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THE

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OF THE

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M. P. CASTLE,

HON. VICE-PRESIDENT OF THE SOCIETY.

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THE

London Philatelist:

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Insular Collecting.

WE are commonly accused as a nation, and accept the accusation with complacency, of being different from all other peoples, this virtue or its negation being ascribed to our insular position. In matters philatelic we are assuredly run on these lines, for, "in spite of all temptation," we collect "the British nation" stamps to the neglect of other countries that are of equal importance and interest. In the Preface to their new Catalogue Messrs. Bright and Son make an opportune lament on this score, and urge with reason the claims of many countries that would open up a field of discovery and interest that are debarred from the downtrodden paths of British Empire collecting.

At the first meeting of 1903 of the London Philatelic Society the Vice-President dwelt upon this point on the occasion of a display of the stamps of Belgium, Holland, and Luxemburg, and he instanced this group as one eminently worthy of the British collector's attention. The early issues of all these three countries—steel-engraved and of highly artistic and picturesque design—are equal to almost any of our colonial stamps, and with the elimination of super-redundant varieties of perforation, official issues, and Unpaid Letter stamps, this group will be found an undefiled well of philatelic pleasure.

The same qualities apply to many other countries in various continents, and we are confident that with far less outlay many a collector would reap a far greater enjoyment than by falling down and grovelling before the beloved idol of Great Britain and Colonies. It is as strange as true that with two or three well-known exceptions there is hardly a member of the London Society who takes an interest in or collects aught but the British Empire stamps. This is indeed insularity in its least-loved form, and we would fain see the reproaches removed by some attempt at cosmopolitanism in collecting.

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Further Notes on the 1858–67 Issues of Peru.

A Paper read before the Philatelic Society, London, February 14th, 1902.

By THOMAS WM. HALL.



THE postal service of Peru was established in the year 1772, although postage stamps were not actually provided until the decree of October 19th, 1857, authorised the issue of stamps of 1 dinero, 1 peseta, and ½ peso, which were ready for issue some six months later.

Meantime the trial of the well-known Pacific Steam Navigation Co.'s stamps as a provisional issue was authorised for the 1st December, 1857.

Before the issue of the three values mentioned above, a new decree, dated January 25th, 1858, authorised the issue of a stamp of un dinero to be sold for 1 real, and another of una peseta to be sold for 2 reales, and the date for the sale of these stamps was fixed for March 1st, 1858. The three values authorised by the law of October 19th, 1857, were, however, issued on the date fixed by the second decree and circular. They, as well as the two succeeding issues, are stated to have been engraved on stone at Lima by D. E. Prugue.

March 1st, 1858, was, therefore, the date of the first official issue of the Peruvian Government, such issue consisting of—

Un dinero, blue.	Medio peso, yellow.
Una peseta, carmine.	„ „ carmine.

The Arms of Peru present, on a shield in the upper left blue horizontally lined quarter, a golden llama standing on ruddy earth; in the upper right silver (white) quarter, a ruddy tree on a bank of the same colour; in the lower red (vertically lined) half, a golden horn of plenty, fruit of the same, and ruddy leaves. The tree represents the coca plant.

The impressions of this 1858 issue are generally very distinct. A short description might be given as follows: Stamps nearly square; imperforate; lithographed in colour on white wove paper. Arms with laurels and branches or flags on a circular disc of solid colour edged with pearls, bounded by an exterior white and coloured circle. Outer frame of parallel lines crossing at the corners, forming four rectangular labels and four squares. The inscription on the two lower values is "PORTE FRANCO" above, value in full below, and "CORREOS" at either side. In the medio peso the inscription differs, viz. "PORTE FRANCO" above, "CORREOS" below, on the left side "MEDIO PESO," and on the right side "0'.50 CENTAVOS"=half a peso. The ground between the circular frame is shaded by perpendicular waved lines. The front legs of the llama are close together and very perpendicular. The first value has only the laurels and branches; the second the flags only; the third has laurels and branches on the flags, and in all three there is a wreath above the shield. The inscriptions on top and bottom labels are in coloured block capitals, those at the sides in coloured italic block capitals.

There are many shades in the 1 dinero and some little varieties, the

most striking of which shows a white leaf-shaped mark in the solid background to the left of the shield.

The stamps of the ½ peso were in use for four months only, as by decree of June 18th, 1858, their use was declared unnecessary, which no doubt accounts for their scarcity.

The error medio peso, rose, arises from the insertion of one or more medio pesos in the plate of the 1 peseta. Mr. H. L. Calman is said to have seen a strip of ten or twelve stamps long and two stamps wide, the upper pair of which were *both* medio peso stamps, and the balance of the strip 1 peseta.

Mr. Calman states that other pairs are known to him, each being the medio peso, red, with the 1 peseta at the side, and therefore advances the theory that originally these two values were printed from the same plate, and in the same colour; but as this was found to be inconvenient a new plate for each was made, and the colour of the ½ peso changed for yellow. The Tapling Collection contains two vertical unsevered pairs of the medio peso, rose, *se tenant* with the 1 peseta, the error in one case being at the top, in the other at the bottom. I have seen a horizontal pair in which, unless my memory deceives me, the medio peso was on the left. Of the medio peso, yellow, I have lately seen two horizontal strips of ten.

The second issue came out in January, 1859. Moens in his monograph gives the date as December, 1858, from a cancelled specimen so obliterated. Dated specimens of these early issues are, however, very rare. The type is similar to the preceding, but the size of the stamp and the letters of inscription are larger; the impression is lithographed on white wove paper, imperforate, and has a distinct double outline to the frame.

The background of wavy lines was very lightly put in. This soon showed signs of wear, which gave the stamp a worn appearance; and the letters of the inscription and the coloured circle stand out distinctly in colour, and sometimes appear as if apparently on a white ground.

In December, 1860, 8,563 pesos' worth of the preceding issues were burnt, which probably accounts for the rarity of these early issues unused.

In my paper on the stamps of Peru, read before the Philatelic Society, London, in 1896, I called attention to certain marked differences in the un dinero stamp of 1860, and suggested that there were probably retouches, as foreshadowed in the Lima catalogue and also by the late J. K. Tiffany in his articles on the stamps of Peru in the *Metropolitan Philatelist*. Since then I have acquired more specimens, and without in any way attempting to exhaust the subject, find at least two retouches of the un dinero of 1860, and one of the una peseta of 1860 (*see illustrations*).

In the original plate of the un dinero the lines in the outer framework are continuous and unbroken, and the letters are all of equal height; the groundwork back of the cornucopia in the shield is composed of thirty-six vertical lines. In about a year's time the plate became badly worn, which is most noticeable in the impressions of the lines back of the lettering and back of the cornucopia; in some cases the letters and cornucopia appear to be on a white ground, the lines being just barely visible with a strong glass. This wearing led to the retouching of the plate.

There are two stages of the retouched plate, which for the sake of con-

venience I am going to call first and second retouches. In the first retouch the lines behind the letters have all been redrawn for their entire length, with the exception of the fifth line from the outside on the right, which has not been redrawn beyond the second "R" of "CORREOS" (although traces of the original line may be found in the lower corner of all the retouches; this redrawing of the lines has given the letters a blurred appearance in most cases). The lines behind the cornucopia have all been carefully removed except in the infinitesimal space between the base of the tree and tail of the cornucopia. This cornucopia on white ground must not be confounded with the one mentioned above, for that is from a badly worn plate with many partly obliterated lines, while this stamp has all its lines more clearly impressed, although both original and retouch may be found showing various stages of wear in the labels.

In the second retouch the lines are redrawn the same as in the first retouch, but the letters have also been retouched, relieving the blurred appearance, and making the "O" of "PORTE," the "CO" of "FRANCO," and the "O's" of "CORREOS" a trifle larger than the other letters, and extending them a bit above the line of the others in height; the letters are all somewhat thicker and more rounded than in the original. The background of vertical lines has been restored to the cornucopia, only there are but thirty-three lines as against thirty-six in the original. The breaking at the angles of the zigzag lines of background, I think, has been caused by wear. I believe that the entire plate, or a large portion of it, existed for a time in the condition described as the first retouch. I have in my collection both vertical and horizontal pairs, which proves that the stamps are more than errors occurring at odd places in the plate. I have also distinct shades, showing that there was more than one printing. Unfortunately all the copies of the first retouch which I have seen, with few exceptions, have design cancellations; the date cancellations are indistinct, but are, I think, 1861 or 1862. The earliest date cancellation which I have been able to find upon the second retouch is 26th January, 1862.

What I have called the second retouch, with the zigzag lines not meeting, is, I think, unquestionably a retouch, for the relative position of the vertical lines of the side labels is different, and they are stronger, while the short diagonal lines that do not meet and replace the zigzags are also sharp and clear, giving the stamp the appearance of having eight horizontal white stripes drawn across the ground. The small ornament in the second arch down on the left side of the stamp, in the original and the first retouch, is of a semicircular type, whilst in the second retouch it forms a particularly sharp triangle.

There are other varieties of this second retouch, showing

(*a*) The ground behind the llama white,
(*b*) The entire ground of the shield white,

which are probably impressions of the second retouch when the stone was badly worn.

In the original plate of the 1 peseta the lines of the outer framework are all clearly drawn, and the letters are of uniform height. There are thirty-five

vertical lines in the background of the cornucopia. This plate, after about a year's time, showed even more traces of wear than the plate of the 1 dinero, the lined background of the letters and cornucopia disappearing entirely, as well as the shading of the flags. The plate was then retouched to correspond with the second retouch of the 1 dinero. The lines of the frame were redrawn and at the left an extra line added, making ten fine lines between the thick inner and outer lines of frame, as against nine in the original. The letters were redrawn exactly the same as in the 1 dinero, and the lined background restored to the cornucopia, the lines being thirty-three in number as against thirty-five in the original. The flags were not retouched, and as the rest of the design was made stronger in comparison, they appear much whiter than in the worn state of the plates.

This stamp also comes on a pelure paper, as may be seen from the sheet I exhibit. It is possible there are other retouches on this plate, as the head of the tree in some copies appears round instead of pointed, the letters heavier, and the llama without ears, in addition to which the zigzags of the background appear differently arranged. The earliest date I have of the retouch is 12th February, 1862, and on pelure 23rd April, 1862.

The lithographed stamps were found so easily counterfeited, and the stones wore out so quickly, and so many defective specimens were produced, that the authorities soon arranged for the next or embossed issues. These stamps were made by the Lecocq machine, a French invention, which, as I have before stated, printed the stamps one by one on a strip of paper just wide enough to receive the impression and leave a decent margin; where one strip ended another was pasted to it, and it very often happened that a stamp was impressed upon this joint. As the impression was particularly heavy on the double part, the upper coloured portion may be soaked off, leaving the remainder embossed in white, and to be disposed of or treasured as a wholly or in part "albino" variety. I find most of these stamps on two widely differing papers, one a fine white machine-wove paper, such as was in use in France at the time; the other a coarse yellowish hand-made native paper. I believe that a number of finished stamps, together with quantities of the paper strips, accompanied each machine from Paris, but am unable to accurately distinguish between the Paris print and the native print on French paper.

There is a well-known variety of the 1 dinero, red, of November 18th, 1882, with the Arms sideways. Mr. Corwin, in the *American Philatelist*, March, 1889, pp. 170, 171, states that it was the die of the frame and not the Arms which had "turned," or rather been wrongly placed in the machine, for reasons he there gives.

Postage stamps cut in half which have been genuinely used at Peruvian post offices may be frequently met with. Although this mode of prepayment was prohibited by several different decrees between February 26th, 1858, and the present day, I have used half-stamps of nearly all issues between 1862 and 1874 in my own collection.

On the 5th of June, 1866, and in July, 1867, appeared the rectangular stamps engraved on steel by the American Bank Note Co., of New York. This is known as the Two Llamas issue, and consisted of 5 c., green, 10 c.,

vermilion, and 20 c., brown. During the dictatorship of Mariano Ignacio Prado—November 28th, 1865, to January 7th, 1868—the postal service of Peru became somewhat erratic, and fiscal stamps of various kinds were allowed to be used for postage. No authentic records of what were actually used or authorised during this period exist, and the difficulty of separating the wheat from the chaff is augmented by the fact that no surcharge was used.

With the fall of the Dictator Prado, in 1868, these stamps were withdrawn from service, but, according to Moens—a fact I can find mentioned nowhere else—they were reissued in 1874, the remainders being first used up and then new printings had in paler colours, which can be *best* distinguished in a used condition by the dated postmarks. I exhibit most of these on original envelopes.

In July, 1868, the Lecocq machine was again resorted to for the 1 dinero, green. The first shade issued was the yellow-green, followed by the blue-green. This stamp does not differ from the 1 dinero, red, except that the Arms are in white relief on a coloured disc.

As the Arms were cut into the surface of the die, the depressed lines of the impression were necessarily made by the portions of the surface left, and when the ground was coloured would take more or less of the ink. It is, in my opinion, a mere accident of printing rather than of design whether these lines appear in colour or not.

The 1 dinero, green, of July, 1868, does not differ largely from the earlier 1 dinero, red, except that the Arms are in white relief on a coloured disc. In this issue there is a rare error with the Arms reversed, of which I show a pair and four singles.

This stamp was never issued perforated or rouletted, nor do the fabled ½ peso and 1 peso of this type exist.

The so-called errors, "DINIRO" or "DINLRO" for "DINERO," are caused by defective printing, as are the errors "CALL" and "ALLAO" for "CALLAO" in the succeeding issue of April, 1871.

The albinos and double papers are produced in the manner before mentioned.

This stamp in either shade is rare used.

I believe the original Lecocq machine and the dies for this stamp are still in existence, and, worse still, in use now or recently in private hands. The undoubted genuine issues are all roughly printed. I believe all the *finely* printed copies in grey and bright blue to be remainders, or, worse than that, some at least of these have either borne accommodation postmarks or imitations. I am told by the president of the Lima Philatelic Society that the white space on which the llama is standing has an irregular margin at the top in the originals, and a straight even surface in the forgeries. In one forgery I possess the white space is missing altogether.

The boundary between Peru and Chili is the river Camerones, as determined by the treaty of peace between these countries in 1883.

By the Treaty of Ancon, May 21st, 1884, Peru temporarily ceded to Chili the departments of Tacua and Arica, on condition that after ten years the inhabitants should be permitted to decide by a plebiscite to which of these states they desired in future to belong. It was agreed that the country in whose favour they should decide should pay to the other an indemnity of ten

million dollars. The plebiscite was postponed in 1894, and negotiations since then have made no progress, as Peru is unable to give the guarantee that the sum agreed upon shall be paid if the vote was cast in her favour.

In July, 1882, as before mentioned, the Chilian postal authorities issued Chilian stamps of the 1877–1881 issues, and of the values of 1, 5, 10, 20, and 50 centavos, at such Peruvian post offices as they controlled. The stamps were not surcharged, but can be recognised by the cancellation marks they bear. At the offices of Lima and Callao they were cancelled by postmarks with dates, and at other places by postmarks, such as Paita, Eten, Ica, Pisco, Mollendo, Tacna, Iquique, etc., etc.

Although the Chilian occupation of Lima began in January, 1881, the post office there remained under the management of the former Peruvian clerks up to November 30th, 1881. During early December, 1881, the Chilians issued ordinary Peruvian stamps of the later issues. They then issued as prepaid stamps the surcharged Peruvian Unpaid (Deficit) stamps previously used in October, 1881, as Unpaid stamps by the Peruvians, with the surcharge "LIMA CORREOS" in a double circle. About the end of December, 1881, began the issue of Peruvian stamps charged with the Chilian Arms; and finally, in June, 1882, they substituted the ordinary Chilian stamps.

All these stamps, therefore, to be good and genuine war provisionals, must bear dates between July, 1882, and 23rd October, 1883, the date when the Peruvian employees again took possession of the post office at Lima.

It necessarily follows that the following Chili stamps, viz. the 10 c., yellow and orange, issued in 1885, and the 20 c., slate-grey, issued in 1886, cannot be found in the above state, and this fact will also account for the great rarity of the 5 c., blue, it only having been issued a very short time before the war closed.

The First Issue of Moldavia.

By M. P. CASTLE.

AS was to be expected, the unlooked-for apparition of these "Reprints" has occasioned widespread astonishment and a deep feeling of mistrust. Although at first sight I felt reasonably sure that these imprints were from the original die, there would seem to be, from information that I am not yet at liberty to publish, a presumption that they were not reproduced from the original dies. The marvellous forgeries that have appeared of late years of far better executed stamps than these uncouth series support the possibility of this theory. Beyond this, the manner of their notification and the absolutely unconvincing statements made as to their being held back for so many years, naturally cause them to be regarded with suspicion. Every attempt is being now made to foist these specimens into collections at big prices; hence it is difficult to reconcile this new-born zeal with the patient and patriotic sentiment expressed by my Roumanian correspondents in not having for ten years past allowed these "stamps" to go out of the country.

I have received the following letter hereon from M. Paulescu, who initiated the controversy :—

"BUCHAREST, 8*th January*, 1903.

"MONS. M. P. CASTLE, Editor of the *London Philatelist*.

"SIR,—On my return from the country where I reside, a friend has shown me your journal with the numbers dealing with the reprints of Moldavia that have been described by me in the *Echo de la Timbrologie*, and which has raised against me a tempest on the part of Roumanian collectors and dealers, who desire to sell these stamps as *impressions* of 1858, but not as *reprints*.

"I have, however, finished my inquiries without being troubled at all at what might be said, and the result is as follows :—

"(1) When the stamps were 'reprinted* in 1858,' according to the accounts of Popp, Moroiu, Matesco, etc., I secured other fresh information from various persons, to wit :—

"M. Kiritzesco, Sub-Director of Posts under Gorjan, well recollects these reprints, of which he possessed a set that he gave away to a friend. M. Kiritzesco recollects also that Gorjan printed 100 to 150 sets in all, of which one part was sold directly by Gorjan to MM. A. Maury, of Paris, Moens, of Brussels, W. Krupp and Friedl, of Vienna, and to another person in Berlin.

"M. Victor Santesco, former Registrar of the Direction of Posts, recollects that Gorjan *has reprinted* the Moldavian stamps without knowing the number of specimens reprinted.

"MM. H. Nicolau, engineer, Constantinescu, proprietor, Antoine, merchant, G. Huch, Elefteresco, Rotschild, dragoman of the British Consulate, Riscaborm, watchmaker, Fisler, engraver of stamps, L. Steinberg, merchant, all recollect these stamps being reprinted. Antoine still even possesses several series which he does not sell as being of the 1858 issue. M. G. Mihailesco possesses also, procured direct from Gorjan, three sets which he keeps in order to sell on the marriage of his daughter (!). Popp, in May, 1901, sold over ten series to two persons. As to the dealers, Gorjan has only sold a single set to H. Birnbach, with whom he had relations.

"M. H. Grigorescu, employee of the Ministry of the Interior, possesses two complete series, and also some specimens of the 54 and 108, which he will not sell at any price. Besides these persons a very few have been enabled to obtain these reprints, which they have exchanged abroad.

"(2) Why have not these Roumanian reprints been put upon the market? These reprints have been offered abroad since their production, and especially since 1898, and that is why for the last five or six years there have been advertisements of unused stamps of Moldavia, which in reality were only these reprints.

"M. Moroiu has informed me that in 1900 he had offered one set, but that the dealer of Chemnitz or Frankfort, who believed them to be bad, had returned them, and since then he had kept them in his big stock of Roumania until, in 1902, on account of his advanced age, he had decided to sell them.

"M. Klenk, a collector, has also been a purchaser for L. Steinberg, who should possess these reprints : M. Petnitiu, also a collector, purchased some for E. Groner, who sold them in Vienna.

"If I had not happened to unearth this affair in the *Echo de la Timbrologie*, these stamps would have remained unknown, and the dealers and 'traffickers' of Bucharest would have bought them as *false*, and would have sold them as unused stamps of the impression of 1858, and not as reprints. Luckily these stamps are only found in the hands of six to ten collectors, who will not sell them and who know their importance. The dealers were able to obtain from Madame Gorjan, after the death of her husband,

* M. Paulescu evidently means "when the stamps of 1858 were reprinted."—M. P. C.

nothing but essays, printed in black on white laid paper, which I have had the opportunity of seeing at the dealers', A. Rosenbaum, of Bucharest, and at M. Fokchaneanu's. I believe that Madame Gorjan still possesses some of these essays which the dealers and collectors would not purchase, as they could not re-sell.

"Yesterday evening M. Ghiorghiu, a collector, showed me a set of essays, black on white laid, purchased from Madame Gorjan, and a set printed in colour bought from Popp. I am informed that the dies have been defaced (*deteriorés*) by the Postal Authorities in order that they may not be used for reprinting.*

"Imitations of these stamps have not been made, but M. G. Matesco has had them photographed in order to send them as '*proofs*' to correspondents, but they are very poor and are bigger by three millimètres than the originals, the 54 and 108 being very faint and of no importance.

"I believe that with this information the discussion will be closed, my aim having been solely to make known that *reprints do exist*, and to render a service as much to dealers as collectors abroad, to whom our dealers were selling them as *originals* of 1858.

"In the hope that my account will be received with the accustomed cordiality,

"I am, etc.,

"E. PAULESCU,

"*Collector Roumanian and Landed Proprietor.*"

I have also received a long letter from M. C. Moroiu, "retired captain and former President of the Roumanian Society of Timbrologie," which, however, does not materially add to the *information* we possess as regards these "reprints." M. Moroiu naively complains that no one in Roumania collects any stamps except with the idea of making money, and it is this well-known trait of Roumanian morals that makes us very loath to accept the self-denying assurances of the gentlemen cited by M. Paulescu, who, with the sad exception of the collector who has to sell for his daughter's dot, will not part with these precious stamps for love or money. In my opinion, I consider them highly dangerous, and whatever they are, I feel sure they are destined by the majority of their present or future owners to be sold as authentic and original stamps of the 1858 issue. In all the letters I have received on this subject, it is evident that the greatest importance is attached to these reprints, obviously because of their close resemblance to the originals, and I therefore sincerely hope, as M. Paulescu states, that they will be held in safe hands. It would be well if all holders would agree to have them stamped "Reprint" at back.

M. Paulescu's letter is in the main straightforward and satisfactory, but far better than "recollections" would be an official declaration that these stamps *were* reprinted. Although I am sure he has made all his statements in good faith—and I have to thank him for his interesting letter—there is still a current of "sordid dross" appreciation throughout his letter that makes one apprehensive of what might take place—even in Roumania!

* It is to be hoped that this is true information.—M. P. C.

Philatelic Notes.

THE "RETOUCH" OF THE 1d. OF GREAT BRITAIN.

IN the November number of this journal we published a note by Mr. W. T. Wilson, calling attention to a deepening of the outer lines in certain specimens of this stamp. Mr. Wilson's suggestion as to how this was effected was, however, not a feasible one, and we have pleasure in presenting to our readers three interesting letters hereon, which clearly show that Mr. Wilson's theory in this respect is quite untenable. These notes are inserted in order of their receipt, that by Mr. Dendy Marshall having been read at the meeting of the London Philatelic Society on November 28th, with display of the stamps referred to.

