued, the general opinion was expressed that there is not yet sufficient information afforded to decide whether the stamps in question can be considered postage stamps in the generally accepted meaning of the term.

BIRMINGHAM PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

Honorary President—W. B. Avery, Esq.
Hon. Sec. and Treas.—Mr. G. Johnson, B.A.,
208, *Birchfield Road, Birmingham.*

Nov. 18th. — Display, with notes by R. Hollick. Dr. R. Lyon, Messrs. E. Christiansen, E. S. Auscher, and F. Margot were elected members.

Mr. R. Hollick then gave an interesting display of the stamps of the African Colonies, including fine copies of nearly all the rarities, used and unused, with blocks and complete panes of the medium varieties. The minor varieties of die, plate, and shade were carefully pointed out.

Dr. Lyon exhibited a complete uncut sheet of 1s., medium green triangular Capes in mint condition. This valuable and interesting exhibit allowed the members an opportunity of noting the arrangement of the stamps, the spacings, and the watermarks. The whole sheet, allowing an average for the deckle edges, is $21\frac{1}{8} \times 11$ inches, the space occupied by the stamps—240 in number in fifteen rows of sixteen—is $19\frac{3}{4} \times 10\frac{3}{10}$ inches. The space between the stamps making a pair is fairly even all over the sheet, and is about $1\frac{1}{4}$ mm. The space between pairs in the same row is much more irregular, and varies from $1\frac{1}{4}$ to 2 mm. The spaces between the rows are nearly twice as great as between the stamps on each row, and vary from $2\frac{1}{2}$ to 3 mm.

The Anchor watermark is very evenly placed in the centre of each stamp, while the whole sheet is surrounded by a watermark of five parallel lines, the total width of which is $\frac{7}{20}$ of an inch. The outer four lines are interrupted in six places—once at the top, once at the bottom, and twice at each side—by the word POSTAGE, $2\frac{7}{16} \times \frac{3}{10}$ inches, in open Roman capitals.

Dec. 2nd.—Display—West Australia. Lady Glyn, Messrs. S. M. Castle and A. Passer were elected members.

Mr. C. J. Phillips exhibited his private collection of unused West Australia, including almost every variety in mint condition, and in a fine range of shade, the page of 6d., golden- and black-bronze, being specially fine; also a nice page of 2d., brown-black on red, and some 2d. (error), lilac. He also showed the following rarities used:—4d., blue, centre inverted, a very fine copy; two 2d., brown-black on *Indian red;* 2d., black on red, rouletted,

and printed on both sides; 2d., black on red—strip of three on original, showing differences of type; early issues on originals, showing dates; a very fine 6d., golden-bronze, on original; very fine *pairs* of 6d., bronze; 1s., brown; 1d., black; 4d., blue, all rouletted, and on originals; a 2d. (error), lilac, and other rarities.

Mr. W. T. Wilson exhibited nearly all varieties, used and unused, in full range of shade, including large unused blocks of the first issue, 4d., blue, showing the arrangement of the setting, and the varieties of type; also many of the early issues in mint condition.

G. JOHNSON, B.A., *Hon. Sec.*

MANCHESTER PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

President—W. DORNING BECKTON.
Hon. Sec.—A. H. HARRISON.

THE fifth ordinary meeting of the present session was held on Friday evening, the 12th November, at the Grand Hotel. The President in the chair, supported by sixteen members.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed, and Mr. W. Grunewald then read a paper on "France," dealing with the issues down to the fall of the Empire, which excited very general interest, and was highly appreciated by all present.

Both Mr. Grunewald and Mr. Beckton exhibited remarkably fine collections of the stamps under discussion, in which were included various copies of the 1 franc, orange, used and unused, as also a large number of the *tête-bêche* varieties.