C. F. DENDY MARSHALL.

"In the last number of the *London Philatelist* the following note occurs, headed "'A Retouch of the English 1*d.*, 1841':—

"'It is a well-known fact that the rollers, after the die had been impressed on them, were gone over by the engravers, and the lines strengthened, as well as the letters punched in corners.'

"The description of the process of printing these stamps on page 12 of Messrs. Wright and Creeke's *British Isles* completely contradicts this statement.

"The impression on the roller, being taken from the die, was in cameo, which renders any touching up unlikely; the lines could not very well be strengthened, as they were represented by a ridge, and not a depression. It consisted of a single impression, which was used to produce all the stamps one by one on the plate. The engraver then went over the *plate*, removing the 'burr,' punching the letters in the corners, and no doubt strengthening the lines where necessary. Naturally the lines would be thicker in some plates than others, and possibly vary in different parts of a plate.*

"After examining a large number of copies, I have come to the conclusion that the normal impression, produced by the roller unaided, has a faint outline, which is one of the first lines to disappear through wear, leaving a more or less jagged edge to the engine-turning. I have found one copy (lettered 'E. C.'), used in January, 1850, which has a deeply cut outline, though otherwise in a worn state. An examination of the sheets at Somerset House would show which plate (or plates) this variety occurs upon (it is before Plate 100), also whether the whole was operated upon or only a portion. I think there is no doubt it was done before the plate was approved, and would therefore occur on every sheet. There seems no evidence that it is a retouch in the ordinary meaning of the term, which is an alteration made to the plate during the course of its being used for printing. The only way to establish the fact that a plate has been altered after use is to produce two copies showing the difference which are unquestionably from the same plate. Consequently, I think the 'discovery' is not a retouch, but a minor variety, with a certain amount of interest attached to it, but of no great importance."

* There is an interesting account of the origin of this variety in *Stanley Gibbons' Monthly Journal* for November, the result of an inquiry at Messrs. Perkins Bacon and Co.'s, which fully bears out the above suggestion.

A. B. CREEKE, JUN.

"A note on British stamps is always interesting to me, particularly when from the pen of an acknowledged 'expert and specialist,' such as Mr. W. T. Wilson; the one, however, in the *London Philatelist* for November last excited more wonder than interest.

"I was not aware that the 'rollers . . . were gone over . . . and the lines strengthened,' and blamed myself for having overlooked such a 'well-known fact'; but when I read that the letters were punched in the corners of the roller impression, my interest gave place to wonder as to how such a thing could be done.

"Seriously, it is a pity that statements such as are contained in Mr. W. T. Wilson's note should be published, because many collectors, ignorant of the process of making a *taille-douce* plate, might believe in them, and so be led astray.

"Supposing—though I do not admit it—that the rollers were 'gone over by the engravers,' how could a *cameo* impression be strengthened so as to make thicker lines in the *intaglio* impressions on the plate? It would necessitate the thickening of a projecting ridge—an impossibility. As for the letters being punched in the corners of the roller impression, the idea is absurd; for one thing, each corner would contain dozens of letters, and, further, a letter punched on the roller would come out *cameo* on the plate and white on the stamp. The letters were, as I had hoped was more generally known, inserted by means of hand-punches on the unhardened plate, and were thus *intaglio*, producing coloured impressions on the stamps themselves.

"I cannot believe that a roller impression was ever touched up at all, certainly not after use, which would have necessitated a temporary 'softening' of the hardened steel before a graver could produce any effect on its surface. It would have been easier, and probably cheaper, to make a fresh roller.

"It may have been that here and there a plate, before being hardened and used for printing, was touched up to the extent of having the outer frame line of one or more of the stamps made slightly wider and deeper; but this would not be a 'retouch,' which I have always understood to mean an alteration of the plate *after* use. Such a retouching would necessitate the 'softening,' and subsequent rehardening, of the entire plate, a process more difficult than in the case of the roller.

"To prove a retouch it is absolutely necessary to produce two stamps from the same plate, and from the same place on that plate, showing the differences; and this Mr. Wilson has not yet done.

"Unless we admit the softening, retouching, and rehardening of a plate, after it has already been at press, we must confine our searches for a '*re*touch' in the line-engraved English stamps to impressions from three plates, of which two, Nos. 1 and 2 of the One Penny (*W. and C.*, p. 21), were hardened after being in use, and one, No. 1 of the Twopence (*W. and C.*, p. 47) was never hardened at all."

HIS HONOUR JUDGE PHILBRICK, K.C.

"The November number of the *London Philatelist* announces the discovery by Mr. W. T. Wilson, the well-known specialist in English stamps, of a somewhat startling matter, being no less than a 'retouch' of the English One Penny of 1840, or, as printed, *1841*.

"On carefully reading Mr. Wilson's statements it seems advisable, before commenting on them, briefly to recall the mode of producing the printing plates of these stamps, as adopted by Messrs. Perkins Bacon and Co.

"The main stages were three:—

"I. The artist engraved his design by hand on a block of soft steel, which, after he had completed his work, was hardened. This became the *matrix* or *mother die*,

from which a number of facsimile or exact duplicate impressions was taken mechanically to construct the plate for printing the stamps. Obviously the lines made by the engraver's burin were *cut into the surface of the plate*, more or less deeply, but leaving its external face smooth. Until the matrix was hardened, the steel could be cut into by the engraver, and altered in any way. After hardening no graver's tool could produce any result, no alteration was possible.

"II. This matrix was applied in a press of great power to a plate of soft steel, and thereby the latter was forced into the lines sunk in the former. Obviously these lines were raised like geological maps of mountain country. In this impression in relief the plate numbers were inserted in the engine-turning on each side, and the letter squares only were left blank.

"It is evident to anyone who has grasped thus much that by no possible process could the lines in relief be *strengthened* or thickened, though, while the steel was soft, they might be cut away and fined down; but after hardening it became an absolute impossibility to work on or alter the impression with any engraving tool.

"III. This impression in relief, after having been hardened, was placed in the roller, and the printing plate being placed underneath, heavy pressure was applied, and as many impressions were *indented into* the plate as desired, and after being removed from the press, the angle letters were hand-punched into the blank squares.

"At this stage, *before* being hardened, the engraver could work on the plate in the same way as he could on the matrix.

"The plate, when completed, was hardened and put to press. From two plates only of the One Penny were stamps printed *before* hardening, viz. plates Nos. 1 and 2, both in black, from which only 6,500 impressions in all, it is estimated, were taken; both plates were afterwards hardened and put to press in the customary manner.

"No other plate constructed by Perkins Bacon and Co. was ever put to press *before* hardening, except the 2d., Plate 1, which was so used in the pressure of immediate need for the stamp, *not leaving* time for hardening. Now after a plate is hardened no engraver's tool will touch it; the thing is impossible till the plate be softened—a delicate operation on so large a piece of metal and difficult to accomplish. If a plate required alteration or *retouching*, it would be far easier, simpler, and less expensive to construct an entirely new one.

"Besides correcting any accidental fault, the only work done to the plate before going under the roller was, in some cases but not invariably, to insert lines to guide the workman in putting it under the roller, so as to have the impressions 'square.' These lines were drawn where the divisions between the stamps should occur, and were not intended to show on the print. Frequently, however, the impressions got 'out of square,' and therefore the lines appeared in wrong places; and when perforated the needles cut into the stamps, a matter much complained of by Archer before the Parliamentary Committee of 1852. Several plates are recorded as rejected for this reason, *e.g.* Nos. 52 and 54 in 1857, No. 69 in 1861, withdrawn for 'imperfections'; and of the later series, Die II., Plates 126, 'roller defective,' and 128 were similarly rejected, and Plates 75 and 77 were 'incorrectly laid down for perforation.'

"The chief cause of these defects was owing to the soft steel not being homogeneous in texture and expanding unequally under the enormous pressure to which it was subjected by the roller. Now as to the 'discovery.' Mr. Wilson says: 'It is a well-known fact that the rollers, after the die had been impressed on them, were gone over by the engravers, and the lines strengthened, as well as the letters punched in the corners; but so far as I know it has never been stated that a roller AFTER USE was ever retouched.'

"This statement is as a whole and in each part *absolutely incorrect.* The lines on the rollers could not be 'strengthened'; the letters were not punched on the

ORIGINAL STATE OF PLATE



1ST. RETOUCH (NEW)



2ND. RETOUCH



ORIGINAL STATE OF PLATE



RETOUCH.



rollers at all; *after* use a roller could not be retouched. He then proceeds thus: 'that this has been done is proved by a comparison of illustration No. 3 with Nos. 1 and 2.' *This is a non sequitur*, as the *plate* produced these; the ROLLER was the antecedent stage, and if it had been 'retouched' a new plate would have to be made to show the alterations.

"I fear Mr. Wilson cannot say he mis-wrote 'roller' for 'plate'; but in any view he is floundering, hopelessly wrong. By the courtesy of the editor, I have the illustrations he refers to before me. No. 1 is an enlarged copy of the 1d., black, showing how beautifully Heath did his work. Nos. 2 and 3 on the same scale are lettered No. 2, H—L, and No. 3, D—K. No. 2 shows marks of wear at the bottom and right side; No. 3 is much less worn, but shows traces in the "Y" of "PENNY" and the stop after it of deterioration by wear. No. 2 is in red-brown, the outside lines enframing the oblong of the stamp having nearly vanished; in No. 3 they are very clear.

"I must here comment on the argument. Even if Mr. Wilson had thus far established the data on which he arrives at his 'discovery,' he draws his conclusion from insufficient premises. To warrant it, he must show the same *identical* stamp in *two* states. He produces two *different* stamps, not *each stamp in two states*. It might perhaps be the difference between them is due to the roller; but this is almost impossible. It is much more likely due to the plate; but there is nothing in what he says or in the illustration which shows the plate ever printed in a way indicating a retouch, nothing to prove the plate was ever touched by the engraver *after being put to press*. So far as my researches go, I have found no trace in the records of any retouch. Neither Mr. Wright, who had special facilities, nor Mr. Creeke hints at any such, and we are thus left to the evidence given by comparison of the stamps themselves, which, as pointed out, entirely fails to prove any such thing as a 'retouch.'

"Therefore I must say the fact of the discovery is entirely unproved, nor can it be safely or even probably affirmed. So I venture to think we have not advanced, and matters remain exactly as they were before this alleged discovery, and Mr. Wilson's contentions are not established."

TWO TYPES OF THE CROWN AND "NSW" WATERMARK.

THE Rev. P. E. Raynor has sent us the following note hereon, accompanied by sketches of the two varieties of watermark. We think, however, until these can be reproduced in facsimile it will be safer to rely upon Mr. Raynor's lucid description. There can be no doubt that these watermarks are at least as worthy of recognition as many of the "catalogue varieties," and there are some collectors who have already so differentiated the watermarks of this issue.

"Some thirteen years ago, in an article contributed to Mr. Basset Hull's *Federal Australian Philatelist*, I called attention to the two types of the 'TAS' watermark, and this was followed, in October, 1891, by a similar contribution on the wide and close 'SA' watermarks to be found in South Australian stamps. Both of these distinctions have now been incorporated in all recognised catalogues. That a somewhat similar variation was to be found in the Crown and 'NSW' watermark of New South Wales occurred to me very soon afterwards; but, owing to lack of time and opportunity, it was not worked out. Having occasion, however, recently to

go through a number of 2d. stamps of the 1871–83 issue, the variation appeared to me to be marked enough to deserve recognition. Careful tracings of the watermarks showed many points of difference between the two, and after the examination of a few hundreds of specimens the eye was enabled to distinguish them at once without recourse to any measurement.

"The first type of watermark is generally rather indistinct, and its blurred appearance makes it difficult to trace the outlines quite accurately. It appears that the Crown in Type I. is smaller in size and differs in drawing from that of the second type; the letters 'N S W,' again, are thicker and more compact in the first type, besides being closer to the Crown. In Type II. the blunt angles of the letters are especially noticeable, and suggest the bending of the wires used to form the watermark.

"To settle the question as to the date of employment of the two types would require much time and research; I therefore leave it for a future occasion, or for some other investigator to solve. Meanwhile I append a table of measurements in millimètres:—

	Total height of wmk.	Space between Crown and letters.	Height of Crown.	Width of Crown.	Height of letters.	Width of letters.
Type I. . .	17½	1½	10	10	6	14½
Type II. . .	19½	2	11	11	6½	13½"

Occasional Notes.

DATES OF MEETINGS OF THE COUNCIL OF THE LONDON PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

We are desired to give notice that the Council of the London Society will hold their meetings at 5.30 p.m. on the following dates during the present session, viz. February 6th, March 6th, April 3rd, May 8th, and June 5th.

THE EXPERT COMMITTEE OF THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY, LONDON.

We are authorised by the Expert Committee to make announcement of the following alteration as regards the dates of examination. The Committee will in future examine stamps once a month, and will meet for that purpose for the remainder of the season on the following dates: February 6th, March 6th, April 3rd, May 8th, June 5th, and July 3rd. All stamps submitted to be expertised must be received *not later than two days prior to the above dates.*

The fees must always be sent with the stamps, and are as follows: *For stamps pronounced genuine*, three shillings for a single stamp; two shillings and sixpence each for more than one stamp, a proportionate return being made in the case of forgeries or reprints. *For stamps pronounced forgeries or reprints*, one shilling and sixpence each; pairs, strips, and blocks counted as one stamp. It should be remembered that the fee for genuine specimens includes a certificate and photograph of the stamp.

"OCEANIA."

IN support of the remarks made in the last month's issue of this journal with reference to co-operation on both sides of the world, we read with pleasure the following letter from Mr. H. F. Basset Hull, in the December number of the *Australian Philatelist*, which will be found to be fully confirmatory of our own comments:—

"'OCEANIA.'

"(*To the Editor of the 'Australian Philatelist.'*)

"DEAR SIR,—While thanking you for your complimentary remarks with regard to the proposed new book on the stamps of Australasia, I feel that it is necessary to refer to two points in your article which appear to require something from me in the way of an answer.

"First, you 'are of opinion that New Zealand and its dependencies should be included in a work entitled *Oceania*.' In reply, I may point out that the short title of my proposed work will be 'The Stamps of Australia,' and it is only intended to cover the issues of the six states included in the Commonwealth as constituted on the 1st January, 1901. That the work has been referred to by the *London Philatelist* as a second edition of *Oceania* I am well aware; but you will find that in the same article the issue of a second volume, comprising New Zealand and the British Protectorates in Oceania, is forecasted. To include the latter countries in my first volume would render such a work too bulky, would make the price almost beyond the reach of the average collector, and would also delay publication for far too long a period.

"Second, you say that, 'as a matter of courtesy, the London Philatelic Society should have approached the Australian societies, notifying them of its intention, and solicited their aid in the proposed work.'

"With regard to this point, I may be permitted to state that there was no intention whatever on the part of the London Society to overlook the local authorities, or to slight the various state societies. In the first place, the London Society was aware that I had secured the co-operation of Messrs. David H. Hill and W. R. Rundell with regard to the stamps of Victoria; Messrs. O. Blockey and F. Krichauff in the matter of South Australian issues; Mr. W. F. Petterd for Tasmania; and Mr. Maney Lake, President of the Philatelic Club, for New South Wales. The Publication Committee were also aware that I intended returning to Australia to complete the work, and would invite the co-operation of all advanced Philatelists in the compilation of complete and accurate lists. In fact, you will find in the August issue of the *London Philatelist* a request that advanced students would communicate with me at my Sidney address.

"If any further defence of the London Society's action were needed, and in the light of my explanation I hardly think such is necessary, I might point out that in incurring the entire cost of producing the work, estimated at over £600, the Committee were quite justified in reserving to themselves the whole responsibility of compiling the reference list, inasmuch as it will be issued as a list upon which they place their seal of approval, and guarantee for its accuracy.

"In conclusion, I will be very pleased indeed to receive any communications from collectors who may have unrecorded varieties to add to existing lists, and need hardly say that all such communications will be duly and thankfully acknowledged.

"Yours, etc.,

"A. F. BASSET HULL."

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.

AUSTRALIAN COMMONWEALTH.—The 1d. value of the Unpaid set with the blank space at foot filled in has been chronicled.

Postage Due. 1d., emerald-green; wmk. Crown and N S W; perf. 11×11½.

BAHAMAS.—Stamps with the King's Head have arrived, and Messrs. P. L. Pemberton and Whitfield King and Co. have submitted most of the values.

Adhesives. 1d, carmine.
2½d., blue.
4d., orange.
6d, pale brown.
1s., grey-black, and value in carmine.
5s., purple and blue.
£1, green and black; all wmkd. C A; perf. 14.

Post Cards. 1d., carmine on cream.
1d.+1d. ,, ,,

BRITISH HONDURAS.—Another value, the 2 cents, lilac on red, and some post cards of the King's Head type, have been chronicled.

Adhesive. 2 c., lilac on red, King's Head type, name and value in black; wmk. C A; perf. 14.

Post Cards. 2 c., carmine on cream.
2 c.+2 c. ,, ,,

BRITISH SOUTH AFRICA.—An addition to the current set has appeared, and Messrs. Whitfield King and Co. and P. L. Pemberton and Co. favour us with copies.

Adhesive. 2½d, blue; wmk. C A; perf. 14½.

CANADA.—Messrs. P. L. Pemberton and Co. send us the new 7 cents of the Queen's Head type of 1898-99.

The colour, greenish yellow, is very poor.

Mekeel's states that a 4 c. value is expected in the near future, but will it be of the Queen's Head type?

Adhesive. 7 cents, greenish yellow; perf. 12; no wmk.

CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.—Two values, the 1d. and 1s., of the King's Head set have reached this side; Messrs. P. L. Pemberton and Co. and Bright and Son send specimens.

The 1d. is similar to the 1d. of 1893 in general design, the Crown over the King's Head taking the place of the words "OF GOOD". On the left of the King's Head is the inscription "CAPE OF", and on the right "GOOD HOPE".

The 1s. has "CAPE OF GOOD HOPE" at top and "POSTAGE ONE SHILLING" below. The value 1s. in figures is repeated four times in addition.

Messrs. Bright and Son have also received the ½d. value.

Adhesives. ½d., green; wmk. Anchor; perf. 14.
1d., rose ,, ,,
1s., ochre ,, ,,

COOK ISLANDS.—The *Philatelic Record* states that the complete set now comes watermarked single-lined N Z and Star.

The values we have therefore to list are—

Adhesives.

1½d., bright violet; wmk. single-lined N Z & Star; perf 11.
2d., dark brown ,, ,, ,,
5d., olive-black ,, ,, ,,
6d, purple ,, ,, ,,
10d., green ,, ,, ,,
1s., carmine ,, ,, ,,

FIJI.—The *M. J.* notes the receipt of a sheet of the ½d., greenish black, perf. 12, single-line machine, on the paper wmkd. "NEW SOUTH WALES—GOVERNMENT".

Ewen's Weekly reports that specimen sets of the King's Head issue are being circulated.

Adhesives. ½d, greenish black; current type; perf. 12.
½d., green; King's Head type.
1d., black on red; King's Head type.
2d., lilac and orange ,,
2½d. ,, and blue on blue ,,
3d. ,, ,,
4d. ,, and black ,,
5d. ,, and green ,,
6d. ,, and carmine ,,
1s., green and carmine ,,
5s. ,, and black ,,
£1, black and blue ,,

INDIA.—The ½ anna of the King's Head type is reported with the Service overprint.

The colour of the 2 annas Registration Envelope reported on page 292 is, we are told, blue.

The *Metropolitan Philatelist* informs us that "specimen" copies of the King's Head set—2 annas, purple, and 3 annas, orange-brown—have reached Washington.

Official. ½ anna, green; surcharged $\frac{\text{On}}{\text{M}}$ S in black.

Adhesives. 2 annas, purple; King's Head.
3 ,, orange-brown; King's Head.

JAMAICA.—Post cards bearing the King's Head are prepared, it is reported, if not actually issued.

Post Cards. ½d., green on cream.
½d.+½d. ,, ,,

LEEWARD ISLANDS.—More stationery of the King's Head type has been noted in the *M. C.* and Continental journals.

Post Cards. ½d., green on cream.
1d., carmine ,,
1d.+1d. ,, ,,
Wrappers. 1d., carmine on buff.
Registration Envelope. 2d., blue.

NATAL.—On the authority of a Continental journal, *Ewen's Weekly* lists further values of the King's Head type.

Adhesives. £1, blue and dark grey.
£1 10s., violet and green.
£5, dark grey and violet.
£10, green and orange.
£20, green and red.

NEW SOUTH WALES.—Mr. Maney Lake has shown the *Australian Philatelist* the current 5d. issued on the new paper, which is thinner than that used previously. The watermark is placed sideways, and the perf. is 11½ × 12.

Specimens of N.S.W. stamps for official use have been seen perforated "O S—N S W," in two lines, but there is doubt at present whether such stamps are collectible or not.

Adhesive.

5d., green; Crown and N S W sideways; perf. 11½×12.

NEW ZEALAND.—Mr. Gordon Smith, we are told by the *M. J.*, has seen two copies of the 5d. (Gibbons' No. 19) perf. 10 × 12½. Both were apparently from sheets originally perf. 10 all round, but the vertical perforations being out of position, they were afterwards perf. 12½ in that direction.

Ewen's has had submitted a copy of the 1s., Queen's Head issue, perf. 12½ × 10. The stamp was postmarked "Auckland, 16th June, 1893."

Mr. Louis E. Bradbury sends us the 4d. and 1s. values of the current set on the single-lined Star and N Z paper, perf. 11.

Adhesives.

4d., brown and blue; 1s., red; } single-lined Star and N Z; perf. 11.

PACIFIC ISLANDS.—Mr. Louis E. Bradbury informs us that he has been told by the New Zealand Post Office officials that it is proposed shortly to overprint the 3d., 6d., and 1s. stamps of New Zealand for use in Niué and Penrhyn Islands.

ST. LUCIA.—A commemorative stamp has been issued, and specimens come to hand from Messrs. Bright and Son and Whitfield King and Co.

At the top of the stamp we find the inscription "1502-1902—The Pitons, 3,700 feet—ST. LUCIA," in three lines.

The centre shows two large mountains or rocks—doubtless the Pitons—sea, and a steamer, and below "POSTAGE & REVENUE—TWOPENCE," with value—2d.—in circle at each bottom corner.

Adhesive.

2d., brown, green centre; wmk. C C sideways; perf. 14.

SIERRA LEONE.—*Ewen's Weekly* reports that specimen sets of the King's Head issue are now being distributed by the Postal Union.

The following is a list of the values, etc.

Adhesives. ½d., lilac and green.
1d. ,, ,, carmine.
1½d. ,, ,, olive
2d. ,, ,, sepia.
2½d. ,, ,, blue.
3d. ,, ,, grey.
4d. ,, ,, carmine.
5d. ,, ,, black.
6d. ,, ,, violet.
1s., green and black.
5s. ,, ,, carmine.
£1, green (?) on red.
} CA 14.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA.—Further values of the large type "Postage" only have arrived, and Messrs. P. L. Pemberton and Co. kindly send specimens.

Adhesives.

3d., olive-green, large type; "Postage" only.
4d., orange ,, ,, ,,
6d., bright blue-green, large type ,, ,,
10d., dull orange ,, ,, ,,
1s., pale brown ,, ,, ,,
Crown S A and perf. 11½.

SUDAN.—The Camel type of 1898 is appearing printed on paper watermarked with Crescent and Stars all over, right to the edges, and the stamps are printed on the paper sideways.

So far, *Ewen's* chronicles the 2 m., 1 and 10 pi., and lists a new envelope in the type of the current adhesives.

Adhesives. 2 mill., brown and green.
1 pi., red and black.
10 pi., violet and brown.
Envelope. 5 mill., rose.

TASMANIA.—Messrs. J. H. Smyth and Co. kindly send us specimens of stamps issued by the Tasmanian Government Railway.

Our friends write :—

"Besides the ½d. and 1d. values enclosed, there is another of the value of 2d., and there may be others; but our correspondent does not say. The necessity of this stamp has been made apparent by reason of the Federal Postal Authorities declining to allow newspapers to be carried free through the post. It is evidently a stamp for local use only, and has nothing to recommend it so far as the design is concerned."

The stamp appears to be lithographed, the stone being made up from a type-set impression reading

T. G. RVS
I D
NEWSPAPER
STAMP

Perforated stamps for official correspondence are also in use here. The letter "T" only is used.

TONGA.—The current ½d., 1d., 2d., and 2½d. values are coming, it is stated, on thinner paper, showing more clearly the watermark. The whole set is expected on the new paper in due course.

EUROPE.

FRANCE.—The 15 centimes, altered type, in pale red, reaches us from Messrs. P. L. Pemberton and Co. and Whitfield King and Co.

Adhesive.

15 c., pale red, altered type; perf. 14×13½.

ICELAND.—The new issue of stamps for this country contains, *Ewen's* tells us, a set for official use, bearing the inscription "PJONUSTA" at the right-hand side, instead of "FRIMERKI."

The colours of the 10 and 16 aur for public use are stated to be pink and brown respectively.

Official.

3	aur,	black and buff;	perf.	12½.
4	,,	,, dark green;	perf.	12½.
5	,,	,, red-brown	,,	
10	,,	,, blue	,,	
16	,,	,, pink	,,	
20	,,	,, green	,,	
50	,,	,, lilac	,,	

The first colour being that of the head.

RUSSIA.—We learn from a Continental journal that the quantity printed of the Russian stamps on *vertically* laid paper recently chronicled was 100,000 sheets of 100 each.

AMERICA.

COLOMBIAN REPUBLIC.—*Ewen's Weekly* lists some fresh varieties of the Picture types lately issued, and the *Metropolitan Philatelist* supplies the following :—

"Mr. H. Cormack sends us specimens of another new issue for this country. The design consists of Arms in circle in centre; numeral of value in upper corners and in words below, occupying two lines below. The most noticeable feature of the design consists of the name 'COLOMBIA' on a label cutting into the lower part of the Arms. It is the most artistic set the country has issued so far. Printed on tinted paper and perf. 12."

The following have not been noted in this journal :—

Adhesives.

20 c.,	dark blue, La Popa;		imperf.
20 c.	,,	,,	pin-perf.
20 c.	,,	,,	perf. 11½.
20 c.,	violet	,,	imperf.
20 c.	,,	,,	pin-perf.
20 c.	,,	,,	perf. 11½.

1 centavo, green on yellow.
2 centavos, red on rose.
5 ,, blue on blue.

COSTA RICA.—A provisional has reached the Washington Department of Foreign Mails, the *Metropolitan Philatelist* informs us. It is the 2 cents., red and black, of 1900, surcharged "Provosorio Oficial," in two lines, in green ink.

Official.

2 c., red and black, of 1900, surcharged, in green, "Provosorio Oficial."

ECUADOR.—*Mekeel's* lists the varieties of the district surcharges already chronicled as follows :—

Surcharged "C. Benj. R.," 1, 2, 5, 10, 20 c
,, "DE," large, 1, 2, 5, 10 c.
,, "DE," medium, 2 c. and 10 c. (violet or purple overprint).
,, "DE," small, 10 c.
,, "S," 1, 2, 5, 10, 20 c.
,, "RIOS," 5 c.

5 c., grey-lilac and black, surcharged in black, in three lines :

JUL
29
1902

Also an error of date, "1802" in place of "1902".

1, 2, 5 c., surcharged in green aniline ink, and the 5 c. also in purple,

ChimbOrAzO
Riobamba

in two lines. It will be noticed that "Chimborazo" has four capital letters. These two words are the names of two districts in Ecuador, and as well, two volcanoes.

5 c., grey-lilac and black, surcharged in purple, in dotted oval, as follows :

LOJA
FRANCA

1, 5, 10 c., surcharged "DE LEON", in black, red, and purple respectively, as follows : DE LEON

UNITED STATES.—It is reported by *Ewen's Weekly* that the 8 c. stamp with portrait of Martha Washington has been issued.

Up to time of writing we have not seen this stamp.

Adhesive.

8 c., grey-lilac; perf. 12; paper watermarked U.S.P.S.

VENEZUELA.—"We have received some more copies of the Carupano labels, and find that though type-set, there appear to be no minor varieties, each value being printed apparently from a single setting. The frame of the larger design is ingeniously varied in the different values; it is composed of quite short pieces of type, eight at top and bottom, and six at each side. On the 5 c. these are arranged alternately with the solid edge inside and the scalloped edge inside; on the 20 c. all have the solid line inside; on the 50 c. all have this line outside, as shown in the illustration given last month; while on the 1 bolivar the arrangement is in alternate pairs. The 10 c. exists in vertical *tête-bêche* pairs; the other values we have only seen in horizontal strips of ten, all the same way up.

"*La Cote Réelle* chronicles another provisional label from the same place, intended apparently for fiscal and inland postal use. The inscription is 'INSTRUCCION —SELLO PROVISIONAL—CARUPANO: 1902 —Vale un Bolivar,' in four lines, in an oblong frame of small circles."—*M. J.*

1 bolivar, black on *yellow; imperf.*

OTHER COUNTRIES.

ANGOLA.—From Mr. R. B. Yardley we have received a specimen of the 25 reis, deep rose, perf. 12½, of the issue of 1871, on *vertically laid* paper.

It is surprising that this variety has escaped notice so many years, and if any of our readers can throw any light on the subject we shall be very glad to hear from them.

FRENCH POST OFFICES ABROAD.—*French Morocco.*—Messrs. Whitfield King and Co. send us the 10 centimos, in black, on 10 c., carmine.

Adhesive. 10 c., carmine; black surcharge.

HAYTI.—The Postage Due stamp of 2 c. has appeared, states the *A. J. P.*, with the "PROVISIONAL GOVERNMENT" surcharge printed in red instead of black.

Postage Due. 2 c., black; red surcharge.

LIBERIA.—Mr. H. L. Hayman, Messrs. Bright and Son, and Whitfield King and Co. have shown us specimens of the provisional 75 cents on $1 of 1892.

The overprint is in carmine, with the original value, "ONE DOLLAR," obliterated by a single thick line.

The sheets contain ten specimens, and the tenth stamp shows a larger "C" after the figures "75," with a comma in place of a period.

Adhesive.

75 c. on $1, blue and black, of 1892; carmine overprint.

PERSIA.—The expected new permanent issue has appeared, and Messrs. Whitfield King and Co. send us seven different values.

The shahi stamps have the Lion and Sun in the centre under a Crown, and the inscription "POSTES PERSANES" below, with value at sides.

The kran values have a portrait of the Shah in the centre, "POSTES PERSANES" above, and value at foot. Native characters appear also on all the denominations.

Adhesives.

1 shahi,	mauve	no wmk.	perf. 12½.
2 ,,	grey	,,	,,
3 ,,	green	,,	,,
5 ,,	rose	,,	,,
10 ,,	brown	,,	,
12 ,,	blue	,,	,,
1 kran,	mauve	,,	perf. 11½×11.

SPANISH MOROCCO.—We notice in *Ewen's Weekly* that the 5 c., 10 c., and 25 c. Spanish stamps of 1901 have been surcharged "Correo Español Marruecos" diagonally.

The overprint is in black on the 10 c. and in red on the other two.

Philatelic Societies' Meetings.

Philatelic Society, London.

Council for the Year 1902–1903.

President—
H.R.H. The Prince of Wales, K.G., etc.
Vice-President—The Earl of Crawford, K.T.
Hon. Secretary—J. A. Tilleard.
Hon. Treasurer—C. N. Biggs.
Hon. Assistant Secretary—H. R. Oldfield.
Hon. Librarian—T. Maycock.

W. B. Avery.
E. D. Bacon.
M. P. Castle, J.P. (*Hon. Vice-President.*)
R. Ehrenbach.
T. W. Hall.
L. L. R. Hausburg.
C. E. McNaughtan.
Franz Reichenheim.
Gordon Smith.

The fourth meeting of the season 1902–1903 was held at Effingham House, Arundel Street, Strand, on Friday the 5th December, 1902, at 7.45 p.m.

Members present: M. P. Castle, R. Ehrenbach, Herbert R. Oldfield, Rudolph Meyer, Rudolph Frentzel, C. McNaughtan, C. Neville Biggs, L. W. Fulcher, W. Schwabacher, Baron A. de Worms, L. L. R. Hausburg, C. F. Dendy Marshall, T. Maycock.

In the absence of the Vice-President, the chair was taken by the Hon. Vice-President, and the minutes of the meeting held on the 21st November were read and signed as correct. A letter was read from the Hon. Secretary expressing regret at his absence owing to continued illness. A letter was also read from Mrs. Bell acknowledging the vote of sympathy passed by the members at their meeting on the 7th November last.

The Hon. Secretary reported that the First and Second Annual Reports, being for the years 1896 and 1897, of the Kasauli Stamp Club had been presented to the Society by Mr. Corfield, and the last edition of the "A B C" Catalogue by Messrs. Bright and Son, and the Hon. Librarian was directed to acknowledge receipt of the same in the usual way.

A letter was read from Dr. Alexander Boswell resigning his membership of the Society, and the same was accepted with regret as from the end of the present year.

The meeting then proceeded with the election of Mr. H. R. Watkin (proposed by Mr. L. L. R. Hausburg and seconded by Mr. M. P. Castle), who, after ballot, was declared duly elected a member of the Society.

Mr. C. F. Dendy Marshall then read a paper entitled "A New Collection; or, The Evils of Immersion," and submitted some notes on the so-called Retouch of the 1d. Great Britain, a paragraph in respect of which had appeared in the *London Philatelist*.

Mr. Marshall also read some notes in reference to the circular issued from Edinburgh in 1841, relative to the change in the obliterations on the 1d. stamps from the red colour to black, by which circular postmasters were authorised to continue the use of the red composition until they had been furnished with the black.

Mr. Marshall also submitted, for the consideration of members, a new method of arranging a collection of registered envelopes.

A very hearty vote of thanks to Mr. Dendy Marshall for his very interesting paper, notes, and display was proposed by Mr. McNaughtan, and such vote of thanks, after being seconded by Mr. Meyer, was unanimously carried, and the proceedings then terminated.

The fifth meeting of the season 1902–1903 was held at Effingham House, Arundel Street, Strand, on Friday the 19th December, 1902, at 7.45 p.m.

Members present: M. P. Castle, Thos. Wm. Hall, Herbert R. Oldfield, Rudolph Meyer, C. McNaughtan, L. W. Fulcher, C. Neville Biggs, T. Maycock, C. J. Daun, L. L. R. Hausburg, Gordon Smith, J. A. Tilleard, B. D. Knox.

The chair was taken by the Hon. Vice-President, and the minutes of the meeting held on the 5th December, 1902, were read and signed as correct.

Letters were read from Messrs. F. A. Foster, G. B. Petrie, and G. L. Edwards resigning their membership of the Society, and the resignations were accepted with regret as from the end of the present year.

Mr. Gordon Smith then showed to the members a portion of a sheet of the 6d. stamps of South Australia, watermarked Broad-pointed Star, and called attention to the fact that one row of the stamps was perforated vertically 10 and horizontally 11½. Mr. Gordon Smith also showed a block of six British South Africa stamps with 3d. surcharge on 5s. with an inverted "R" in the word "THREE" on one of the stamps. This sheet and block had been sent for inspection by Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., and they were inspected with considerable interest by the members present.

Mr. Castle then proceeded to read a paper by Mr. J. N. Marsden upon the first issue of Portugal, with a display of his stamps, supplemented by some further notes by Mr. Castle, with illustrations. In the course of his remarks Mr. Castle stated that the reprints generally showed a more or less blurred impression on either one side or other of the stamps, and upon this point Mr. Gordon Smith pointed out that possibly the blurring arose from the fact that the steel matrix, having become slightly heated, would probably not fit the socket, and that the slight elevation upon one side would account for the reprints showing a heavier printing on one side than on the other.

The Hon. Vice-President proposed a vote of thanks to Mr. Marsden, and expressed his gratification at receiving a paper of so much philatelic interest from a member so far distant from our place of meeting. This resolution was seconded by Mr. Hall and carried. Mr. Hall then proposed and Mr. Biggs seconded a hearty vote of thanks to Mr. Castle for so kindly coming up from Brighton to read Mr. Marsden's paper, and for giving his interesting explanations; and to Mr. W. W. Mann, who had sent his collection of stamps of Portugal through Mr. Castle for the inspection of the members present.

Mr. Yardley sent a 25 reis Angola stamp to be submitted to the meeting for examination, the stamp being apparently on laid paper, hitherto unknown in the stamps of this country. The stamp having been examined, the general consensus of opinion was that the laid lines had been artificially produced. The proceedings then terminated.

Herts Philatelic Society.

A GENERAL MEETING was held at Anderton's Hotel, Fleet Street, E.C., on Tuesday, January 13th, 1903, at 7 p.m.

Present: Messrs. Boyes, Bradbury, R. B. Brown, Charlick, Cool, Daun, Ehrenbach, Fulcher, Mellor, Melville, Meyer, Neyroud, Richardson, Shields, Sidebotham, Simpson, Sutherland, Thomson, Wane, Wiehen, Baron Anthony de Worms, Baron Percy de Worms, and Slade.

Mr. Rudolph Meyer read a paper on "The Joys of Collecting," which was received with much interest. At its conclusion a hearty vote of thanks was proposed and carried with enthusiasm.

Baron Anthony de Worms gave a display of his collection of the stamps of Mauritius, which was complete but for the Post Offices. He also showed huge blocks of the early issues of Ceylon, with a small but very choice selection of English stamps, including a pair of "V.R.," the rare high values, etc., etc. A unanimous vote of thanks was passed to Baron Anthony de Worms for again placing a portion of his philatelic treasures before the members.

Exchange and discussion followed, and an enjoyable meeting was brought to a close at 9 p.m.

The programme for the meeting on Tuesday, February 10th, 1903, will consist of:

Paper: "The Ideal Exhibition," by Herbert R. Oldfield.
Display: British East Africa, H. L. Hayman.
Display: West Indies (used), J. E. Heginbottom.

H. A. SLADE, *Hon. Sec. and Treasurer.*

Suburban Stamp Exchange Club.

THE August and September packets having returned from circulation, accounts were submitted and balances adjusted with the least possible delay. Sales reached a high average for these two months, nearly all the good things that were priced reasonably having been taken.

One hundred and forty-one sheets, valued in the aggregate at £1,515 14s. 0d., were received for the December packets, which were made up and despatched on the 21st. Many good stamps were offered at low quotations, West Indians and Europeans being specially well represented. Eight new members were enrolled during the past month, and one resignation was accepted. Collectors having duplicates for disposal, or wishing to acquire varieties at less than catalogue prices, will find the Club an excellent medium for both purposes. Copy of rules, with full information, will gladly be forwarded on application. References should accompany all applications to avoid delay.

H. A. SLADE, *Secretary.*

INGLESIDE, ST. ALBANS,
January 14th, 1903.

The Collectors' Club.

351, FOURTH AVENUE, NEW YORK.

THE eighty-sixth meeting of the Board of Governors was held at the Club House on Monday evening, December 8th, 1902. Present: Messrs. Andreini, Bruner, Luff, Morgenthau, Scott, and Perrin. The Treasurer's report, showing a cash balance in bank of $696.17, exclusive of reserve fund, was accepted as read. It was duly moved, seconded, and carried that the Entertainment Committee be requested to provide an entertainment at the Club on the evening of January 17th next, and that $100 be provided for expenses. The application of Mr. L. L. R. Hausburg, having been posted the required length of time, was balloted upon, and he was declared unanimously elected a subscribing member.

GOVERNORS' MEETING.

THE eighty-seventh meeting of the Board of Governors was held at the Club House on Wednesday evening, December 10th, 1902. Present: Messrs. Andreini, Bruner, Dewing, Luff, Morgenthau, Scott, and Perrin. The meeting was called to order at 9.30 p.m. with Mr. Scott in the chair. Mr. J. M. Andreini was nominated and unanimously elected President for the ensuing year. Mr. P. F. Bruner was nominated and unanimously elected Vice-President for the ensuing year. Mr. J. W. Scott was nominated and unanimously elected Treasurer for the ensuing year. Mr. Albert Perrin was nominated and unanimously elected Secretary for the ensuing year. Moved, seconded, and carried that the offer of the National Philatelic Society to turn over to the Club all their furniture and money in the treasury in settlement of their debt be accepted for full payment. The Secretary read the resignation from the Board of Mr. H. E. Deats. Moved, seconded, and carried that his resignation be accepted with regrets. Mr. M. H. Lombard was appointed on the Board to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of Mr. Deats. Committees were appointed by the President to serve during the ensuing year.

ANNUAL MEETING.

THE seventh annual meeting of the stockholders and sixth annual meeting of the Club was held at the Club House on Wednesday evening, December 10th, 1902. The meeting was called to order at 8.30 p.m. by President Andreini. The following members answered to the calling of the roll: J. N. Andreini, M. C. Berlepsch, P. F. Bruner, W. W. Dewing, W. F. Gregory, L. M. Homburger, G. E. Jones, J. C. Morgenthau, Albert Perrin, Jos. S. Rich, J. W. Scott, P. Stypman, G. R. Tuttle, B. von Hodenberg, John N. Luff. The reading of the minutes of the preceding meeting of the stockholders was dispensed with. The reports of the officers and committees were read and accepted. Moved by Mr. Morgenthau, seconded by Mr. Luff, and unanimously carried that the terms of office of the governors elected at this meeting shall expire in October of 1904 and 1905 respectively. There being no other business before the meeting, the President appointed Messrs. Luff and Rich tellers, in order to proceed to the election of four governors, three to serve until October, 1905, and one to serve until October, 1904. After ballot the chair declared Messrs. Andreini, Luff, Morgenthau, and Dewing duly elected.

ALBERT PERRIN, *Secretary.*

Boston Philatelic Society.

THE Exhibition Committee for 1903 has issued the following interesting notice for the ensuing season, competition being limited to members of the Boston Society.

EXHIBITIONS.

NOTE.—Exhibits to include, when not specially mentioned, both adhesive stamps and envelopes and wrappers issued for postal purposes by Governments or postmasters.

Jan. 20. Stamp portraits, not busts, full face and three-quarters view.
Feb. 17.* Best general exhibit, adhesives only. Collections not to number over 6,000.
Mar. 17. Best collection of stamps of the 20th century, exhibited in printed albums. Single specimens only to count.
April 21.* British North America.
May 19. Russia, including Finland.
June 16.* Envelopes and wrappers (entire) of Great Britain and Colonies. Envelopes and wrappers (cut square) of Great Britain and Colonies.
Sept. 20. Victoria.
Oct. 15.* United States, adhesives only.
Nov. 17. Commemorative stamps of the world.
Dec. 15. Original essays upon subjects having an immediate and practical bearing on the study of postage stamps.

* For members who have never taken a prize. Blocks, strips, and *pairs* to count as single stamps only.

The Market.

NOTE.—*Under this title will be inserted all the information that may refer in any way to the financial aspects of Philately*, e.g. *the sales or values of stamps, the state of the Market, Trade publications, etc.*

MESSRS. PUTTICK AND SIMPSON.

Sale of December 9th and 11th.

* Unused.	£	s.	d.
Great Britain, V.R., 1d., black, pair,* no gum	12	0	0
Ditto, 1s., octagonal,* mint	7	10	0
Ditto, 1854–7, Small Crown, perf. 14, 2d.,* mint	11	0	0
Ditto, ditto, Large Crown, perf. 14, 2d.,* mint, block of six	5	5	0
Ditto, 1855, 4d., Large Garter,* block of four	4	5	0
Ditto, 1880, 2s., brown,* corner perf. missing	3	15	0
Ceylon, 1s. 9d., yellow-green*	4	0	0
Cape of Good Hope Triangulars, 1d., red on *bleuté**	3	0	0
Ditto, ditto, 6d., slate-lilac*	3	10	0
Ditto, ditto, 6d., ditto, *on bleuté*,* no gum	2	4	0
Ditto ditto, ditto, pair	3	3	0
Ditto, ditto, 1s., dark green,* mint pair	7	10	0
Ditto, Woodblock, 1d., scarlet	4	2	6
Ditto, ditto, 4d., dark blue, repaired	3	5	0
Ditto, 1863–4, ditto,* mint pair	3	3	0
Ditto, ditto, 6d., bright mauve,* ditto	3	12	0
Ditto, ditto, 1s., emerald,* ditto	9	0	0
Gambia, 1s., green,* mint	1	14	0
Gold Coast, 20s., green and carmine,* part gum	3	3	0
Lagos, 1s., orange, value 16½ mm.,* mint	3	10	0
British Columbia, 1865, imperf., 10 c., blue, pair, used with 5 c., rose, perf., on piece of original	6	0	0
St. Vincent, 1s., indigo, pair,* mint	5	5	0
Ditto, ½d., on half 6d., pair,* part gum	2	14	0
Trinidad, 6d., green, pin-perf., pair,* mint	3	0	0
Ditto, 1s., bright mauve, perf. 13	2	6	0
New South Wales, Sydney, 2d., dull blue, Plate 2	3	0	0
New South Wales, Diadem, 1s., pale red,* no gum	3	15	0
New Zealand, 1855, 1d., carmine, imperf., London print	2	15	0
Ditto, 1856, 1d., red, blue paper, imperf., pair	4	12	6
Ditto, ditto, 1s., green, ditto	2	6	0
Ditto, 1863–6, 3d., brown-lilac,* no gum	2	0	0
Ditto, 1872, wmk. Lozenges, 2d., vermilion	4	0	0
South Australia, 1856–9, Colonial print, 1d., yellow-green, imperf., a pair	3	5	0

Some good remainders of countries were included in this catalogue.

* * *

MESSRS. VENTOM, BULL, AND COOPER.

Sale of December 18th and 19th, 1902.