THE sixth ordinary meeting of the present session was held at the Grand Hotel on Friday evening, the 26th November. The President in the chair, supported by the following members:—Messrs. Abbott, Buxton, Coote, Duerst, Gibson, Grunewald, Harrison, Jones, Munn, North, Ostara, Oxley, Pemberton, Petri, and Roberts.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed, and the date of the annual dinner was altered from December 17th to January 5th.

The programme for the evening was a paper on the "Production of Postage Stamps," read by Mr. J. C. North, who gave some interesting information on this complex subject. The various stages, from the initial manufacture of the paper down to the final process of perforation, were described in detail.

THE seventh ordinary meeting of the session was held at the Grand Hotel on Friday evening, the 10th December, the President in the chair, supported by 14 members.

After the usual formal business had been transacted, Messrs. T. H. Broomhead, of Manchester, and William Brown, of Salisbury, were elected ordinary members of the Society.

On the motion of the Hon. Librarian a vote of thanks was passed to the following gentlemen for donations to the library, viz.: Mr. M. P. Castle, *The London Philatelist;* Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., *The Monthly Journal;* Mr. H. Hilckes, two volumes of his *Auction Epitome;* The Scott Stamp and Coin Co., *The American Journal of Philately;* and Mr. W. Brown, *The P.J.G B.*

Mr. G. B. Duerst then read a very interesting paper on the "Issues of Schleswig-Holstein," dealing with the successive changes of government in the two duchies, which necessitated the various alterations in the inscriptions and values on these stamps. The different types of the $1\frac{1}{4}$ schilling were minutely described in the paper, which was followed with the closest attention, and highly appreciated by all present.

A very fine selection of the stamps under discussion was sent for the occasion by Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Ltd.

ARTHUR H. HARRISON, *Hon. Sec.*
GRASMERE, WHITEFIELD, NEAR MANCHESTER.

THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY, NEW YORK,

351, Fourth Avenue.

President—Charles Gregory. | *Secretary*—Frederick Augustus Nast.
Vice-President—J. M. Andreini. | *Treasurer*—Henry Clotz.

The regular monthly meeting was held at the Society's Room, Collectors' Club House, 351, Fourth Avenue, November 16th, 1897.

Called to order at 8.40 p.m.

Present :—Messrs. Luff, Smith, Lawrence, Thorne, J. W. Scott, Bruner, and Lynde. President C. Gregory in the chair, and Mr. Andreini, being nominated Secretary (*pro tem.*) in the absence of Mr. Nast. Messrs. Drew, W. F. Gregory, and Walter S. Scott being present as invited guests.

Minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved.

Routine business having been disposed of, Messrs. Lynde, Scott, and Luff expressed their views on the subject of a Philatelic Exhibition.

The President, in accordance with the constitutional provisions, appointed Messrs. Andreini and Scott Auditing Committee to examine the Treasurer's account.

Upon the call of the President for the promised exhibition of British Colonials, Messrs. Thorn, Luff, and Andreini exhibited to the members portions of their collections. Mr. Thorn's book contained Nevis to Zanzibar in a beautiful array of varieties, supplemented by his unrivalled 100 gems, neatly mounted by Wilson for the London Exhibition. Mr. Luff exhibited a portion of his West Indies stamps, including handsome series of Barbados, St. Lucia, and Tobago. The Secretary showed two books containing his collection of the countries alphabetically embraced between Antigua and Cyprus.

The members were well pleased with the evening's exhibition, and the thanks of the Society were extended to the exhibitors. Warm thanks were also expressed to Mr. Smith, who unexpectedly showed a book full of die proofs, many of which were new to the members present. Prominent among these rarities were a series of small figure issue of 1869, a proof of the frame of the 90 cents of same issue with bust of Washington in an oval, instead of the regular Lincoln bust ; a one cent 1870 with Franklin bust to the right ; a three cent Executive Department (*sic*), and a one cent Post Office with bust of Franklin—altogether a very handsome lot of bank note proofs.

At the request of the President, Mr. Smith promised to bring his general collection to exhibit at the next meeting.

Adjourned at 10.15 p.m.