* Unused.	£	s.	d.
Great Britain, ½d., rose, Plate 9,* full gum	1	14	0
British Levant, 12 p. on 2s. 6d., *bleuté*,* ditto	2	10	0
Bavaria, 1870–3, 12 kr., red-lilac, perf., block of four,* mint	3	10	0
Holland, 1867–8, 50 gulden, variety 11*	3	0	0
Spain, 1851, 5 reales,* mint	2	0	0
Great Britain, 2s., brown	2	2	0
Brunswick, 1864, *percé en arc*, ½ sgr. (?), black on yellow,* mint	3	0	0
France, 1862, 20 c., blue, *tête-bêche* pair,* mint	3	12	6
Ditto, 1870–3, 10 c., bistre on rose, pair,* mint	2	0	0
Switzerland, Basle, 2½ r.	3	7	6
Wurtemberg, 70 kr., red-lilac,* mint	2	8	0
British South Africa, 1891, set of four provisionals*	4	6	0
Ditto, 1896, "One Penny" on 4s., horizontal strip of three*	5	10	0

	£	s.	d.
Cape of Good Hope, Woodblock, 1d., red, heavily cancelled	2	12	0
Ditto, ditto, 4d., deep blue, thinned	5	7	6
Ditto, ditto, 4d., blue	2	15	0
Ditto, Triangulars on blued paper, 1d., red, block of four	2	0	0
Ditto, ditto, 1s., emerald, pair, used	3	17	6
Ditto, 1874–80, provisional, "THREE PENCE" in red on 4d., blue, a superb unused block of four in mint state, one stamp being the error "THE.EE PENCE," possibly unique; rare in this condition	30	0	0
Ditto Mafeking, set of nineteen	14	0	0
Gold Coast, 20s., green and red, imperf.,* mint	6	15	0
Mauritius, "Post Paid," 1d., red, medium state of plate	3	0	0
Ditto, ditto, 2d., blue, ditto	3	5	0
Ditto, Britannia, 4d., black on green	2	0	0
Ditto, 1872, ½d. in figures and words on 9d., dull purple, without the word "CANCELLED"*	5	0	0
Natal, 1st issue, 1d., rose	3	3	0
Ditto, ditto, 1d., blue	3	0	0
Ditto, ditto, 1d., buff	3	0	0
Ditto, ditto, 9d., blue, 24 × 20 mm.	5	5	0
Ditto, ditto, 1s., buff, 39 × 30 mm.	12	15	0
Ditto, 1875, 1s., green, twice surcharged	3	3	0
Ditto, 1877–9, ½d. on 1d., yellow, inverted surcharge*	2	18	0
Ditto, ditto, 1d. on 6d., rose, surcharged four times, horizontal pair,*	4	15	0
Ditto, ditto, ditto, single specimen,*	2	10	0
Ditto, 1d. on 6d., rose, twice surcharged, once inverted,* mint	3	5	0
Ditto, 1d. on 6d., rose, an unused horizontal pair, mint one has the variety "P STAGE" and the other is torn	5	15	0
Ditto, 1891, provisional, 2½d. on 4d., brown, an unused vertical strip of six, mint, three stamps contain the "PENGE" error	3	5	0
Ditto, a mint strip of four, containing two "PENGE" errors, one is torn	2	2	0
Ditto, a mint vertical pair containing one "PENGE" error	1	6	0
Ditto, 1891, a mint vertical strip of three, the centre stamp of which is twice surcharged	3	5	0
Orange River Colony, 1877 provisionals, "4" on 6d., rose-carmine, the four types and another, all scarce	2	10	0
Ditto, 1881–2, 1d. on 5s., green, the rare Type A, a fine unused corner block of twenty, mint	5	17	6
Ditto, 1888, provisional, 1d. on 4d., ultramarine, a fine horizontal pair, one having the rare Roman I surcharge, Gibbons' Type 3	4	6	0
Swazieland, 2d., olive-bistre, a horizontal pair, one stamp having the error "SWAZIELAN"	2	0	0
Ditto, 1s., green, a very fine unused horizontal strip of three, mint, with inverted surcharges	2	0	0
Ditto, 5s., slate-blue, with inverted surcharge, used on piece	2	17	6
Transvaal, surcharged "V.R. TRANSVAAL" in red, 3d., mauve	5	0	0
Ditto, ditto, another fine specimen	5	0	0
Ditto, ditto, another fine specimen, but design very slightly cut into on one side	5	0	0
Ditto, ditto, another fine specimen, with surcharge on back	12	15	0
Ditto, ditto, 6d., blue, very fine, but apparently a trifle thinned at back	4	17	6
Ditto, ditto, another fine specimen, in the pale blue shade	5	5	0
Ditto, ditto, 1s., green, fine	3	0	0
Ditto, ditto, 6d., blue on rose, error, surcharge omitted, thinned at back, but an extremely rare stamp.	25	0	0
Ditto, surcharged "V.R. Transvaal," 6d., blue on green, with inverted surcharge, very slightly thinned at back, grand margins all round	8	5	0
Ditto, ditto, 6d., blue on blue, with inverted surcharge	6	6	0
Ditto, Queen's Head, 1d. on 6d., red surcharge, Type 16*	4	0	0
Ditto, ditto, ditto, used	2	15	0
Ditto, ditto, "EEN PENNY" on 4d., sage-green, surcharge inverted, with gum,* thinned at back	2	7	6
Ditto, 1883, 1s., green, a very fine unused mint block of four, including the *tête-bêche* variety.	5	15	0
Ditto, a similar lot, used	2	12	0
Ditto, 1885, provisional, ½d. on 1s., green, a very fine unused, horizontal *tête-bêche* pair, in mint state	6	10	0
Ditto, 1887–90, provisionals, 2½d. on 1s., green, error, "2/½," defective	2	2	0
Ditto, ditto, another specimen with similar error and surcharge inverted, unused, with full gum, may be a trifle thinned at back	10	10	0
Zanzibar on Indian, ½ anna, green, error "Zanzidar," a trifle rubbed on face	2	4	0
Ditto, ditto, 1 anna, plum, error "Zanzidar"	3	0	0
Ditto, ditto, 1½ anna, sepia, error "Zanzidar"	7	5	0
Ditto, ditto, 2 annas, ultramarine, error "Zanzidar"	4	0	0
Ditto, ditto, 2½ annas, green, error "Zanzidar"	4	10	0
Ditto, ditto, 3 annas, brown-orange, error "Zanzidar"	4	15	0
Ditto, ditto, 4 annas, olive-green, error "Zanzidar"	7	10	0
Ditto, ditto, 6 annas, bistre, error "Zanzidar"	6	5	0
Zululand, 5s., carmine,* mint	3	12	6
Ditto, ditto, used	3	3	0
Barbados, provisional, 1878, 1d. on half 5s., dull rose, the scarce variety straight serif to numeral "1"	5	10	0
Victoria, 1852, engraved, 2d., reddish brown, an entire reconstructed plate of fifty	5	10	0
Ditto, 1854, lithographed, 2d., lilac, ditto	3	5	0

Collections: 8,712, £84; 6,081, £48; and 3,223, £20.

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MESSRS. PUTTICK AND SIMPSON.

Sale of January 6th and 7th, 1903.

* Unused.

Oldenburg, 1855, ⅓ sgr., black on green	2	6	0
Levant, 1865, 20 k., blue and red	4	0	0
Switzerland, Basle, 2½ r.	2	16	0
Wurtemberg, 70 kr., mauve	1	15	0
Ceylon, 8d., brown, imperf.	9	0	0
Ditto, 2 r. 50 c., lilac-rose	2	2	0

	£	s.	d.
India, Large "Service," 4 annas, purple and green	2	0	0
Ditto, ditto, 8 annas, ditto,* part gum	4	6	0
Philippine Islands, 1854, 5 c., orange	2	0	0
British Central Africa, 1895, One Penny on 2d., green, with double surcharge*	3	5	0
British East Africa, 1891–5 MS. Provisionals "½ a. A. B." on 2 a., vermilion, pair	6	15	0
Ditto, ditto, ditto, single copy	3	7	6
Ditto, hand-stamped provisional "½ anna A. D." on 2 a., vermilion	4	10	0
Ditto, 2½, in red, on 4½ a., purple, block of four*	3	0	0
Ditto, 1897, Zanzibar stamp surcharged, 1 a., blue, with red surcharge, unused, mint	5	5	0
Mauritius, large fillet, 2d., blue, damaged	5	5	0
Ditto, Greek border, 1d., scarlet	1	18	0
Zululand, 5s., carmine	2	17	6
U.S.A., Providence, entire sheet of twelve,* with gum	5	0	0
Ditto, Agriculture, 1 c. to 30 c. complete,* mint	2	10	0
Ditto, Executive, 1 c. to 10 c. complete,* mint	3	7	6
Ditto, Justice, 1 c. to 30 c.*	4	2	6
Ditto, ditto, 90 c.,* mint	4	4	0
Ditto, Navy, 1 c. to 90 c. complete*	3	10	0
Ditto, State, 1 c. to 90 c. complete*	4	5	0
Bermuda, One Penny on 3d., buff, block of four,* mint	1	16	0
St. Vincent, 5s., Star,* no gum	7	10	0
British Honduras, CA, 1s., grey,* mint	1	18	0
Buenos Ayres, 5 pesos, olive-yellow,* but repaired	8	0	0
New South Wales, Laureated, no wmk., 1d., red, unused, with gum, slightly creased and a few specks on face	1	15	0
Ditto, ditto, 2d., bright blue, a pair, unused, with gum and good margins, but right-hand stamp is badly creased, other one very fine	3	10	0
Ditto, ditto, a single copy, unused, with gum, and very fine	2	10	0
Ditto, ditto, pair, 3d., emerald-green, unused, with full original gum, cut rather close, and a little marked and cracked at top, but otherwise both are nice clean copies and exceedingly scarce with gum	15	10	0
Tasmania, 1892–9, £1, green and yellow,* mint	5	5	0

Collections: 5,712, £37 10s.; 1,086 (Lallier's), £16 16s., and 2,175, £12 12s.

This catalogue was mostly made up of collections of countries and remainders.

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MESSRS. VENTOM, BULL, AND COOPER.

Sales of January 8th and 9th, 1903.

* Unused.

	£	s.	d.
France, 1862–70, 4 c., grey, horizontal *tête-bêche* pair, damaged	2	10	0
Ceylon, 4d., rose, imperf.	10	0	0
Ditto, 8d., brown, ditto	6	0	0
Ditto, 9d., lilac-brown, ditto	3	0	0
Ditto, 1s. 9d., green, ditto	2	4	0
Ditto, 2s., blue, ditto	4	10	0
Ditto, 8d., brown, clean-cut perf.	2	12	0
Ditto, 2 r. 50 c., lilac-rose	2	6	0
Ditto, Ten Cents on 36 c., blue*	1	16	0
Ditto, Service, set of 7*	2	6	0
Perak, surcharged "P.G.S.", space between "G." and "S.", 2 c., 6 c., 8 c., 10 c., 12 c. purple-brown, and Cr. and CA 24 c., green, all* with gum	4	12	6
Cape of Good Hope, 1880, tall "3" on 3d., lilac-rose, a horizontal pair, one stamp has the surcharge omitted	3	0	0
Griqualand, small "G", in black, on 5s., orange,* mint	2	16	0
Ditto, 5s., orange, an unused pair, in mint state, each twice surcharged and showing two types	11	5	0
Lagos, 2s. 6d., olive-black	3	3	0
Ditto, 5s., blue, trifle thinned	4	5	0
Ditto, 10s., lilac-brown	8	10	0
Mauritius, large fillet, 2d., blue	8	0	0
Ditto, Greek border, 1d., red	3	0	0
Natal, 1st issue, 1s., buff	5	17	6
Ditto, 1891, 2½d. on 4d., brown, an unused vertical strip of six in mint state, three of which have the error "PENGE"	3	2	6
Ditto, ditto, a mint strip of four, containing two of the "PENGE" errors	2	4	0
Ditto, ditto, a mint pair, containing one "PENGE" error	1	5	0
Ditto, ditto, a single specimen with inverted surcharge, unused, mint	4	4	0
Transvaal, surcharged "V.R. TRANSVAAL" in red, 3d., mauve, very fine	4	12	6
Ditto, ditto, 6d., blue, fine	4	15	0
Ditto, 1878, 1d., red on orange, slanting "V.R.", fine roulette	4	4	0
Zululand, 5s., carmine	3	10	0
British Columbia, $1, green, perf. 12½	1	18	0
Newfoundland, 6½d., carmine-vermilion*	7	15	0
Ditto, 1s., carmine-vermilion	6	10	0
Nova Scotia, 1s., violet	8	5	0
Barbados, 1d. on half 5s., S. G. No. 88	3	3	0
British Guiana, 1852, 1 c., black on magenta	2	10	0
Ditto, ditto, 4 c., black on deep blue	4	4	0
Ditto, 1856, 4 c., black on magenta	8	10	0
Ditto, 1862, 4 c., provisional No. 1	7	0	0
St. Vincent, 1d. on half 6d.	3	3	0
Ditto, One Penny on 6d., yellow-green	1	17	0
Ditto, 4d. on 1s.	6	10	0
Turks Islands, 4 on 1d., dull red, Type 15	1	17	0
Argentine, 1864, 10 c., green, imperf.	2	6	0
Brazil, 180 reis, italic figures	2	2	0
Ditto, 300 reis, ditto	3	0	0
Ditto, 600 reis, ditto	3	17	6
Buenos Ayres, 3 pesos, green	3	10	0
U.S. Colombia, 1862, 20 c., red	3	3	0
Ditto, ditto, 1 peso, lilac	2	0	0
Dominican Republic, 1st issue, ½ real, black on green*	2	0	0
Mexico, 1864, 3 c., brown, Eagle, twice surcharged,* full gum	5	5	0
Uruguay, 1857, block letters, 120 c., blue*	2	0	0
Queensland, 1st issue, 2d., blue, imperf.	3	17	6
Ditto, 1881, 10s., brown, postally used	2	15	0

Collections: 2,584; British Colonials only, £67.

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THE

London Philatelist:

THE MONTHLY JOURNAL OF

THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY, LONDON.

VOL. XII. FEBRUARY, 1903. No. 134.

The Tapling Collection.

MR. E. D. BACON elsewhere makes the welcome announcement to the philatelic world that this renowned collection is at last in process of safely housing, and that within a very short period the entire collection will be open to every adherent of stamp collecting throughout the world, for the purposes alike of instruction and of entertainment. We are informed that the cabinets in which the stamps will be placed are of superb workmanship, that they are triumphs of the cabinet-maker's art, and that they are found to be absolutely suitable for the purpose—*i.e.* free display without deterioration of the exhibits.

We doubt if the great advantages that will be open to collectors and dealers in the permanent exhibition of this superb collection are as yet fully grasped. It will probably be a year or two before the average Philatelist will have realised the great fact that in the issues of every country he will always have at command a means of comparison and verification for his own stamps. The system of arrangement is so perfect that it will admit of the placing of any stamp that requires examination quite close to those exhibited, and will allow with ease their comparison, whether as to type, colour, or genuineness. In the case of the great rarities which are beyond the ken of the ordinary collector this will be an inestimable advantage. The old lady who has a blue Guiana (of 1876 or 1882) will at once be able to see that she is not justified in asking £100 for it! The schoolboy will be able to feast his eyes upon Hawaiians, Guianas, and "Post Office" Mauritius, and the steady collector will find in the splendid collection—so superbly arranged by Mr. Bacon—a continual source of philatelic education. The altruistic bequest of Mr. Tapling will have been given the ample scope and recognition that it deserved, and his name will

deservedly be handed down to philatelic posterity as the greatest benefactor to stamp collectors that the world has seen.

It is to be hoped that the question of the continuation of the collection will not be discarded from view. Having regard to the importance of the bequest—assuredly not less than £100,000—the Government should at least keep the collection up to date. The amount of money involved would not be excessive, and we are confident that there would be a universal response in the philatelic world were our assistance demanded. This is by no means the first time that this desideratum has been urged in these columns—nor may it be the last! Abraham Lincoln's hint to "keep pegging away" is very excellent advice.

The Tapling Collection.

By E. D. BACON.



IT is now over two years ago since I outlined in the *London Philatelist* of November, 1900, the scheme that the Trustees of the British Museum had decided to adopt for the permanent exhibition of the adhesive stamps in the Tapling Collection.

Since then several unforeseen obstacles have arisen to delay the carrying out of the project, but it gives me the greatest pleasure to be able, at length, to announce that the whole collection of the adhesive stamps will be on view to the public before the end of the present year at the latest, and possibly the greater part will be available for inspection in the course of the next few months.

It will be remembered that the plan I described as the one finally adopted by the Trustees takes the form of cabinets, with rows of narrow, vertical slides or frames, each of which holds four sheets of stamps beneath glass; the four sheets being placed back to back, and each side of the slide displaying two of these sheets side by side. The slides are, further, so fixed as only to pull out a sufficient distance to allow of an examination of the contents.

There will be three cabinets in all, and each of these will have two rows of slides, one above the other, at the front and back. One of the cabinets has actually been delivered at the Museum, and the makers are under contract to supply the other two before the end of March. The three cabinets will stand in the centre of the King's Library, and each slide will probably bear the name of the country and some indication of the issue of stamps it contains. The countries will be arranged in strictly alphabetical sequence, and cross-references will be added where necessary. Jets for electric light, with reflectors, will in all likelihood be fixed on the top of the cabinets, and these will be available for use by anyone inspecting the stamps whenever there is a deficiency of natural light.

It must be understood that some of the smaller details, such as the exact form in which the slides shall be labelled and the particular way in which additional light shall be provided, have yet to be finally determined; but it is quite likely that both these points will eventually be decided much after, if not exactly by, the methods I have described.

I have had the privilege of inspecting the cabinet that is already finished, and I think collectors, when they examine them, will agree with me that they are in every way a triumph of the cabinet-maker's art, and I cannot conceive anything more perfect or suitable for the special purpose for which they have been constructed.

There has certainly been an unduly long delay in making the magnificent bequest of Mr. T. K. Tapling available to the public; but it is gratifying to know that no pains or expense have been allowed, after all, to interfere with the adoption of the most perfect system for the display of the stamps.

A New Collection; or, The Evils of Immersion.

A Paper read before the Philatelic Society, London, December 5th, 1902.

By C. F. DENDY MARSHALL, B.A.

THE germs of the following remarks have already appeared in public, namely in an article in the *London Philatelist* for March, 1898. Since then, having had some further experience of the system advocated, I have become more than ever convinced of its merits, and have, in fact, discovered fresh ones. In the article referred to I ventured to lay down two rules for the formation of a "New Collection," the first one governing unused stamps, which was to take, where possible, corner stamps or blocks, with the marginal paper attached. I am glad to see this principle everywhere extending, and anticipate that one day stamps of this kind will be worth something like double the ordinary ones, even if the margin is plain, apart from the question of numbers, etc.; already, if they show these, they are in many instances of considerable value.

The interest is greatly increased in the case of two very large classes of stamps, namely those which have inscriptions on the margins, such as plate numbers, printers' names, dates or ornamentation, and those which are printed on coloured or tinted paper. Even in the remaining class of stamps, that is to say those on white paper with blank margins, the appearance is much improved, while the nature of the paper can be examined with greater ease, and some advantages, for instance, when a friend wishes to feel the thickness between his finger and thumb.

Now we come to the other rule, which bears upon used specimens. *These must be taken on a piece of the original cover, cut out so as to show the whole postmark.*

The advantages of this system may be arranged under the following heads: Appearance, Interest, Damage, and Preservation.

Firstly, with regard to appearance. Personally, I consider it greatly improved. This is, of course, a matter of opinion; but is not opinion, generally speaking, a matter of education? What the eye is accustomed to see it regards as the correct thing, and I have no hesitation in saying that the result of having to do with stamps which have not been detached is that one looks upon those that have as incomplete and almost spoilt—just as one regards a print that has had its margin cut down, in fact. Perhaps this may be considered an abnormal frame of mind, but I can at all events assure my hearers that it is one very quickly arrived at.

Next comes interest. As I said when referring to this subject before, when a stamp has been used to prepay postage, the postmark is a portion of the whole transaction, recording the place and date. Moreover, a study of the styles of postmark in use at different periods is an interesting adjunct to a collection of the stamps of any country, and indeed forms part of its postal history. And a most fascinating study is by this means rendered possible, namely that of the periods during which various shades, and varieties generally, were in use—a subject on which an ordinary collection gives but very meagre information.

We now come to what is far the strongest argument, namely, the damage that almost inevitably results from the popular practice of soaking. A stamp which is left on the paper, if moderately postmarked, is a much nearer approach to a mint unused copy than an unattached one. The small amount of moisture necessary to dissolve the gum, which is immediately absorbed, chiefly by the envelope paper, in ninety-nine cases out of a hundred does not do the slightest harm, not even removing that indefinable quality known as the "bloom." But when the gum is shut up tight between the stamp and the paper, the stewing process which is required in order to persuade them to part company must affect them to some extent, however carefully it is done, especially with stamps of the last twenty years. The danger is only partly obviated by floating the stamps on the surface, or by steaming them, as they are still bound to absorb moisture, which stretches the paper, spoiling the surface, making it spongy, and taking off the sharpness, as well as acting on the colour to a greater or less degree, depending on the extent to which it is fugitive, and also on the nature of the water, and the odds and ends which it may hold in solution. The effect on the colour is threefold: sometimes it is partly dissolved, which gives the stamp a faded appearance; or it tends to run, which is specially noticeable in bicoloured stamps; or a distinct change is produced, oftenest in green and blue stamps. The action of moisture on the surface is shown in a striking manner if a drop of water be allowed to stand for a moment on a post card, and then dried. The surface will be found to be permanently altered.

The amount of deterioration due to soaking is not half realised by collectors who are unaccustomed to seeing and closely observing used stamps which have not passed through the ordeal by water. But it nevertheless makes itself felt by the great gulf fixed, both in appearance and in most people's estimation, between unused and used stamps. This is only partly due to the latter being defaced, because it is there just the same, however light the postmark may be. The two kinds of stamp are not anywhere

within hail of one another, under ordinary circumstances, but anyone working on my plan will find the barrier broken down, and stamps descending by gradual stages from mint unused down to heavily obliterated copies. This is borne out by the effect that water has on unused stamps. Where does one find a really brilliant stamp without the gum? It is not the latter that people pay high prices for; it is immaculate condition, which is never found unless the gum is intact. For the benefit of those who make a kind of "fetish" of the original gum, it is perhaps worth while to point out that used stamps collected in the manner suggested undoubtedly possess it!

I admit that sometimes exceptionally hardy ones, such as the line-engraved issues of our own country, are freshened up by a bath, but it is always possible to wash their faces gently, if they appear in need of it, without allowing them to become detached from the envelope. After all, this consideration only applies to dirty stamps.

The last great advantage of this system lies in the fact that it tends strongly to preserve the stamps for posterity. As in the case of unused stamps with margins, there is something to take hold of them by, which also gives them a substantial backbone, thereby lessening the likelihood of creasing. This backbone is especially valuable for preventing pairs and blocks of perforated stamps from becoming detached from one another, which is sometimes of great importance; for instance, in the case of varieties on a plate, or in a surcharge. If the stamps will not have to be moved about much, they may be fastened down with a small dot of adhesive matter instead of a hinge, thus saving trouble and avoiding that flapping in the wind which frequently takes place when a page of unused stamps is quickly turned over, to the terror of the owner. Probably this remark will cause a sympathetic shudder to pass over anyone who has shown stamps at philatelic meetings!

Now for two minor advantages. There is a case which occasionally occurs, in which the margin to an unused stamp or the paper to a used one is of value, and that is, when a stamp is in a very unusual shade, it affords an additional means of judging whether the variety is due to the vicissitudes through which it may have passed, or represents a separate printing. In an unsoaked stamp such a variety is likely to be original, if the envelope paper is clean and is the same colour on both sides, and appears to have been carefully kept; but it is useless to argue from a stamp which has been taken off, especially if its peculiarity takes the form of paleness. Finally, these principles throw additional difficulties in the way of the forger.

With a desire to look at the question from all points of view, I have tried to find out defects, but have not been particularly successful, except in two instances. One is, it is more difficult to see the watermark. This is no doubt true, but in a strong light it is plain to a practised eye in the majority of cases. The date, too, usually settles it. If it is of vital importance, and quite invisible, there is nothing for it but to remove the stamp (partially is usually sufficient), replacing it after examination. The other disadvantage is that they take up more room. I am afraid this must be endured, and it is well worth it. A good way of keeping stamps like this, if they are not hinged, is to mount them on thin cards, which are kept in imitation books. This method is

inexpensive, and the space required does not matter, while the facilities it offers of making additions, or altering the arrangement, are far in advance of real books, although they may have movable pages. I have not tried keeping hinged stamps in this manner, fearing they might shift from their places, but possibly it would be equally satisfactory for them. But this is not necessary at all; blank albums will do quite as well, if you have enough of them.

If you object to the principle on the ground that it does not suit printed albums, I can only say that albums were made for stamps, and not stamps for albums. The early productions of Lallier and his contemporaries were responsible for the mutilation of many a good stamp, just as the fashion for round and oval frames caused so many prints to have their margins ruthlessly trimmed down.

There is a lurking suspicion in most people's minds that my ideas are correct, though they may not be inclined at first to admit it. This is shown by the fact that when one looks through almost any collection, whether it is that of a great specialist, or that of a struggling general practitioner, or a dealer's stock-book, a few gems in the way of used stamps are generally to be found on a piece of original with the postmarks intact, possibly on the entire envelope, the owner not having had the temerity to lay violent hands on them, and in many cases appreciating them more highly on account of their condition. Surely what is undoubtedly right for one stamp is equally so for them all.

There is one last objection which may be raised, and that is the difficulty of obtaining stamps which have not been soaked off. But is that altogether a disadvantage? It renders the chase more exciting, and makes one value those that are acquired all the more highly. In the case of stamps of the British Isles, which are the only ones I have collected of late years, they are not so difficult as people might think, and I dare say it would be found so in other countries, especially if the stamps were sought for in their native land.

It would be a good thing if the water were cut off from all stamp dealers' premises, as they are wholesale offenders, though collectors have also much to answer for on this score. The damage that has been caused by this crude and inartistic habit, which has absolutely nothing to recommend it, except the plea that it is the custom, is simply awful to my mind, and I believe it will be realised by a great many people in the future.

Philatelic Notes.

MAURITIUS: DISCOVERY OF TWO MORE "POST OFFICE" STAMPS.

We are informed by Mr. E. D. Bacon that M. Th. Lemaire, of Paris, has recently purchased an envelope containing the 1d. and 2d. "Post Office" postmarked together. This is, indeed, a remarkable find, and is the only known instance of the existence of the two stamps side by side, although Mr. Vernon Roberts possesses a cover with two of the penny stamps used together. We understand that the specimens are remarkably fine, and it is variously stated that the price paid was over £1,500. The total number of these stamps now known is thus increased to twenty-two.

THE GREAT BRITAIN P.O. CIRCULAR OF 1841.*

In Messrs. Wright and Creeke's *British Isles* certain circulars are described as being sent out "to all postmasters" from the General Post Office. This is the heading that appeared on the circulars, but nevertheless it conveys an impression which is not quite accurate, as I have had the good fortune to come across a copy of one which was sent to Scotch post offices in 1841, which differs slightly from the English ones.

Many specialists in the stamps of our own country, without being postmark collectors, yet have a page or so set aside in their albums for varieties of obliteration on tne early stamps. One of the most difficult to obtain is the combination of red Maltese cross obliteration with the red stamp. It has always been supposed that red ink was forbidden to be used for obliterating prior to the red stamps being issued, because it was considered that the similarity in colour would defeat the object, namely to deface the stamps. The circular I have shows this is only partially true.

What happened in England, as is related in the book referred to, was as follows: In January, 1841 (page 24) a circular was sent out announcing a change in the stamps, the portions omitted evidently relating to the stamped envelopes, which also made their first appearance at this time. The authors go on to say that this can only refer to the penny stamps. On page 48 another circular is described as announcing the alteration in the twopenny stamps, sent out on February 3rd, 1841, and on page 30 yet another, despatched 12th February, ordering the use of black composition instead of red, and accompanied by a supply of black ink.

Turning to my circular, we find it is dated from the General Post Office, Edinburgh, signed E. S. Lees instead of W. L. Maberly, and that it com-

* This interesting note was read to the Philatelic Society, London, by Mr. C. F. Dendy Marshall, on December 5th, 1902.

bines all three of the above. The part, however, referring to the obliterating ink runs differently, as follows :—

"It is intended hereafter to obliterate the Postage Stamps with Black Composition, a supply of which will be forwarded to you as soon as possible, but until you receive this supply you will continue to obliterate the Postage Stamps with the Red Composition as heretofore."

The only copies I have seen on the entire envelope came from Scotland. It will be seen from the foregoing that they were authorised there for a limited time, and only those used in England are errors. After this it is difficult to understand why the combination should be so extremely rare.

CURIOUS VARIETY IN THE 6d. QUEENSLAND.

FROM the *Australian Journal of Philately* we note the following, but fail at present to understand the origin of such a variety :—

"We have received from Mr. R. Abraham, of Townsville, Queensland, for inspection, a used 6d. Queensland stamp received by him in the ordinary course of business three months ago. This stamp is supposed to be the current type with figures in four corners, but, strange to relate, it has only the figures in the lower corners. It certainly has not been tampered with, as there are scrolls in the two upper corners, and is really the same type as the 1d. with figures in lower corners, issued in 1896 (Gibbons' Type 18). In every respect, but with the one exception, the stamp referred to is identical with the current 6d. with figures in four corners, and we are at a loss to know how such a curiosity comes about, as this type has been in use for the past three years, and we have never heard of it before. We cannot say at the present moment whether only one of this variety appears in a sheet or in a block of four, or whether only one or more entire sheets have been printed similarly. The fact that it has been in our correspondent's hands for at least three months is proof that it is not quite a new issue—it does not look like it—and the fact also that such a discovery has not been made before proves that it must be very uncommon to have escaped the eagle eyes of all Australian philatelists except one.

"We have written to the Deputy Postmaster-General of Brisbane, asking him to elucidate the mystery, and we hope to be able to tell our readers all about it next month; in the meantime we would suggest to those who have any, to examine them carefully, and hold on to them, pending definite information regarding this peculiarity, for it must be considered as such."

THE FIND OF BAVARIAN STAMPS.

AS is now generally known, a considerable quantity of the older issues of Bavaria has been placed on the market, having been sold by the Bavarian Government to well-known Continental dealers. A high price is believed to have been paid for these stamps, amounting to a considerable proportion of their catalogue value, and in return the dealers are asking figures that are apparently but very slightly below those quoted before the find. There is a fierce discussion raging in the German philatelic journals hereon, as we gather that the Bavarian Society condemns them, in whole or part, as reprints, while the Berlin Philatelic Club holds them for undoubted originals. We have only seen one or two specimens, and assuredly never doubted their

absolute authenticity, and we should hardly credit that the Bavarian postal authorities would follow the baneful lead of Australia, and have reprints made for sale to collectors.

We append the full list of the values sold, for which we are indebted to our able and scientific contemporary the *Deutsche Briefmarken Zeitung*.

LIST OF THE STAMPS SOLD BY THE BAVARIAN GOVERNMENT IN 1902.

Issue.	Stamps.
1849–58.	1 kr., rose . 120 = 2 sheets.
	3 „ blue . 120 = 2 „
	6 „ brown . 120 = 2 „
	9 „ green . 120 = 2 „
	12 „ red . 120 = 2 „
	18 „ yellow . 120 = 2 „
1862.	1 kr., yellow . 480 = 8 „
	3 „ red . . 480 = 8 „
	6 „ blue . . 480 = 8 „
	9 „ brown . . 480 = 8 „
	12 „ green . . 480 = 8 „
	18 „ red . . 480 = 8 „
1867–68.	6 kr., blue . 480 = 8 „
	9 „ brown . 480 = 8 „
	12 „ violet . 20 = – „
	18 „ red . . 480 = 8 „
1868.	6 kr., brown . . 240 = 4 „
1870.	3 kr., red . . . 480 = 8 „
	6 „ brown . . 480 = 8 „
	7 „ blue . . 180 = 3 „
	12 kr., violet . . 480 = 8 „
1873.	9 „ red-brown 480 = 8 „
1873.	10 kr., yellow . . 180 = 3 sheets.
1874.	1 mark, imperf. . 50 = 1 „
1875.	1 kr., green . . 600 = 10 „
	3 „ red . . . 600 = 10 „
	7 „ blue . . 600 = 10 „
	10 „ yellow . . 600 = 10 „
	18 „ red . . . 600 = 10 „
1876.	5 pfg., blue-green 600 = 10 „
	50 „ vermilion 600 = 10 „
	2 mark, orange . 500 = 10 „
1881.	3 pfg., green . 1000 = 16 „40 st.
	10 „ red . 1000 = 16 „40 „
	20 „ blue . 1000 = 16 „40 „
1888.	3 pfg., green . . 500 = 5 „
	5 „ lilac . . 1000 = 10 „
	25 „ pale brown 1000 = 10 „
	50 „ dark brown 1000 = 10 „

UNPAID LETTER STAMPS.

1862.	3 kr., black . 600 = 6 „60 st.
1870.	1 „ „ . 1000 = 16 „40 „
	3 „ „ . 1000 = 16 „40 „

THE EARLY ISSUES OF BRITISH GUIANA.

BY the regretted death of a well-known collector of many years' standing, the late Judge Masterman, Messrs. Ventom, Bull, and Cooper are enabled to announce the sale, on March 5th and 6th, of an interesting lot of these now very scarce stamps. The specimens to be submitted include the following rarities: First issue, blue circulars, 1852, 1 c. and 4 c. (two of each); 1853, strips of 1 c.; 1856, 4 c., black on blue, and 4 c., black on magenta (two), on entires, and many others.

This is the finest lot of old Guianas that has been offered at auction for some years; in fact, if the past catalogues are scanned it will be seen that the 1850 issue, cut square, or those of 1856 hardly ever appear in the sale-room. Beyond this, outside London we doubt if half a dozen of these stamps, in fine condition, could be procured from the whole of the trade.

These interesting if singularly unprepossessing stamps emanated from a small colony, and their distribution was both local and limited. The celebrated find of some twenty-five years ago, which the late Mr. Thomas Redpath disposed of, constitutes far and away the most important lot of these stamps known, and included the unique 1 cent, red, of 1856, that now

reposes in Herr von Ferrari's collection. This find came over in two big batches, and on the arrival of the second Mr. Redpath was so alarmed as to contemplate returning them even at their very moderate price!

Since this period, beyond occasional specimens, with one exception there has only appeared the sale by auction a few years since of several specimens of the 1856 4 cents, red, and the 4 c., blue, on glazed paper. The exception alluded to is the collections and stamps evolved by the indefatigable hunting on native soil of the late Mr. E. C. Luard, and now that this gentleman, to our sincere regret, has passed away, there seems to be an absolute end of the supply of old Guianas. Despite their plainness, they are and must always remain "classic early English" stamps, and will always be philatelic debenture stock of the highest grade.

ITALY: THE HUMBERT "ESTERO" STAMPS.

MESSRS. H. GRIEBERT AND CO. write us as follows:—

"We herewith beg to enclose an interesting and, as far as we know, hitherto unknown variety of an Italian stamp. As you know, some of the stamps of the Victor Emmanuel issue surcharged 'Estero' existed with the various corners unaltered, but we believe it to be unknown that a variety in the Humberto issue also exists in the 5 centesimi, at the right bottom corner. After making this discovery we looked through our stock of the various denominations of this issue, but were unable to find another with the same error."

The variety in question is very minute, probably due to imperfect cleaning off of the plate. In the normal stamp there are in the angles two small dashes and two dots, which were removed for the "Estero" series. In this case there are still slight traces of these visible in the lower right corner.

Occasional Notes.

"OCEANIA."

WE are desired by the Committee engaged on the revision of Mr. Basset Hull's book to ask the aid of collectors as to the following stamps: the 1d. of 1864, printed (S. G. 149) on surfaced paper, perf. 14, unwatermarked; the same stamp on the like paper, but watermarked thin numeral, perf. 12½ and 14 (S. G. 151 and 152); and the 1d. diadem, with watermark of thin numeral (S. G. 144). The Committee are desirous of examining all dated specimens of these stamps, and would be much obliged if collectors possessing any such would forward them to Mr. E. D. Bacon, Fairview, Spencer Road, South Croydon.

We are further desired by Mr. A. F. Basset Hull to ask collectors for *early* dates of postmarks on Sydney Views and Victoria first issue, which, preferably with the stamps, can be sent to Mr. Bacon on behalf of the Committee.

MESSRS. BRIGHT AND SON'S CATALOGUE.

WE are informed by the publishers that His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales has graciously signified his acceptance of a specially bound copy of Messrs. Bright and Son's *Catalogue of the World's Postage Stamps, Envelopes, Post Cards, etc., for* 1903.

MR. NANKIVELL'S COLLECTION.

SO well known is Mr. Nankivell's collection that the inclusion of the word Transvaal seems superfluous in the headline! Alas! however, the best of friends must part, and it seems that, tempted by an earth-hunger (as mentioned by Mr. C. J. Phillips in the *M. J.*), he has parted with the collection that has been his great pride and occupation for the best part of twenty years. We well recollect in earlier days of collecting, a score of years since, that Transvaal were philatelic caviare to the multitude. The ordinary collector knew that "the red surcharges" were good stamps—the shilling being fairly plentiful, but the other two to be worth perhaps the expenditure of a sovereign apiece—beyond this the value assigned practically was only shillings, and few of that. The varieties were numerous, were not understood of the people, and were to be quickly picked up without much trouble. There were, however, a few collectors even in those days who knew something of the—even then—rarity of many of the varieties, among them Mr. A. H. Wilson, the Messieurs Caillebotte, Mr. M. Burnett, Judge Philbrick, and the late Mr. Tapling. The latter was always very keen on these stamps, and it was largely due to his sage advice that Mr. E. J. Nankivell launched out on the philatelic path that has brought him such renown.

The collection is really remarkable, and is one of the ultra-superfine specialised collections that can be counted on one's two hands throughout the world. There lack a few of the great rarities, but in its aggregate, condition, arrangement, and completeness, it represents the high-water mark of specialised Philately. We understand that the price paid for the collection by Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., approached £5,000, and we are glad to hear that, if possible, it will not be broken up. We can but hope that Mr. Nankivell will find some solace in his country life for his philatelic bereavement, and that he may find his meed of pleasure in planting seeds instead of Transvaals.

FORGED AUSTRALIAN PERFORATIONS.

THE hand of the faker seems busy in every quarter of the globe, but we are glad to note in the case of these manipulations that their author has been discovered and has fled the country. The note following is from the pen of Mr. F. Hagen, of Sydney, and appears in the pages of the *Australian Philatelist* for January. It will be found to afford interesting reading, especially the naïve letter of Reid, and we commend to the attention of collectors the list of forged perforations. It appears that Reid has for some considerable period been doing a good trade in his wares, and has, according to his own confessions, passed these stamps off to dealers in Great

Britain, America, and Australia, and it is therefore quite possible that we may have some of Mr. Reid's perforations in our own collections. The Queensland 1d., 2d., and 1s., perf. 9 × 12, seem to have been especial favourites with this faker, and there has assuredly been no lack of these stamps in the London market of later years.

We congratulate the Sydney Philatelic Club, and especially Mr. F. Hagen, on the astute manner in which they have unmasked this scoundrel, and will now let Mr. Hagen speak for himself:—

"In July of this year I received information that for some considerable time certain stamps had been sold by a dealer as genuine, whereas the perforation of these stamps had been faked, thereby enhancing their apparent value.

"I referred the matter shortly afterwards to Mr. Maney-Lake, the President of the Sydney Philatelic Club, and we decided that in the interest of Philatelists it would be best to keep the matter secret until we were able to thoroughly investigate it. We examined a number of stamps bought over an extended period from Mr. F. W. Reid. The majority of these stamps had their perforations denoted in figures on the backs in Mr. Reid's handwriting. The stamps were compared with undoubted genuine ones, and also examined in a very careful manner, and we proved conclusively that the stamps in question were undoubted fakes.

"On the 22nd August we consulted with Mr. Acting Judge Montgomerie Hamilton, a prominent member of the Sydney Philatelic Club, and endeavoured to devise some means of sheeting home the guilt to the person manufacturing them. We were informed that, although a person may be guilty of uttering fakes, it does not prove that he manufactured them, consequently it was a most difficult subject to prove. Finding no sure means of quickly bringing the guilty person to book, I thereupon early in November informed Mr. Basset Hull of the matter, who advised bringing the matter before the Club. At the meeting held on the 19th November I moved that a sub-committee be appointed, consisting of the President, Mr. Maney-Lake; the Vice-President, Mr. Pettifer; the Hon. Secretary, Mr. Gilles; Mr. A. F. Basset Hull and myself, to investigate a matter of grave importance to the Club.

"The sub-committee met the following day, a number of faked perforations were examined, and their irregularities as compared with the genuine noted, and the committee were unanimous in their decision that the stamps in question were undoubted fakes.

"I then stated to my colleagues that the sale of these fakes had been spread over a period of four years, and were still on sale. I also produced a letter written by Mr. Reid on the 25th March, 1898, from Brisbane to a friend in Sydney. Amongst items of a personal nature several referred to stamp matters; these I now quote, viz., 'Re American grill—it is a good field, but great care has to be taken to get it only on the Nat. B.N. Co.'s stamps. A year or two ago, when these marks were first discovered, dealers in looking over their stocks found "grills" of every company, and, of course, this showed wholesale forging. I never had the remotest idea of trying to make "O.S.", as I know it would be as impossible as for you to play "The Last Rose of Summer" on my violin, but I thought I could cut a rough canceller just to obliterate with. I wish we could work together in Sydney some way, and, besides, get up some paper, etc., Australian Stamp Co., or something, and ship your (?) work into America and England. I know hundreds of collectors and dealers in America, and we could, by advertising in American papers, etc., sell all you could make.'

"Mr. Reid shortly afterwards came to Sydney, and in November, 1898, advertised

a Queensland 1s., perf. 9 × 12, for sale, which, my informant states, was a fake, and which Mr. Reid later on referred to as such.

"The sub-committee decided that Mr. Pettifer (who proposed Mr. Reid as a member of the Sydney Philatelic Club) should wait upon Mr. Reid and place the result before him.

"Mr. Pettifer called upon Mr. Reid and told him that he had been selling fakes, and that the stamps had been expertised on and proved to be frauds. Mr. Reid admitted having sold the stamps in question, but stated he was not aware that they were bad, that he sold them as received, but if the experts had decided they were fakes, he supposed they were; at the same time he said, 'If they were fakes how was it that Hagen, who had bought a 9 × 12 Queensland four years ago, had not discovered it was a fake?' No mention had been made of the 1s. sold four years ago, so by his statement he virtually admitted his knowledge that the stamp in question also was a fake. A copy of the letter written by him from Brisbane was read. He admitted having written a letter to the person, and that it was his signature, but out of revenge for a split in the camp my informant had altered some of the contents. He did not attempt to put a different construction on the letter, which was possible, but simply said the original matter had been removed and the damaging statement inserted by his one-time friend. The letter was written on both sides of a thin sheet of ordinary letter paper, the ink marks showing through both the sides, and to remove matter with a view to insert the paragraph above detailed would require both sides of the paper to be chemically treated. The letter on careful scrutiny showed no signs of having been tampered with.

"Reid was informed the best thing he could do was to resign from the Club. He was, however, strongly advised by Mr. Pettifer to give an explanation, and that the Committee would give him an opportunity of clearing himself. However, he saw fit not to accept the opportunity, and within an hour sent in his resignation.

"A prominent collector, who had purchased extensively from Reid, upon examination found a good number of fakes amongst his stamps. He returned these stamps to Reid and got a refund of the money. No doubt some of the stamps returned were genuine, but the collector preferred to rid himself of stamps that were bought in doubtful company.

"Mr. Smyth states that Mr. Reid declined to take steps to clear himself on the ground of private and personal reasons. These private and personal reasons, which Mr. Smyth imagines were due to domestic affairs, were proved not to exist.

"Mr. Smyth also states he received a letter from Mr. Reid intimating his departure from Sydney for America. This letter was received some hours after Mr. Reid had left Sydney, and not before, as the paragraph would infer. Another dealer in the city, who owed a small amount to Reid, also received a letter after the latter had left, stating he would forward an address from America, where the money due to him could be sent.

"Mr. Reid's most intimate friends were not aware of his hurried departure. The *Oceanic* mail steamer left on Monday, 8th December, at 1 p.m. sharp. One of his friends was speaking to Mr. Reid at half-past 12 at his place of business in the Markets, a 15 minutes' drive from the steamer. Mr. Reid made no mention of his departure. Upon inquiry at the shipping office the name of F. W. Reid did not appear on the passenger list, but an intimate friend has since received a letter written at sea and posted at Auckland, apologising for his hurried departure, but explaining nothing.

"One of the dealers of the city having some 10 × 12½ N.Z.'s in his possession took them to Reid to ask if the perf. had been faked, as Reid's figures were on the

back—12½ rather large and the 10 somewhat lighter. Reid stated that the 10 had been added after the perforation had been put on!

"The following are some of the fakes that I have seen and heard of, and for which money has been refunded. There may be others.

"NEW SOUTH WALES.—*Diadem*, perf. 12, 3d. (rare shade), 8d.
1870–80, *Small Crown*, perf. 10, 4d., 1s.; perf. 10 × 12½, 5d., 8d.; perf. 12½, 2d.; perf. 12½ × 10, 3d.
1880–87, *Large Crown*, perf. 12½ × 10, 2d.; perf. 11½ × 10, 2d.; perf. 12, 1d.; perf. 12 × 10, 9d.; perf. 12 × 11, 2d.
Wmk. 10, perf. 11 × 10, 10d.
Official Stamps, Small Crown, perf. 12½, 2d.; perf. 10 × 12½, 2d.; perf. 12½ × 10, 3d.
Large Crown, perf. 10, 2d.; perf. 11½ × 10, 6d.; perf. 12½ × 10, 2d.; perf. 11½, 5d.
5s. *Maps*, perf. 10, perf. 11 × 10, and perf. 10 × 11.
Registered, no watermark, perf. 12.

FIJI.—Perf. 10 × 12½, 1d. and 2d.; perf. 12 × 10, 1d. and 2d.; perf. 10, 4d. and 5d. 5s. stamp cleaned and regummed. (Fiji list is incomplete.)

TASMANIA.—1864–70, perf. 10, 2d.; perf. 12½, 2d., 4d., 6d., and 1s.