J. M. Andreini, *Secretary* (*pro tem.*).

THE COLLECTORS' CLUB,

351, Fourth Avenue, New York.

President—William Herrick. | *Vice-President*—Charles Gregory.
Secretary—J. M. Andreini, 29, W. 75th Street.

Sixteenth meeting of the Board of Governors held at the Club House, 351, Fourth Avenue, November 8th, 1897. Present : Messrs. Scott, Luff, Lynde, and the Secretary.

Mr. Lynde was chosen Chairman, and the meeting was called to order at 8.15. p.m.

Minutes of the preceding meeting were read and approved.

The Secretary read communications from Messrs. Deats, Wolsieffer, Bacon, Green, Bartels, and the N.Y. Printing Company.

The Secretary reported that in accordance with constitutional provisions he had mailed on November 1st, 1897, several notices of default, and on the 5th inst. 128 notices to members about amendments to our Constitution and By-laws, offered by Mr. Luff.

The Secretary also reported that up to date no other amendments had been offered.

The Secretary was instructed to send a list of members to the publishers of *Clubmen of New York*, and to subscribe for one copy of the work for the Club.

The Treasurer's report was received. Balance in bank, $927.05.

The Secretary was instructed to send notices of annual meeting two weeks before December 8th to country members, and one week before that date to city members.

Upon ballot the following candidates were elected to Club membership:—Erik Enequist, 136, Liberty Street, New York; Robert A. McKim, 280, Broadway, New York; and they were duly declared elected.

J. M. ANDREINI, *Secretary.*

SUBURBAN STAMP EXCHANGE.

TWO A, one B, and one composite packets, containing 181 sheets, valued at £2087 14s. 11d., were made up and despatched for circulation on November 25th. Many good stamps (especially old Europeans and Colonials) were offered at reasonable prices, and sales are expected to be above the average. The July packets should be back from the supplementary rounds next week, when accounts will at once be submitted. No packets were circulated in June owing to Secretary's absence from home. Five applications for membership were accepted, and three declined during the month. The latest members include G. F. Metzger (Bath), W. E. Daniels (Bath), Mrs. H. Rose (London), A. W. Rothchild (Bucharest), MM. Bentzen, Malling, and Golodnoff (Copenhagen), E. J. George (Cambridge), Dr. Hill Norris (Aston), H. J. Brown (Warwick), Mrs. H. G. Campbell (Aldershot), and A. L. Rayward (Cardiff). Collectors of all grades wishing to join are invited to apply for full information to the Secretary. Good references indispensable.

H. A. SLADE.

INGLESIDE, ST. ALBANS.

Correspondence.

COMMUNICATIONS.—*All communications of Philatelic matters and Publications for Review should be addressed to the Editor of* THE LONDON PHILATELIST, Kingston Lodge, Richmond Place, Brighton.

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A DISCLAIMER.

To the Editor of the "London Philatelist."

SIR,—On receiving the *London Philatelist* for November I was glad to see the publication of Dr. Stanley Taylor's interesting paper on the stamps of Grenada. I do not propose in the present letter to offer any criticism of the contents of that paper, but I write to correct an error into which Dr. Taylor has fallen more than once in the course of his remarks.

He refers to the Society's publication on the stamps of the British West Indies, and gives me the credit of being the author of everything in that work that appears under the head of Grenada. This is, of course, quite inaccurate, as the only part I am responsible for is that headed "Preliminary Notes." The list of stamps, with the remarks thereon, that follows my few notes is the work of the London Philatelic Society, as is clearly shown by the separate heading, "Reference List of the London Philatelic Society, London." Of course, collectively with the other members of the Society, I am responsible for the drawing up of that list, but only so far, and Dr. Taylor certainly gives me too much credit in speaking of the list as if it was my work alone.