NEW ZEALAND.—1878, perf. 10 × 12½, 1d., 2d., and 6d. (incomplete).

QUEENSLAND.—Perf. 9 × 12, 1d., 2d. (two plates), 1s.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA.—*Roulette* and perf. 1s.; 1st star, perf. 10, 1d. and 1s.; perf. 10 × 11½, 6d.
Official, perf. 10 × 11½, 4d., and others, of which a list has not been kept, including perfs. of both stars and O.S."

Reviews.

PEMBERTON AND CO.'S PRICE LIST.*

WE believe that this is the first catalogue issued by this firm, and it must be pronounced as a most creditable production. The aims of the work are evidently not to cater for the specialist; hence only the principal and important varieties are noted, so that it will be a clear and useful guide to the general collector. An important feature of modern collecting, and one that is assuredly only in its infancy, is the growing importance of really fine used stamps, in view of the practical impossibility of obtaining the old issues unused. Messrs. Pemberton and Co. have sagely grasped this fact, and, not quoting unused, have two columns of prices, "Fine used" and "Ordinary used," it being explained that "fine copies mean perfect stamps lightly marked and well centred." The prices for these copies are naturally higher, in some cases manifold; but anyone who has tried to get stamps such as described will be

* *The 1903 Popular British and British Colonial Price List.* P. L. Pemberton and Co., 229, High Holborn, London, W.C.

able to verify their relative rarity. We can cordially recommend this useful catalogue as a guide to the general collector, as we consider that it is performing a valuable function.

THE STANDARD CATALOGUE.*

The apparition of the catalogues is so regular, not to say monotonous, that the reviewer is absolutely unable to provide a criticism that can be read with interest. The excellence of these leading catalogues leaves but little to be desired; consequently the alterations are relatively unimportant, and unless the question of values is discussed (which is not the province of this journal), there is call for but little comment. In the instance of the Standard Catalogue we can but once more reiterate our criticism of former years, and say that the 1903 edition not only bears out its high-class character, but has even improved upon it. One feature in the Scott Catalogue, which we have before now commended, and which we should like to see adopted by others, is the placing the normal varieties in larger type than the sub-varieties. This plan, which M. Moens followed in his later editions, has the great advantage that it enables the work to be a guide alike for the general collector and the specialist, as the former has no occasion to trouble about the varieties set in small type. This plan would also obviate much unnecessary pricing by dealers of stamps that they do not hold. It is well known that hardly any dealer can supply more than a fractionary part of a want list, and were these sub-varieties not priced it would save the collector much vanity and vexation of spirit.

In the present issue the Standard has much improved this system of subdivision of normal and abnormal, and in addition has further simplified the Catalogue by grouping together the perforations. As an example, in the case of New South Wales, the issues of 1871–8, with six varieties of perforation, are under one heading, and each value is only priced once. We note here too that the Catalogue now gives the two varieties of watermark to this issue, which have remained hitherto unaccountably uncatalogued. Some of the countries have been rewritten, notably Greece, with excellent illustrations of the old types, and, alas! with more than two columns of varieties of the recent miscellaneous surcharges.

In all respects a most excellent and reliable catalogue, that is a credit to the Scott Stamp and Coin Co., and must be a boon to American collectors.

* *Standard Postage Stamp Catalogue*, 1903. The Scott Stamp and Coin Co., New York; W. T. Wilson, 192, Birchfield Road, Birmingham.

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.

GREAT BRITAIN.—From *Mekeel's Weekly* we hear of a 3d. wrapper bearing the King's Head. It is stated to be red-brown embossed on amber, and it is surprising that we have not heard of this stamp on this side before.

Wrapper. 3d., red-brown, King's Head.

BAHAMAS.—Messrs. Bright and Son have shown us 5d., 2s., and 3s. stamps, lately issued, of the "Queen's Staircase" design.

Adhesives.
5d., orange and black; Crown CC; perf. 13½.
2s., slate-blue and black ,, ,,
3s., olive-green and black ,, ,,

BRITISH SOUTH AFRICA.—A couple of high values are reported by *Ewen's Weekly*, and though both are available for postal service, we fail to understand how they can be postally used.

The design is the same as the £1 and higher values of the current set.

Adhesives. £20, bistre; no wmk.; perf. 13½.
£100, crimson ,, ,, ?

CAYMAN ISLANDS.—According to the *Australian Philatelist*, the 1d. of the King's Head set has appeared.

Adhesive. 1d., carmine; CA; perf. 14.

CYPRUS.—The ½ piastre adhesive and a Registration envelope bearing the King's Head have appeared, and Messrs. Whitfield King and Co. send us the former.

Adhesive. ½ piastre, green and carmine.
Registration Envelope. 2 piastres, blue.

FIJI.—A correspondent has shown the *M. J.* a horizontal strip of four of the current 1s., perf. 11 × 12, watermarked with the date "1892," in large double-line figures, not unlike those in the New South Wales stamps of earlier days. The watermark is upside down, and, as the owner remarks, if the stamps were separated we should have specimens watermarked large figure "6" and large figures "1," "8," and "2" inverted!

Our contemporary further remarks that the recently chronicled perforations 11½ × 12 and 12 all round may be taken together, and that they are really the same as the 11½ to 12 of New South Wales.

GIBRALTAR.—A 2d. Registration envelope with the King's Head has been listed.

Registration Envelope. 2d., dark red.

HONG KONG.—The first stamp of the King's Head issue to arrive is the one cent; and Messrs. P. L. Pemberton and Co. kindly send a specimen.

Adhesive.
1 cent, brown, with King's Head in mauve; CA; *perf.* 14.

INDIA.—*Gwalior.*—The King's Head stamps of 3 pies, ½, and 1 anna come surcharged "Gwalior" and native inscription, in black, in two lines as usual. Specimens reach us from Messrs. Bright and Son.

Adhesives. 3 pies, grey; wmk. Star; perf. 14.
½ anna, green ,, ,,
1 ,, carmine ,, ,,

LAGOS.—*Ewen's Weekly* illustrates a 2d. Registration envelope bearing the King's Head. *Registration Envelope.* 2d.

LEEWARD ISLANDS.—A couple of envelopes with the King's Head are added to the list of stationery by *Ewen's Weekly*.

Envelopes. 1d., carmine.
2½d., blue.

NATAL.—The 2d. value of the King's Head set listed on page 292, vol. xi., has reached this side, and Messrs. Bright and Son send us a copy.

A fourpenny Registration envelope of the new set is illustrated by *Ewen's*.

Registration Envelope. 4d.

NEW SOUTH WALES.—The 1d. Postage Due stamp on chalk-surfaced paper, perf. 11½ to 12, compound with 11, has reached the *M. J.*

Postage Due.
1d., pale green, on chalky paper; perf. 11½ to 12, compound with 11.

NEW ZEALAND.—The *Australian Philatelist* chronicles the 2d. value on single-lined N Z and Star paper, but perf. *14.*

Collectors of New Zealand stamps watermarked with large letters should read the following extract taken from the *M. J.*:—

"We have received sheets of the current 3d. and 6d., with the latest type of watermark, and showing a few varieties of it which require a little description. The plates contain 120 stamps in ten horizontal rows of twelve, and the impressions before us are printed sideways upon half-sheets of the new paper, so that the watermark is in an unsatisfactory position in any case. The paper contains the same number of watermarks, but they are arranged the other way, so that there are twelve watermarks sideways to the vertical row of ten stamps, and ten watermarks to the horizontal row of twelve stamps, the result being that the left- and right-hand vertical rows of stamps are printed on the margins of the sheet; the top margin has a row of watermarks, and the bottom row of the stamps is on the margin of the sheet. Thus on our sheets the first four stamps in the left-hand vertical row show parts of the letters 'ZEALA,' and at the right-hand side a portion of a Star, the fifth and ninth stamps show only a bit of a Star, the sixth, seventh, and eighth stamps have parts of the letters 'NEW,' and the tenth stamp has no watermark at all. At the other side, Nos. 1 to 9 show traces of the tops of the letters 'N Z' at left, No. 1 has also part of the letter 'D' of 'ZEALAND,' Nos. 2 and 9 have no other watermark, 3 to 8 have parts of the letters of 'POSTAGE,' 10 has no watermark. Of the remaining stamps in the bottom row, Nos. 2, 3, 4 have the letters 'NEW,' 5 has no watermark, 6 to 11 have the letters of 'ZEALAND.'"

Adhesive.
2d., mauve; wmk. single-lined N Z and Star; perf. 14.

ST. VINCENT.—A penny post card bearing the King's head is announced in *Mekeel's.*

Post Card. 1d., carmine on cream.

SEYCHELLES.—The *M. J.* notes a variety of the 6 c. on 8 c. of 1901 having the overprint upside down at the top of the stamp.

Adhesive.
6 c. on 8 c., brown-purple and ultramarine; *inverted surcharge.*

SIERRA LEONE.—A further list of King's Head stationery is noted in *Ewen's Weekly.*

Envelope. 2½d., blue on white laid paper.
Post Cards. ½d., green on buff.
½d.+½d. ,, ,,
1d., carmine ,,
1d.+1d. ,, ,,

SOUTH AUSTRALIA.—The long 15s. "POSTAGE & REVENUE" stamp, perf. 11½, large holes, has been found or received by Messrs. P. L. Pemberton and Co.

Adhesive.
15s., yellow-brown, "POSTAGE & REVENUE"; perf. 11½, large holes.

STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.—A new 5 cents Registration envelope of the King's Head type is coming over, and a used copy reaches us from Messrs. P. L. Pemberton and Co.

Registration Envelope. 5 c., blue; King's Head type.

TRINIDAD.—The colour of a fresh supply of the 1s. value which was reported as sent out to the colony some time ago is black on orange-coloured paper, according to *Mekeel's.*

Adhesive. 1s., black on orange.

WESTERN AUSTRALIA.—*Ewen's Weekly* reports a new 2d. value, printed in Melbourne and similar in size and design to its predecessor, but inscribed below the Swan "Postage Two Pence," instead of "Two pence."

In addition to the watermark of the new 1d. stamp being found upright and sideways, *Ewen's* has it inverted.

Adhesive.
2d., yellow; wmk. V and Crown sideways; perf. 12½.

EUROPE.

CRETE.—The *P. R.* informs us that owing to a temporary shortage of the 1 lepton value, this denomination of the series printed in dull yellow for fiscal purposes was authorised for postal use for a few days only.

Austrian Post Offices.—We notice in *Ewen's Weekly* that certain Austrian stamps and a post card have been surcharged for use here.

Adhesives.
5 centimes, in black, on 5 h., dark green.
10 ,, ,, ,, 10 h., rose.
Post Card.
10 centimes, in black, on 10 h., rose.

GERMANY.—The new Official Control stamps have been illustrated.

The frame of the current set of postals is used, and in the place of the bust of Germania we find the following inscription: "FREI DURCH ABLÖSUNG Nr 21."

Adhesives.

2 pf., grey	20 pf., blue.
3 ,, brown.	25 ,, black and orange.
5 ,, green.	40 ,, ,, ,, carmine.
10 ,, red.	50 ,, ,, ,, lilac.

ICELAND.—The surcharge $\frac{\text{i Gildi}}{\text{'02 '03}}$ on the old stamps appears in red on the 6, 20, and 25 aur, and in black on the 3, 10, 40, and 50 aur adhesives, and on the 8, 10, and 10+10 aur cards.

The *M. C.* lists the new cards as follows:—

Post Cards. 3 aur, orange (grey frame) on white.
3+3 ,, ,, ,, ,, ,, ,,
5 ,, yellow-green ,, ,, ,, ,,
5+5 ,, ,, ,, ,, ,, ,,
8 ,, brown-violet on white.
8+8 ,, ,, ,, ,, ,,
10 ,, claret ,, ,, ,,
10+10 ,, ,, ,, ,, ,,

NORWAY.—The *M. J.* adds to the list of stamps of the current set perf. $14\frac{1}{2} \times 13\frac{1}{2}$ the 35 öre, deep blue-green.

Adhesive. 35 öre, deep blue-green; perf. $14\frac{1}{2} \times 13\frac{1}{2}$.

RUSSIA.—The 35 kop. on *vertically* laid paper is chronicled.

Adhesive. 35 kop., violet and green, on vert. laid paper.

AMERICA.

ARGENTINE REPUBLIC.—*Ewen's Weekly* is informed that the pictorial envelope 15 c., blue, on white glazed paper, has been surcharged with a large "5," in red, on the embossed head, the old value being struck out with a square type.

From the same source we hear, on the authority of a Continental journal, that a 4 c., dark green, post card was issued on December 25th in fourteen varieties, each of which shows on the back a map of one of the fourteen provinces! Size, 133 × 80 mm.

COLOMBIAN REPUBLIC.—On page 18 we chronicled three values of a new issue, and find there are seven more to list.

Adhesives.
10 c., brown on yellow.
20 c., mauve on salmon.
50 c., red on bluish.
1 p., black on bright yellow.
5 p., dark blue on azure.
10 p., brown on salmon.

Registration Stamp.
10 c., purple on laid.

CUBA.—The Special Delivery stamp with the altered inscription, "INMEDIATA," was issued about December 15th, a correspondent informs the *M. J.*

Special Delivery. 10 c., orange.

ECUADOR.—*Mekeel's* states, as we understand, that certain fiscals of 1901–2 have been surcharged with fancy "S," and others "BIENIO — 1903–1904," and are used as postals in the province of Esmeralda.

Postal Fiscals.
1 c., carmine; surcharged "BIENIO—1903–1904."
5 c., grey ,, ,, ,,
10 c., black ,, ,, ,,
20 c., slate ,, ,, ,,
5 c., grey ,, with a fancy "S."
10 c., grey-black ,, ,, ,,
All black surcharge.

HONDURAS.—A new issue has appeared here, and from *Mekeel's* we take the following:—

"Herman Focke sends us a half-dozen values of a new set with portrait of ex-President-General Santo Guardiola. This set, according to the *Philatelic West*, is the product of the American Bank Note Company of New York. Large numerals of value are in the upper corners, with the date, '1903,' in the top centre. Surrounding the portrait is the oval inscription, 'Correos de Honduras.' Beneath the portrait are the letters 'U. P. U.' and value in words."

Adhesives. 1 c., green.
2 c., carmine.
5 c., dark blue.
6 c., dark violet.
10 c., brown.
20 c., light blue.
50 c., vermilion.
1 p., orange.

The *Metropolitan Philatelist* has received an almost complete set of the 1898 type of this country, which are printed on the back with the Arms of the country in inscribed circle. The design is too large to show on one stamp, and is apparently struck in the centre of a block of four. It is probably a Government control mark, and is printed in dull violet.

Locomotive type, printed with Arms on back.

Adhesives.
1 centavo, brown.
2 centavos, rose.
5 ,, ultramarine.
6 ,, lilac.
10 ,, blue.

MEXICO.—The *A. J. P.* states that the 4 c. stamp has appeared in a new colour—carmine—and that changes are to be made in the colours of the 1 c., 2 c., 5 c., and 10 c.

The colour of the 5 c. is not announced, but the others are to be yellow, green, and blue respectively.

Ewen's lists the 1 c. wrapper in a new colour.

Adhesive.
4 c., carmine, watermarked; perf. 15.

Wrapper.
1 c., lilac on chamois.

NICARAGUA.—The *Metropolitan Philatelist* describes a new set as follows: "The design of portrait in circle in centre printed in black, name above, '11 DE JULIO, 1893' below, numerals of value in upper corners, 'CORREOS' and value in words at bottom."

Two values are known at present.

Adhesives.
5 centavos, blue and black.
10 ,, orange ,,

PARAGUAY.—The 28 c., orange, has received the overprint "Habilitado—en cinco —5 cent. 5" in three lines vertically, in black, the *M. J.* tells us; and from *Ewen's* we hear of the 14 c., brown, receiving the surcharge "Habilitado—en un—1 cent. 1."

Adhesives.
1 c. on 14 c., brown; as above.
5 c. on 28 c., orange ,,

PERU.—Another provisional Postage Due stamp is reported.

Postage Due.

1 centavo on 10 soles, deep violet; overprint "Deficit Un Centavo" in two lines diagonally, in black.

SALVADOR.—A new and, we trust, permanent set is appearing here.

Mekeel's chronicles four values, but no particulars of the design are yet given beyond that it is a very pretty one, and pays tribute to some worthy patriot who, standing high on a pedestal, is thus pictured on the stamps.

Adhesives. 3 c., orange.
5 c., blue.
13 c., brown.
26 c., yellow-brown.

UNITED STATES.—We have to thank Messrs. P. L. Pemberton and Co. and Whitfield King and Co. for specimens of the new 2 c. and 5 c., and also a 10 c. Special Delivery stamp now in circulation.

The 2 and 5 cents are quite up to the mark in appearance and execution, and bear excellent portraits of Washington and Lincoln respectively. The Special Delivery stamp shows a postal messenger boy on a bicycle.

Adhesives.

2 c., carmine (shades); perf. 12; wmk. U. S. P. S.
5 c., blue; perf. 12; wmk. U. S. P. S.

Special Delivery Stamp.

10 c., ultramarine; perf. 12; wmk. U. S. P. S.

URUGUAY.—We have received from Messrs. Whitfield King and Co. a 5 mils. envelope for local use only.

It bears an embossed portrait in the centre, with curved inscription above reading "REP. O. DEL URUGUAY," value at bottom, "CINCO MILÉSIMOS," and the figure "5" in both lower corners.

Ewen's Weekly illustrates a Registered envelope and a wrapper of a similar design.

Envelope. 5 mils., blue on white laid paper.
Registration Envelope. 20 centesimos, ultramarine.
Wrapper. 5 mils., blue.

VENEZUELA.—*Le T. Belge* chronicles a series of stamps stated to have been issued by the Revolutionary Government at Guayana in October last, which appears to have been formed from various stamps of 1899, and later by surcharging them with a large circular hand-stamp in *violet*, and with the signature "*Carrasco*" in *black*. The circular mark is much larger than the stamps, and must have covered more than one at a time in such a way as to look more like an obliteration; it has a coat of arms in the centre and the inscription "FISCALIA DE INSTRUCCION PUBLICA—ESTADO GUAYANA." Some of the stamps are also overprinted with a fresh value in *violet*, and if any of them received a postal obliteration on the top of all this, there can be very little of the original design to be seen.—*M. J.*

5 c., green.
10 c., red.
25 c., blue.
50 c., orange (*with surcharge* "1900").
1 b., black (,, ,,).
25 c. on 5 c., green.
50 c. on 5 c. ,,
1 b. on 5 c. ,,

OTHER COUNTRIES.

BENADIR.—On page 99, vol. xi., we chronicled a set of seven stamps for use here.

It would appear from the following communication from Messrs. Whitfield King and Co. that these labels are at present unnecessary, as there is "no postal service with Benadir."

"DEAR SIR,—No doubt you have seen or heard of so-called postage stamps for Benadir (Italian Somali Coast), which are being sold by a trading firm at Milan. Having in mind certain past experiences with Brunei, Nyassa, Sedang, and other bogus stamps, we have always looked upon these labels of Benadir with suspicion, and have up to the present refused to buy them. We have, however, been making inquiries by writing letters direct to the place, all of which remained unanswered until we sent an Italian bank-note to purchase the stamps. This note has just been returned to us, with a letter from which we extract the following:—

"'There are no postmasters here, and it is forbidden to us officials to have anything to do with postage-stamp dealers. The stamps can only be obtained from the company's office at Milan.'

"We think this is quite sufficient to condemn these labels.

"We may add that the letter we received had on it a stamp of British East Africa, and was posted at Kismayu. If any additional evidence was required, it is furnished by our envelope which was returned to us. It has been sent to Mombasa, Djibouti, and Aden, and is endorsed in French, 'No postal service with Benadir.'

"Yours faithfully,
"WHITFIELD KING AND CO."

CHINA.—*French.*—The 10 c. and 5 fr. "Indo-Chine" of 1892-1900, surcharged "Chine" and native characters in two lines in black, reach us from Messrs. Whitfield King and Co.

Adhesives. 10 c., rose; surcharged "Chine," etc., in black.
5 fr., lilac and blue ,, ,,

COREA.—A commemorative 3 cheun stamp has been issued bearing the incription "XL ANN JUBILE D'AVENEMENT."

There appears a doubt as to what occurred in Corea forty years ago to warrant the issue of this label.

Adhesive. 3 ch., orange.

EGYPT.—We have received the 5 mil. on chalk-surfaced paper; unchanged in other respects.—*M. J.*

Adhesive. 5 mil., rose-carmine; chalk-surfaced paper.

FRENCH POST OFFICES ABROAD.—Some additions have to be made to the lists we have already given.

Alexandria. 10 c., carmine-rose; new type.
French Levant. 10 c., carmine-rose; new type.

HAYTI.—We are informed by Messrs. Whitfield King and Co. that the Provisional Government overprint is no longer in use, having been withdrawn on December 21st last.

Unsurcharged stamps are now coming again.

LIBERIA.—Mr. H. L. Hayman kindly sends us seven handsome, though we should think unnecessary, stamps for use here.

A 3 cents stamp for Inland postage bears, we suppose, the head of Liberty in the centre, "LIBERIA" and "INLAND POSTAGE" above, and value at bottom; colour black. The same stamp, but in green colour and having the letters "O.S." *surcharged* in *script* type in red at the left top corner, does duty as an "Official."

A new set of Registration labels for the towns of Monrovia, Buchanan, Harper, Robertsport, and Grenville has been found necessary. They are tall oblong in shape. In the centre will be found a portrait of an old gentleman, "LIBERIA" and "REGISTERED" above, and the name of the town and value below.

Thin white unwatermarked paper and perf. 14.

Adhesive. 3 c., black; no wmk.; perf. 14.

Official.
3 c., green, with "O S" in red, in script type; perf. 14.

Registration Labels.
10 c., purple and black centre, for Monrovia; no wmk.; perf. 14.
10 c., green and black centre, for Harper; no wmk.; perf. 14.
10 c., blue and black centre, for Buchanan; no wmk.; perf. 14.
10 c., puce and black centre, for Robertsport; no wmk.; perf. 14.
10 c., orange-red and black centre, for Grenville; no wmk.; perf. 14.

PERSIA.—We have some additions to make to the new set chronicled on page 19.

Adhesives. 2 kran, blue; perf. 11½×11.
5 ,, light brown; perf. 11½×11.
10 ,, vermilion ,,
50 ,, green ,,

SPANISH MOROCCO.—To the list of surcharged stamps given on page 19 must be added the ¼ c., green, of Spain.

Adhesive.

¼ c., green, of Spain; surcharged on each quarter, in carmine, "Correo Español Marreucos," in script diagonally.

Philatelic Societies' Meetings.

Philatelic Society, London.

Council for the Year 1902–1903.

President—
H.R.H. THE PRINCE OF WALES, K.G., ETC.
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T. W. HALL.
L. L. R. HAUSBURG.
C. E. MCNAUGHTAN.
FRANZ REICHENHEIM.
GORDON SMITH.

THE sixth meeting of the season 1902–1903 was held at Effingham House, Arundel Street, Strand, on Friday the 9th January, 1903, at 7.45 p.m.

Members present: M. P. Castle, E. D. Bacon, Rudolph Meyer, L. W. Fulcher, Louis E. Bradbury, L. L R. Hausburg, Robert Ehrenbach, B. D. Knox, T. Maycock, R. B. Yardley, C. Neville Biggs, J. A. Tilleard, C. E. Mc Naughtan.

The chair was taken by the Hon. Vice-President, and the minutes of the last meeting were directed to be brought forward for confirmation at the next meeting of the Society.

The Hon. Secretary reported the death of Mr. J. Wray Mercer, an announcement which was received with very great regret.

Letters were also read from Messrs. A. G. Griffith, J. H. Hallett, G. Owen Wheeler, and Lieut. A. R. Raby, resigning membership of the Society, and the resignations were accepted with regret.

Mr. J. C. Sidebotham, proposed by Mr. H. R. Oldfield and seconded by Mr. L. E. Bradbury, was duly elected a member of the Society; the ballot for another candidate being postponed until the next meeting.

The principal business of the evening consisted of a display by the Hon. Vice-President of the very beautiful collection of the stamps of Belgium, Holland, and Luxembourg originally formed by him, and kindly lent for the occasion by the present owner, Mr. Mann. In calling attention to the collection, Mr. Castle referred to the many charms of the stamps of the countries under consideration, and to the field of study which is still afforded to the serious collector; he also gave a number of interesting and valuable explanations in regard to the various issues.

On the motion of Mr. Meyer, seconded by Mr.

Biggs, the cordial thanks of the Society were voted to Mr. Castle for the display and for his instructive observations and notes, and to Mr. Mann for his kindness in sending his collection for inspection by members attending the meeting, and the proceedings then terminated.

THE seventh meeting of the season 1902–1903 was held at Effingham House, Arundel Street, Strand, on Friday the 23rd January, 1903, at 7.45 p.m.

Members present: C. Neville Biggs, Thos. Wm. Hall, Herbert R. Oldfield, Rudolph Meyer, J. A. Tilleard, L. W. Fulcher, C. J. Daun, J. C. Sidebotham, Malcolm S. Cooke, B. D. Knox, T. Maycock, Edward J. Nankivell, C. McNaughtan, Gordon Smith.

Visitor: Edward B. Cooke.

In the absence of the Vice-President and the Hon. Vice-President, the chair was taken by Mr. C. Neville Biggs, and the minutes of the meetings held on the 19th December, 1902, and 9th January, 1903, were read and signed as correct.

The members then proceeded to consider the election of the Rev. F. J. Williams, proposed by the Hon. Secretary and seconded by the Hon. Assistant Secretary, and, after ballot, he was declared duly elected a member of the Society.

Mr. C. McNaughtan then proceeded to open a discussion upon "The New Collector, and what we can do for him," by reading a short and amusing paper, which, however, did not suggest any answer to the question propounded in its title.

A discussion subsequently ensued in which the following members took part: Messrs. Fulcher, Biggs, Gordon Smith, Oldfield, and Nankivell, in the course of which a vote of thanks was moved by Mr. Oldfield, seconded by Mr. Nankivell, and subsequently carried. Mr. McNaughtan replied to some of the criticisms upon his remarks, and the proceedings then terminated.

Herts Philatelic Society.

THE fifth meeting of the season 1902–1903 was held at Anderton's Hotel, Fleet Street, E.C., on Tuesday, February 10th, 1903, at 7 p.m.

Members present: Messrs. Bradbury, R. B. Brown, Cool, B. Cooper, Bois, Boyes, Daun, Fagan, Fulcher, Giles, Frentzel, Mellor, Meyer, Jacoby, Jones, Morten, Neyrood, Charlick, Field, Hayman, Schwabacher, Sidebotham, Simpson, Sutherland, Thomson, Wiehen, Wills, Slade, and one visitor.

The chair was taken by Mr. J. C. Sidebotham, and the minutes of the meeting held on January 13th, 1903, were read and signed as correct.

Mr. M. V. Morten was duly elected an ordinary member of the Society.

Mr. H. L. Hayman exhibited his collection of the stamps of British East Africa, accompanied with explanatory notes as to the numbers and dates of the different issues, etc. All varieties of the manuscript and printed surcharges were shown in great profusion, and scarcely one of the multitudinous errors was missing.

Mr. J. E. Heginbottom's collection of Leeward Islands and St. Vincent was then displayed by the Hon. Sec. The stamps were all in a used condition, and aroused much interest by reason of their completeness, the rare St. Vincent surcharges and early Virgin Islands being specially admired.

Hearty votes of thanks were passed to Messrs. Hayman and Heginbottom for their instructive and interesting displays, and the meeting terminated at 9.15 p m.

At the March meeting Mr. Herbert R. Oldfield will read his paper, "The Ideal Philatelic Exhibition," and Mr. T. W. Hall will exhibit his famous collection of Chilian stamps, with notes.

H. A. SLADE, *Hon. Sec. and Treasurer.*

INGLESIDE, ST. ALBANS,
February 12th, 1903.

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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U.S. WATERMARKS.

To the Editor of the "London Philatelist."

SIR,—I notice that on page 297 of the December number of the *London Philatelist*, received by me this morning, some doubt or difficulty is expressed as to the watermark of the new 13 c. stamp of this country. It is in reality U S P S, spaced approximately one letter to each stamp, but frequently misplaced or inverted, as on all the rest of the values of the current issue, and supposed to stand for *U*nited *S*tates *P*ostage *S*tamp. This is the only watermark on any portion of the paper used for printing the current adhesives, and I am at a loss to account for the "D" which you have seen (as part of the word "postage"?) unless it be a mutilated portion of some one of these letters. The extreme carelessness with which the sheets are fed to the printing press, and the fact that the space between each two letters, both vertically and horizontally, is a trifle too large to allow one letter to strike wholly on each stamp, have made varieties of watermark so numerous that collectors on this side have practically ceased to notice the position of the mark in any of the current issue. I should not have gone into the matter thus at length had I not recently discovered elsewhere abroad some misapprehension of the United States watermark similar to that expressed in the paragraph in question, which I think an explanation given equally wide circulation might be of value in correcting.—Very respectfully yours,

GORDON IRELAND.

HARVARD LAW SCHOOL, CAMBRIDGE, MASS.,
HOLYOKE HOUSE, 21. *January 20th*, 1903.

The Market.

NOTE.—*Under this title will be inserted all the information that may refer in any way to the financial aspects of Philately*, e.g. *the sales or values of stamps, the state of the Market, Trade publications, etc.*

MESSRS. PLUMRIDGE AND CO.

Sale of January 13th and 14th, 1903.

* Unused.

	£	s.	d.
Great Britain, 2s., brown	2	2	0
Ditto, £1, Anchor wmk., fair	2	7	6
Ditto, 1884, £1, wmk. Crowns, vertical pair	1	1	0
India, "Service," 1866, 2 as. in black on 2 as., purple, pair,* with gum	2	4	0
Mauritius, "Post Paid," 2d., deep blue, early stage, torn into	3	17	6
Nevis, 1882, C A, 14, 4d., blue, block of four*	6	0	0
Niger Coast, 1893–4, ½d. in blue on 2½d. (S. G. No. 25), fine,* with gum; ½d. in vermilion on 2½d. (S. G. No. 24), mint*	3	7	6
Tuscany, 60 crazie, red, torn into	4	0	0
Ditto, 9 crazie, lilac-grey,* mint	7	12	6
U.S.A., 1869, 90 c., red and black*	2	12	6
Ditto, Justice, 90 c., violet,* mint	3	7	6
Virgin Islands, 1867, perf. 15, 6d., dull rose,* with gum	3	4	0

* * *

Sale of January 27th and 28th, 1903.

* Unused.

	£	s.	d.
British Central Africa, 1895, £1, orange	1	6	0
Ditto, 1896, £1, blue	2	4	0
Ditto, ditto, £10, vermilion	2	10	0
British East Africa, 1st issue, 1 a. and 4 a.,* mint	3	0	0
Ditto, ½ a., surcharged with hand-stamp on 2 as.	2	10	0
Ditto, 1897, 50 r.,* mint	3	12	6
British Guiana, 1852, 4 c., black on deep blue	8	17	6
Cape of Good Hope, Triangulars, 1s., deep green, mint,* pair	5	7	6
Ditto, ditto, 1s., emerald-green, mint, block of eight*	28	0	0
Ceylon, 5d., imperf.*	2	4	0
Ditto, 10d., rough perf.,* mint	2	0	0
Ditto, 1s. 9d., ditto, ditto	3	0	0
Ditto, 2s., blue, ditto, ditto	2	4	0
Ditto, C C, 12½, 5d., myrtle-green, and 2s., dark blue, mint, block of four, each	3	12	0
Ditto, 1885, 5 c. on 48 c.*	3	7	6
Cyprus, 1st issue, 6d. and 1s.,* both mint	2	4	0
Gibraltar, 1st issue, 1s.,* no gum	1	14	0
Ditto, ditto, the set,* all mint	3	15	0
Great Britain, 2d., blue, no lines*	3	15	0
Ditto, 1s., green, octagonal, mint, pair*	6	6	0
Grenada, 2½, rose, broad-pointed Star wmk.*	2	2	0
Ditto, 4d., blue, ditto	2	10	0
Gold Coast, 20s., green and red,* mint	6	15	0
Hong Kong, $10,* with gum	2	17	6
Nevis, 4d., litho*	2	6	0
Ditto, C A, 1s., lilac, pair*	1	8	0
Newfoundland, 6½d., carmine-vermilion, used, cut close	3	3	0
Nova Scotia, 1s., purple	9	15	0
St. Kitts, C A, 4d., blue,* mint	3	0	0
Seychelles, 12 c. on 16 c., inverted surcharge	2	0	0
Ditto, 15 c. on 16 c., ditto,* mint	3	8	0
Sierra Leone, 2½d. on 2s., Type A,* mint	2	5	0
Trinidad, 1896, 10s.,* mint	3	0	0
Turks Islands, 1s., prune	7	10	0
Western Australia, 1st issue, 1s.*	1	18	0
Ditto, 1879, C C, 12½, the error 2d., lilac, heavily postmarked	6	6	0
Zululand, 20s., purple on red,* mint	1	18	0
Ditto, £5, purple-black on red,* ditto	5	0	0

* * *

MESSRS. PUTTICK AND SIMPSON.

Sale of January 20th and 21st, 1903.

* Unused.

	£	s.	d.
Great Britain, 1847–54, 6d., purple,* mint	4	15	0
Ditto, ditto, 10d., brown, Die 4,* ditto	2	10	0
Ditto, ditto, 2d., blue,* Small Crown, perf. 14	4	0	0
Ditto, 1867–82, 10s., grey,* mint	12	12	0
Ditto, ditto, £1, purple-brown, ditto	17	17	0
Ditto, 1870, ½d., rose, Plate 9,* ditto	1	12	6
Naples, 50 gra., pale lake,* ditto	3	12	6
Oldenburg, 1859, 3 sgr., black on yellow,* ditto	4	17	6
Ceylon, 8d., brown, imperf. £13 and	12	12	0
Ditto, 9d., lilac-brown, ditto	5	10	0
Ditto, 10d., vermilion, ditto	3	15	0
Ditto, 1s. 9d., green,* no gum	4	10	0
Ditto, 1s. 9d., ditto,* hardly so fine, with gum	3	7	6
Ditto, 2s., blue, imperf.,* no gum, but fine	22	0	0
Ditto, 4d., rose-red, rough perf.,*	2	17	6
Ditto, 1s. 9d., green, perf.,* £3 and	3	3	0
Ditto, 2s., blue, ditto,* £4 10s. and	5	2	6
Ditto, 9d., brown, no wmk.,* £5 5s. and	6	10	0
Ditto, 1s., violet, ditto*	8	15	0
Ditto, 10d., orange-red, Star, perf. 12½*	3	0	0
Ditto, 2d., emerald-green, C C, block of four*	5	12	6
Ditto, 5d., purple-brown, ditto	11	10	0
Mauritius, "Post Paid," 1d., deep orange, earliest impression, two superb used copies	18	0	0

	£	s.	d.
Bahamas, 1861, no wmk., 4d., dull rose,* ditto	3	10	0
Ditto, ditto, ditto, 6d., grey-lilac,* ditto	3	5	0
Ditto, ditto, ditto, 6d., lilac, perf. 13* ditto	6	15	0
Ditto, 1s., green, CC, perf. 12½* ditto	5	0	0
Ditto, 4d. on 6d., violet, pair*	1	18	0
Barbados, 1858, 6d., rose-red, imperf.,* no gum	4	0	0
Ditto, 1873, Large Star, ½d., green, clean-cut perf.*	3	5	0
Ditto, ditto, 4d., rose-red*	8	10	0
Ditto, 5s., rose-red,* £2 12s. 6d. and	2	15	0
Ditto, 1d. on half 5s., numeral 7 mm.	4	4	0
Canada, 7½d., green,* mint	10	0	0
Ditto, 10d., blue, thick paper,* ditto	8	0	0
Ditto, 6d., purple-brown,* ditto	10	10	0
Orange River Colony, 3d. on 4d., blue, Type E, pair*	2	17	6
Grenada, 1863–71, 6d., vermilion, strip of three*	5	5	0
Ditto, 1871, 1s., mauve, block of four*	4	12	6
Ditto, 2½d., rose-lake, ditto*	10	5	0
Ditto, 4d., blue, ditto*	8	10	0
Ditto, "Postage" diagonally in small capitals on half of 1d., orange, a superb strip of six*	22	0	0
Ditto, 4d. on 2s., orange; a superb strip of three, centre stamp being the variety with upright "d"*	8	10	0
St. Lucia, 1860, wmk. Star, 1d., lake, a superb block of six*	4	15	0
Ditto, ditto, 4d., blue, ditto*	21	0	0
Ditto, ditto, 6d., green, ditto*	26	0	0
Ditto, 6d., mauve, a superb block of four*	4	4	0
Ditto, 1s., orange, ditto*	6	6	0
Ditto, ditto, slightly different shade*	6	0	0
Ditto, ditto, deep orange, ditto*	5	10	0
Ditto, 4d., yellow, superb block of four*	4	10	0
Ditto, 1s., orange, ditto*	10	10	0
Ditto, perf. 12, 4d., yellow*	3	0	0
St. Vincent, 1869, no wmk., 1s., indigo*	3	12	6
Ditto, 1871–72, wmk. Star, 6d., blue-green, rough perfs.*	2	10	0
Ditto, 1s., rose*	6	10	0
Ditto, 1877, wmk. Star, 4d., dark blue, superb*	5	0	0
Ditto, 1880, wmk. Star, 6d., yellow-green*	1	10	0
Ditto, 1s., vermilion*	5	15	0
Ditto, 5s., rose-red, a superb copy, but not quite full gum*	8	10	0
Ditto, 1881, provisionals, ½d. in red on half of 6d., yellow-green, a superb pair*	2	12	0
Ditto, 1881, wmk. Star, 1d., drab*	1	15	0
British Guiana, 1852, 2 c., magenta, a superb used pair	12	12	0
Ditto, a single copy, used and very fine	6	10	0
Ditto, 4 c., blue, used and very fine, on small piece of original	6	0	0
Ditto, 1856, 4 c., magenta, used and superb, one of the finest existing copies of this rarity, and measuring 45 × 35 mm.	18	10	0
Ditto, 1862, 2 c., yellow (No. 2 on plate), used, with full roulettes, superb	4	10	0
Ditto, another (No. 3), ditto	4	10	0
Ditto, another (No. 17), ditto	5	5	0
Ditto, 4 c., blue (No. 2), ditto	9	5	0
Trinidad, 1860, lithographed, 1d., red, used on entire original, lightly cancelled and superb	3	10	0
Victoria, 1864, 1d., yellow-green, wmk. 6*	2	12	0
Ditto, 1867–82, 4d., rosine* £2 7s. 6d. and	2	10	0
Ditto, 5s., blue on yellow*	10	5	0
Ditto, 5s., blue and red*	2	10	0
Western Australia, 1st issue, 1s., red-brown* £2 10s. and	2	12	6
Ditto, ditto, 2d., brown on red,* no gum	5	15	0
Ditto, ditto, ditto, used	3	15	0
Ditto, ditto, 6d., bronze, used	5	5	0
Ditto, 1860, 6d., sage-green*	7	0	0
Ditto, 1895, "Halfpenny" on 3d., brown, surcharged in red and in green, a pair*	3	17	6

A good catalogue, containing very many good stamps far above the average in condition.

* * *

Sale of February 10th and 11th, 1903.

* Unused.

	£	s.	d.
Great Britain, 1855–57, 4d., carmine, Medium Garter, on white*	7	10	0
Greece, Paris print, 1 lepton, brown, block of eight*	2	0	0
Naples, ½ tor., cross	2	10	0
Ceylon, 8d., brown, imperf., minute defect	7	15	0
Ditto, 2s., blue, ditto	3	3	0
Ditto, 8d., yellow-brown, perf.	5	5	0
Ditto, "Two Cents" on 4 c., rose, Type 31, a strip of six, with double surcharge (the second surcharge is diagonally printed), *used*	3	10	0
British East Africa, 1890, 1 a., strip of three	3	17	6
British South Africa, 1896, "One Penny" on 3d., grey,* mint	4	12	6
Cape of Good Hope, Woodblocks, 4d., dark blue, pair, cut close in places	11	0	0
Ditto, Mafeking, 6d. on 1s., British Bechuanaland	3	15	0
Ditto, ditto, set of nineteen	11	11	0
St. Helena, perf. 12½, 4d., carmine, 19 mm., pair,* mint	2	10	0
Seychelles, 15 c. on 16 c., inverted surcharge,* mint	1	18	0
Suez Canal, 20 c., blue, *used*	1	14	0
Transvaal, 1871–76, 6d., dull blue, fine roulette, a block of four, unused, three are fine	2	12	6
Ditto, a block of four and a pair, five ditto	3	12	6
Ditto, block of eight, six ditto	4	5	0
British Columbia, imperf., 5 c., rose, large margins and very lightly cancelled, but skilfully repaired in one corner	6	0	0
Newfoundland, 1897, "One Cent" on 3 c., dull purple, a block of fifteen, consisting of ten of Type 33, three of Type 34, and two of the scarce Type 35,* mint	4	0	0
Nova Scotia, 1s., purple	10	0	0
U.S.A., 90 c., blue, the *première gravure*, no perfs. at right and small tear at bottom, but a nice copy, unused, with gum	9	5	0
Ditto, Agriculture, 1 to 30 c.,* mint	2	10	0
Ditto, State, 1 to 90 c.,* ditto	3	3	0
Nevis, 6d, grey, litho	3	15	0

	£	s.	d.
Trinidad, 5s., lake, "OS,"* mint	2	0	0
British Guiana, 1852, 1 c., magenta, good margins and a very nice copy, but has been a little touched up in centre	3	5	0
Ditto, ditto, 4 c., blue, a nice copy with small margins, a little touched up in two or three small places	3	7	6
Ditto, 1862, 2 c., black on yellow (No. 17 on plate), fine, but cut close	3	7	6
Buenos Ayres, 5 p., orange, small tear and heavily cancelled	3	0	0
Fiji, 1870, *Times* Express, 1d., 3d., 6d., 9d., and 1s., rose on *bâtonné*, unused, nice copies, but three are a little thinned, a scarce set	4	6	0
South Australia, "O. S.", 1900, 2s. 6d., lilac, and 5s., rose	4	0	0
Tonga, 1887–92, 12½, 1d., rose,* no gum	4	10	0
Collections: 5,570, £32 10s.; 1,692, £21; and 761 (Great Britain), £14 14s.			

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MESSRS. VENTOM, BULL, AND COOPER.

Sale of January 22nd and 23rd, 1903.

* Unused.

Great Britain, 1870, 1½d., rose, O.P.P.C.	2	10	0
Ditto, South-Eastern Railway Telegraph Stamps, 1s., yellow, perf. 12, mint*	2	0	0
Ditto, ditto, 1s. 2d., black, perf. 12, mint*	1	14	0
Ditto, ditto, 1s. 6d., lilac, perf. 12, mint*	2	0	0
Ditto, ditto, 2s. 3d., chocolate, perf. 9, mint*	2	0	0
Ditto, ditto, 2s. 9d., green, perf. 9, mint*	2	0	0
Ionian Isles, set of three, used	4	0	0
Bremen, 10 grote, black, perf. 13, used	1	11	0
Switzerland, Basle, 2½ r.	3	10	0
Shanghai, 1876, 9 cands., blue-grey,* with gum	0	17	0
Ditto, ditto, 12 cands., brown,* ditto	1	6	0
Natal, 1891, 2½d. on 4d., brown, an unused vertical strip of six,* mint, three of which have the error "PENGE"	2	12	0
Orange River Colony, 1882, provisionals, 3d. on 4d., ultramarine, Types A, B, C, and D, all* mint	1	12	0
Ditto, surcharged "V.R.I.", with raised stops, 2½d., blue,* with gum, slightly creased	2	16	0
Transvaal, surcharged "V.R. Transvaal" in black, 1d., bright red on hard-surfaced paper, with wide roulette all round	1	7	0
Ditto, ditto, 1d., red on thick rough paper, with wide roulette all round, but slightly defective	1	10	0
Ditto, ditto, "V.R. Transvaal," 1d., red on orange, with wide roulette all round and very fine (minute tear)	1	11	0
Ditto, ditto, small "V.R. Transvaal," 1d., red on yellow, with bottom margin and wide roulette on three sides, very slightly defective	2	0	0
Canada, 10d., blue, thin paper*	1	16	0
Zanzibar on British East Africa, 1 anna, carmine-rose, horizontal pair, twice surcharged*	6	0	0
Nova Scotia, 1s., violet	13	0	0
Newfoundland, 4d., scarlet-vermilion, a superb unused specimen, very rare in this condition	32	0	0
Ditto, 6½d, scarlet-vermilion*	5	10	0
Ditto, 1s., scarlet-vermilion,* superb	62	0	0
U.S.A., Agriculture, set of nine*	2	2	0
Ditto, Executive, set of five*	3	10	0
Ditto, Justice, 90 c., off centre	1	19	0
Ditto, Navy, set of eleven*	2	0	0
Ditto, State, ditto	2	10	0
Ditto, Treasury, ditto	1	10	0
Nevis, 1st issue, 1s., green*	2	2	0
St. Vincent, 1866, 1s., slate-grey, compound perf*	1	10	0
Ditto, 1869, 4d., yellow,* mint	1	12	0
Ditto, 1880, 1s., vermilion, perf. 11 to 12½*	3	0	0
Hawaiian Islands, 1853, 5 c., blue on thick white paper,* part gum	2	7	0
Ditto, same on thin blue paper, used	1	14	0
Victoria, 1865–67, 6d., blue, wmk. "Fourpence," with full gum, rare*	4	2	6
Collection in Lallier's, 653, £13 5s.			

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Sale of February 6th, 1903.

* Unused.