I remember pointing this out in the few remarks I made after the reading of the paper at the meeting of the Society on May 14th (not 7th as given), and although it is only fair to state that Dr. Taylor was not present at the meeting, I certainly thought the error would have been corrected before the paper was published.*

In any criticism of the old list of the Society I think it should be borne in mind that the West Indian work was published in 1891, and I venture to think Dr. Taylor would be the first to admit that at the time the list was drawn up it was in advance of any list of Grenada stamps that had appeared up to that year. All collectors of West Indian stamps know what immense strides have been made since 1891 towards a more scientific arrangement of the issues of many of the islands, and Dr. Taylor's paper shows that Grenada must be included in the number.

Yours truly,

E. D. BACON.

CROYDON, *December 1st*, 1897.

* Dr. Taylor has been travelling, and we have had no opportunity of communicating with him. Mr. Bacon's philatelic reputation, however, hardly needs his modest disclaimer!—(ED.)

The Market.

Messrs. PUTTICK and SIMPSON.

November 16th and 17th.

	£	s.	d.
Russia, 1st issue, 10 kopecs, imperf., unused, pair	5	5	0
Geneva, 10 c., green, the double stamp	19	2	6
Ceylon, imperf., 2/-, blue, unused, no gum	8	8	0
Mauritius, Post Paid, 2d., blue, early state of plate, unused, no margin	31	0	0
Natal, imperf., wmk. Star, 3d., blue, unused, no gum	12	0	0
British Columbia, imperf., 5 c., rose, unused	28	0	0
Canada, 12d., black, laid paper, cut close	20	0	0
New Brunswick, 6d., yellow, unused, small margin	6	5	0
Newfoundland, 6½d., carmine, unused	11	10	0
Ditto, 1/-, carmine, unused	32	0	0
Providence, 1846, a complete sheet, showing the 10 c. and 11 types of the 5 c.	9	0	0
United States, periodicals, 1895, unwmkd., 1 c. to $100, unused (12)	12	10	0
Barbados, no wmk., 6d., orange-vermilion, block of 4, unused	6	10	0
Nevis, CA, 6d., green	6	0	0
St. Christopher, CA, 4d., blue, unused	4	10	0
Turks Islands, 2½d. on 1d., red, Gibbons' Type 10, unused	9	10	0
Virgin Islands, perf. 15, 6d., rose, on toned paper, unused	6	0	0
New South Wales, laureated, 6d., brown, coarse background, unused	26	0	0
New Zealand, imperf., blue paper, 1d., red, pair	4	15	0
New Zealand, pelure, 2d., lilac-blue, unused	9	10	0
Victoria, 5/-, blue on yellow, unused, no perfs. one side	7	0	0

November 30th and December 1st.

	£	s.	d.
Great Britain, 2/-, brown, unused	4	15	0
Ceylon, imperf., 8d., brown	11	0	0
Hong Kong, CC, 96 c., yellow-brown, unused	6	5	0
British Bechuanaland, 1888, "Protectorate," 5/-, green, unused	4	0	0
United States, 1856, 90 c., blue, unused	3	18	0
Ditto, 1868, 90 c., blue, unused	5	0	0
Ditto, State, $5, unused	18	0	0
Ditto, State, $10, unused	8	15	0
Ditto, State $20, unused	7	5	0
Barbados, clean-cut perfs., wmk. Large Star, 4d., rose-red, unused	6	0	0

Messrs. VENTOM, BULL, & COOPER.

November 25th and 26th.

	£	s.	d.
Hong Kong, perf. 12½, 4 c., slate, unused	9	10	0
Barbados, CA, 4d., grey, unused, block of 6	5	5	0
Ditto, 5/-, ochre, unused, block of 4	5	0	0
Tobago, CA, 1/-, orange, "error," block of 4	1	0	0
A collection of Western Australia, 3670 specimens	260	0	0

Mr. W. HADLOW.

November 8th.

	£	s.	d.
Tuscany, 2 soldi	6	0	0
Transvaal, the error "Transvral," on the 1d., red on blue, unused	25	0	0

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