Great Britain, 2d., blue, without lines*	2	6	0
Bavaria, 1870–73, 12 kr., block of four*	2	17	6
Crete, 1st issue, 20 p., mauve, block of four*	2	16	0
Ditto, ditto, ditto, pair*	1	10	0
Mecklenburg-Schwerin, 1864, ⅓ sch., rouletted, thinned	1	18	0
Oldenburg, 2nd issue, ⅓ gr.	3	5	0
Parma, 1859, 80 c., olive-yellow*	1	4	0
Portugal, 1st issue, 100 r, horizontal strip of three, and a 50 r., used on piece	2	14	0
Switzerland, Winterthur, 2½ rappen	2	0	0
Ditto, 1850, Poste Locale, central cross without border, 2½ rappen, black and red	4	12	6
Ceylon, 1872–80, 2 c., brown, 14 × 12½,* part gum	2	0	0
Mauritius, Greek border, 1d., red,* part gum	2	0	0
Natal, 1st issue, 1d., blue, on entire newspaper	3	0	0
Seychelles, 3 c. on 4 c., horizontal pair, twice surcharged,* mint	2	12	0
Transvaal, 1900, surcharged "V.R.I.", ½d., green, an unused horizontal pair, mint; one of the stamps has the "R.I." of the surcharge omitted	3	0	0
Ditto, a similar error in a mint block of six	2	0	0
Ditto, 1s., ochre, an unused horizontal pair; one stamp has the "V.R." of the surcharge omitted	2	10	0
Ditto, 2½d., blue, an unused horizontal pair, mint, with inverted surcharges	4	10	0
U.S.A., 1869, 24 c., block of four	1	6	0
St. Vincent, 1869, 4d., yellow	1	16	0
Trinidad, 1896, 10s., green and blue,* mint	1	16	0
New South Wales, 20s., carmine and violet, "O S," surcharged twice	5	5	0
Victoria, "Too Late"*	3	10	0
Ditto, 1865–67, 6d., blue, wmk. double-lined 4, unused, with gum, well centred and fine	6	15	0

THE

London Philatelist:

THE MONTHLY JOURNAL OF

THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY, LONDON.

VOL. XII. MARCH, 1903. No. 135.

Collectors and Catalogues.



THE somewhat ominous juxtaposition of the first and last words in the above title may induce the apprehension of our readers that we are once again contemplating the repicking of very dry bones. This is, however, far from our intention: the question of "a Catalogue for Collectors by Collectors" has been debated and discussed in philatelic societies and journals galore. The final stages of discussion have elicited the general opinion as to the excellence of the idea, and the utter impracticability of putting it into execution. Beyond the expression of the pious opinion that collectors ought to have the deciding voice of what they should catalogue and collect, the solution of the question has not been advanced since it was first broached.

The publishers of the existing catalogues therefore still hold the field, and hence we believe there is more practical wisdom in endeavouring to bring their interests in line with that of collectors, than of trying to supplant them with our own standard of collectibility. In the first place, the stamp world owes a debt of gratitude to the great stamp firms who issue these guides, and it is through the medium of these works that a very material portion of present-day philatelic education has been attained. To the average earnest collector his favourite catalogue is a veritable philatelic Bible, without which he would be lost, while the financier in stamps or speculative collector—and there are many such—learns its prices by heart and makes his money between the lines.

We have, during the past season, briefly reviewed the several catalogues for the new year, and, being much impressed with the conscientious and successful efforts to keep up with the times displayed by the leading catalogues—Gibbons, Senf, Scott, Bright, Kohl, Gelli, Yvert and Tellier,

to mention a few only—we venture to ask them in their own interests to go even one better.

The avowed aim—a natural one from a commercial standpoint—of the publishers of stamp catalogues is to create a demand for the goods that they can supply. The customers for these goods can be broadly divided into two classes. First, and less numerous, come the specialists, the collectors of a few countries, of a continent, or of any limited group. It is obvious that to induce this class of customer to purchase, the shop window must be dressed with the greatest variety of fancy goods. Second, and in a much greater multitude, comes the general collector, who does not rely upon his own individual knowledge, but prefers to be guided by the printed album. This class is usually designated under the term "general collector," but it is obvious that it includes many sections. The schoolboy, the lady collector, the beginner, the lazy man, the man with limited leisure, the accumulator of the largest number of varieties, are only a few members of this great army of collectors who find their pleasure in filling in the squares of a printed album. Now if the window is dressed only with fancy goods, the steady customer who daily requires his more solid wares is apt to grow discouraged and to go elsewhere. It is therefore on this point that we venture to make our appeal to the publishers of catalogues. We have it on personal evidence from one of the best-known men in the stamp world—Mr. Edward Stanley Gibbons, the founder of the firm bearing his name—that he attributed the success of his business to be due almost entirely to the issue of a catalogue and a corresponding album for the stamps quoted. This statement doubtless equally applies to the other firms who publish catalogues and printed albums.

The ever-increasing volume of new issues—many of them worthy of the ban of the S.S.S.S.—has necessitated the increase of bulk in the printed album until to-day it is already unwieldy, and in a short period must inevitably be beyond the scope of the general collector. When the future "generalist" is informed that it is advisable to buy a bookcase to hold his stamp albums, it may well be that he will emulate *Punch's* advice, and "won't." If the general collector, who is of such vital interest to the trade, is not to be choked by redundant fare, the courses must be cut down. For this class of collector only the main, leading, and absolutely differing specimens should be quoted in catalogues and spaced-form album. If this were conscientiously done by able Philatelists, and without regard to dealers' stocks or prejudices, the task of the general collector would be enormously simplified; and the question of his extinction by the superabundance of issues would be postponed for an indefinite period. The Scott Stamp and Coin Co. have already wisely adopted this plan, the leading stamps being consecutively numbered, the smaller varieties following under letters and in smaller type. To make it, however, of practical value this plan should be carried out in the albums also.

To summarise our views: we feel convinced that the time is approaching when catalogue publishers will be utterly unable to issue an all-varieties catalogue, adaptable alike for the printed album collector and the specialist. In the dealers' own interests and to preserve the general collector from

decay, we earnestly counsel such an arrangement of the catalogue as shall clearly indicate what stamps the latter has to take.

It may seem to those of our readers who have been good enough to follow these remarks thus far, that we have somewhat laboured this point. It is, however, the tritest of adages that one must look ahead, and it should be clear that if the issuing of stamps and the multiplication of their varieties by collectors—from "inverted stops" upwards—go on at the present rate, the fate of stamp collecting will be like unto that of British moths, *i.e.* "very interesting," but almost illimitable in number and variety, and therefore not to be attempted.

The Philatelist who is a specialist can, as in coins and other pursuits, always protect himself. He collects what he likes and is careless of all outside his scope, and we do not plead for him. The general collector, on the contrary, can only exist with the guidance and support of others, and it is for his preservation that we have made this appeal. The tree is already overgrown and straggling, and its vitality can only be ensured by vigorous and judicious *pruning*.

A Supplement to "British Isles."

By A. B. CREEKE, Jun.



HE demise, on the 22nd January, 1901, of our Sovereign Lady Queen Victoria necessitated a change in the portrait on the various British stamps; and the well-known head of Her late Majesty is, after sixty-two years, now superseded by that of King Edward VII.

It seems, therefore, a convenient time to bring up to date—so far as the Victorian issues are concerned—the work by the late Mr. Hastings E. Wright and myself, by chronicling the various changes which have taken place, and the additions and discoveries which have been made, since the completion of the MS.; and it will save my readers the trouble of referring to the *Addenda et Corrigenda*, if I here include a fuller note than was then possible. This I purpose doing in a regular manner, following the paging of the book.

Page vi.—There is an amusing error on the last page of the *Preface*. One of the gentlemen—I will not mention names—at Somerset House, to whom I referred as having given us all possible assistance, was inadvertently accorded by me an official position somewhat higher than the one he actually occupied, and he was, I believe, congratulated by many of his colleagues on his informal promotion. He has now retired on a well-merited pension.

Page 9.—The quotation (lines 15 to 20) as to Archer's want of inventive power and mechanical knowledge is from a footnote on page 68 of *Philbrick and Westoby*, and the customary acknowledgment was accidentally omitted.

Page 16.—The *Introduction*, which, as it was not by either Mr. Wright or myself, I may be allowed to consider one of the most interesting features of the book, was written after the greater portion of the work was in print; and the insertion of an additional chapter alters, from iv. to v., the number of the chapter to which a reference is made in line 24.

This is, perhaps, a trivial correction, but I gladly make it, as affording me an opportunity to refer to the very able and valuable Introduction, for which I was most grateful to my friend Mr. Gordon Smith.

Page 34.—In the second paragraph, under the sub-heading of "*Plate*," we should have stated that the first eighteen (not twenty-two) plates, from Die II. of the line-engraved One Penny value, were certainly in use before the change of watermark from Small Crown to Large Crown, having all been put to press more than eight (not seven) weeks prior to the earliest recorded date of the new watermark.

The plates subsequently mentioned as having been in use with both these papers should run from 19, not from 23.

Page 36.—There is a serious error in the date of the seventh issue of the One Penny, line-engraved, for which I am to blame. The change of colour, from various tones of red to carmine-rose, first appeared amongst the *imprimatur* sheets on the 18th January, 1858; and I put the date of issue as "January, 1858," merely eliminating a *query* which stood against it, without further considering the point.

The corrections in the seventh issue are, therefore: in the heading, the date of issue, "April, 1857"; in the first sub-paragraph a similar alteration, and an antedating of the earliest postmarked copy to 9th April, 1857, for which I am indebted to Mr. Dendy Marshall; and in the third paragraph the consequent inclusion of fourteen extra plates, Nos. 16 to 18, and 22 to 32.

Under the heading of "*Paper*," we stated that the alteration (*viz.* the omission of the two short vertical lines) in the design of the Large Crown took place in 1862. Naturally, we could only chronicle the earliest copy of which we knew, but Mr. S. C. Skipton, in the *Philatelic Journal of Great Britain* for November, 1899, states that he possesses a Twopence stamp, from Plate 8, watermarked with this altered Crown. As this plate was defaced in October, 1861, the variety should be known as the "Large Crown of 1861," to distinguish it from its predecessors.

The temporary recourse, mentioned under "*Perforation*," to the old machines gauging 16, occurred in January, 1858, if not earlier, as a copy of this stamp, in carmine-rose and so perforated, is known postmarked on the 4th of that month.*

Page 39.—Under "*Paper*" of the eighth issue of the One Penny, mention is made of some impressions from Plate 121 on paper chemically treated. This paper was watermarked with the original Large Crown, and both imperforate and perforated copies of the stamps are known.

Page 41.—In the *Synopsis* the Seventh Issue should, as a consequential alteration, also include Plates 16 to 18 and 22 to 32; and the date should be April, 1857.

* For this and other "earliest dates" I am indebted to Mr. L'Estrange Ewen.

From the list of imperforate varieties of the Eighth Issue, withdraw Plates 146 and 191, which I am informed are only known in this condition with trial obliterations; and add Plates 92, 148, 158 and 162.

Page 44.—The footnote should refer to Chapter V. of the Introduction.

Page 50.—There is an uncorrected printer's error in the second footnote: the word "States" should read "Plates."

Page 52.—In the last paragraph to the third issue of the Twopence, line-engraved, we stated that individual copies from Plate 4 are not to be distinguished from those from Plate 5. This is incorrect, as the corner-letters, except "G" and "J," are larger on the latter than on Plate 4, on which they are also generally blurred.

In the *Philatelic Journal of Great Britain* for October, 1899, Mr. S. C. Skipton, in a most able and interesting paper on the Twopence, line-engraved, convinces me that we ought not to have chronicled, in the fifth issue of this value, impressions from Plate 4 as existing on Large Crown paper. Such copies are not known, and it seems unlikely that they were ever printed. Plate 4, though not defaced until the 8th May, 1856, was very probably discarded when Plate 5 was brought into use, on the 9th June, 1855. This is practically the only instance in which Mr. Wright assumed the existence of a variety which he had not seen, evidently considering that Plate 4 remained, to some extent, in use until it was defaced.

Page 53.—I found, only in time for noting in the *Corrigenda*, that the line between imperforate and perforated stamps, from Plate 4 of the Twopence, had been drawn too early. The error amounts to 1,000 sheets, or 240,000 stamps, by which number the imperforate issue from this plate must be increased, and the perforated printings decreased.

Page 56.—From the Fifth Issue of the Twopence, in the *Synopsis*, all reference to Plate 4 should be omitted.

Page 61.—In chronicling, under the sub-heading of "*Creation*," the number of sheets of embossed Sixpence stamps despatched from the warehouse, the last three periods are incorrectly given: they should obviously be:—

" „ 8th January, to 30th March, 1855 . . .
„ 2nd April „ 29th June, 1855 . . .
„ 2nd July „ 29th September, 1855 . . ."

Page 63.—Under the sub-heading of "*Plate*" it should have been stated that blocks of the Tenpence, embossed, are known, from some of the stamps on which the die-number is apparently absent, whilst on the others it is plainly visible: presumably the former are defective impressions.

Page 67.—Under "*Plate*" it was mentioned that Dies 2 and 3 of the One Shilling, embossed, were subsequently furnished with date-plugs, and used for stamping envelopes and telegram forms. This statement—which, as it did not relate to adhesive stamps, was not personally verified—is, I have been informed on very good authority, most probably inaccurate as regards Die 2, dated impressions from which are as yet unknown.

Page 80.—In adding up the paper-warrants for the first issue of the Threepence, surface-printed, I miscalculated the number to the extent of 7,000 sheets.

The *Creation*, at the top of this page, should be 6,853,200 stamps, the warrants being for 288,050 sheets; the result is that 28,550 sheets, or 6,852,000 stamps, were printed from Plate 2 (as issued) of this value.

Page 83.—Consequent on the mistake just recorded, the figures under *Creation* at the top of this page require alteration: those in the first line should read "78,960,000" as the number of stamps of the third issue of the Threepence, and "4,321,200" as the number printed from Plate 4 on Spray of Rose paper.

My readers may wonder why there are no consequential alterations to be made on pages 81 and 82. They were originally so numerous that I had those pages reprinted.

Page 90.—There is an uncorrected printer's error in the first column of the tabular statement of the early printings of the Fourpence: the date of the penultimate order for paper was "1-11-55," as in the text on the next page, not "11-1-55."

Page 98, *line* 8.—After the body of the work was in print, I ascertained that Plate 4 of the Fourpence was taken from press in April, 1865.

Page 99, *line 6 from bottom.*—In discussing the question as to the die from which the defective Plate 6 of the Fourpence was made, it should have been stated that this plate was ordered a year and nine months subsequently to the "abandonment," not "completion," of Plate 5 (Die II.), which was not required, or even completed, on account of the change in design.

Page 103.—To the end of the first paragraph, dealing with State VII. of the Fourpence, add "(*See Diagram N*)"; and delete the similar words from the end of fourth line below.

Page 110.—There is a similar correction to be made on the upper part of this page, where State IV. of the Sixpence, surface-printed, is dealt with: "(*See Diagram J*)" should be at the end of the third, not fourth, paragraph.

Page 116.—Referring to the *Remarks*, at the foot of this page, on the omission of the dots from under the "d" of the overprint on the Sixpence stamps of 1883, lettered $\frac{\text{I. O.}}{\text{O. I.}}$, it is clear from a copy in my possession that the omission was subsequently rectified. On this particular stamp the overprint has the two dots as distinctly printed as on normal copies (*Illustration* 217). On some specimens of the Sixpence stamp, *e.g.* those lettered $\frac{\text{H. P.}}{\text{P. H.}}$, the dots, instead of being horizontal, are slanting.

Page 119.—In describing the first State of the Eightpence value, we said that the plate-number was placed above the eleventh stamp in the top row of the sheet, and below the second in the bottom row: the actual positions are above the last, and below the first. The sheet is correctly shown in the *Diagram*.

Page 122.—To the *Remarks* at the top of this page it is of interest to add that Mr. L'Estrange Ewen chronicles a copy of the Ninepence, lettered $\frac{\text{A. T.}}{\text{T. A.}}$, watermarked with Three Roses and a Shamrock, the English emblem having been substituted for that of Scotland.

Page 124.—The asterisk in the second line should have been placed after the word "straw" in the following line. It is in this colour only that stamps from Plate 5 of the Ninepence are known.

Pages 132, 133.—The date of the seventh issue of the One Shilling (red-brown on Large 1880 Crown paper) was given, on the authority of *The Philatelic Record*, as the 15th June, 1881. Through the courtesy of Mr. J. Reclaire, of Rotterdam, I have recently seen a registered envelope, on which is a copy of this stamp, postmarked the 24th May, 1881. There are, on the envelope, two other postmarks of the same date.

The issue may therefore be stated to have taken place in May, 1881.

Page 134.—As an alteration, consequent on the above, the last line of the *Synopsis* of the One Shilling issues should read "May, 1881.— . . ."

Page 153.—Under *Remarks*, the last of the account-letters, commenced in April, 1884, on the sheets of the now superseded One Penny (Die II.) purple, of 1881, was stated to be "**W**." One more letter, "**X**," has since appeared.

Whilst account-letter "**W**" was still in use, the space between the two panes of this value was filled in with forty-eight short vertical line-blocks, similar to those which appeared on the sheets of the Fourpence and other values; and the "Jubilee" line was continued across each end of the space, from pane to pane. This addition was made to ensure a more regular impression, and to obviate the large amount of "printer's waste," the rows of stamps immediately adjoining the central space being sometimes defective, owing to the sudden break in the printing surface. It was not, as has been suggested, to prevent fraudulent user of the strip of plain paper.

In a most interesting paper read before the Philatelic Society, London, on November 22nd, 1901, by Mr. Frederick West, it is noted that two batches of this value, with the fourteen dots (Die I.), were printed, one in mauve, the other in pale lilac; and that, as regards the printing from the second die, with sixteen dots, the colours were light mauve-grey (a scarce colour), light and dark lilac, red-lilac and deep purple. The *Synopsis* should be amended accordingly, though the official colour, purple, given by us covers a multitude of shades and tones.

Page 160.—The word "*Plate*" was accidentally omitted from the commencement of the third line, which gives the number of plates used for the printing of the One Shilling, green, of April, 1884.

Page 161.—In the latest printing of the Two Shillings and Sixpence, the space between the two panes was filled in with thirty-two vertical line-blocks as in the One Penny value; but there is no "Jubilee" line round the panes.

Page 162.—The later printings of the Five Shillings also show the vertical line-blocks between the panes. The final printing of this value was crimson, and Mr. West, when reading his paper above referred to, showed an extreme in colour approaching a marone or crimson-lake tone. The *Synopsis* can be amended by adding these two colours. The asterisk in the second line of the *Synopsis* should be deleted.

Page 163.—The *Remarks* on the Ten Shillings value should now be supplemented, as in the case of the Half-crown value just mentioned.

Page 166.—The use of the Five Pounds has, since 1897, greatly diminished, there having been a decrease of nearly seventy per cent. in 1898, and the issue of this value has now been discontinued. The total issue of the Five Pounds amounts to 246,822 copies.

Page 167.—The third line from the bottom should now read, "FIRST ISSUE: 1st JANUARY, 1887," as the Halfpenny stamp originally issued on this date was subsequently changed in colour.

Page 168.—Insert after the *Remarks* on the lower part of the page as follows:—

SECOND ISSUE: 17th APRIL, 1900.

Date of Issue.—A Post Office Circular of the 27th March, 1900, announced: "A new Halfpenny stamp (green in colour) will be ready for issue to Postmasters, &c., on requisition, about the middle of April next. The new stamps should not be sold to any persons before the 17th April. On and after that day they may be sold, when specially asked for, at all the offices where they are in stock; but the existing stock of the present (red) halfpenny stamps should be disposed of at each post office before the new stamps are generally sold. . . ."

An early issue took place at Penryn on the 12th April, and at other places before the 17th, in consequence of the stock in red having become exhausted.

Design.—No alteration. (*Illustration* 82.)

Plate.—The plates, not being numbered, are uninteresting, and I have not attempted to ascertain their number.

(*State.*)—As in the first issue.

Paper.—The Large (1880) Crown.

Colour.—Varying shades and tones of green and blue-green.

Gum.—As usual.

Perforation.—As before.

Remarks.—Account-letter "**Q**" was in use up to the end of the preceding issue, and all the printings in green were lettered "**R.**"

Very shortly after the change of colour, the space between the panes was filled in, as in the case of the One Penny, purple, already described.

Add to the *Synopsis* (which should now have a sub-heading of "FIRST ISSUE") at the foot of this page:—

SECOND ISSUE.

Paper watermarked with a Large (1880) Crown; perforated 14.

17th April, 1900.—One Halfpenny, green, blue-green (shades of both).

(To be continued.)

The "O S" Stamps of New South Wales.

By M. P. CASTLE.

THERE is an old saying that three removes are equal to a fire, and having latterly undergone one of the former trials, I am convinced that the adage is but a half-truth, and that a "moving" is but one remove from a fire. Some of my philatelic goods and chattels have disappeared, presumably for all time, but others occasionally crop up from quite unexpected quarters, and among the latter are the notes that follow, and which have, as far as my memory serves, lain *perdu*, probably behind some

drawer, for several years. On reading these philatelic Rip van Winkle papers I find that their temporary interment has by no means deprived them of a living interest—the more so at the present moment, when every information on the stamps of Oceania is to be welcomed.

To my correspondent in Australia who was good enough to send me these notes I present my most abject apology for so long and so involuntarily withholding the information kindly supplied. It appears that some years since a gentleman in Australia was desirous of getting further information as to these stamps, and through a friend approached Mr. Lambton, the Secretary of the Post Office at Sydney. The letter covering the enclosures, which relate entirely to the issue of the "O S" stamps of New South Wales, is as follows:—

"MEMO. CONCERNING NEW SOUTH WALES O S POSTAGE STAMPS.

"I enclose the original circular from the Post Office. The reason for the special issue was that in some of the offices whole sheets of the higher values of stamps were removed by the clerks and offered for sale in the City to the licensed dealers. They, having so small a demand for such high values, took them to the post office for sale, and inquiry was instituted as to the source from whence they came. This led to the prosecution of some of the clerks and the subsequent issue of the 'O S' series. At first the whole of the series, with the exception of the 1d., were surcharged in red, but only as an essay, it being found that on many of the series the red was not suitable. When the time came for the issue the black series were sent out (the 1s. in red), but owing to the demand at first being so great, the Government Printing Office was obliged to issue some of their *proof sheets* in red, hence what I have called 'essays.' The officials there only acknowledge the issue of the 2d., 3d., and 8d. in red, but I have other values postmarked—the 4d., 5d., 6d., 9d., and 10d., though the 5d., 9d., and 10d. were never subsequently issued with the black surcharge."

A copy of the official printed notice of the issue of the "O S" stamps, signed by Mr. S. H. Lambton, Secretary to the Post Office, Sydney, accompanied the foregoing letter, and is to the following effect:—

"[*Circular.*]

"GENERAL POST OFFICE, SYDNEY,

"17*th December*, 1879.

"It has been determined to introduce a special description of postage stamps for use in the public service.

"These stamps are the usual ones of the several denominations, but each stamp will be found marked with the letters 'O S' (On Service).

"The intention is that stamps so marked, and no other, shall be used by the various public officials throughout the Colony in stamping letters forwarded by them on public service.

"It has been decided that all correspondence bearing the endorsement 'O. H. M. S.', with the name of the department (or branch thereof) it is sent from in the corner, or, in the case of letters addressed *to* a department having the name of the sender written in the corner, shall be allowed to pass as duly prepaid letters, provided they are fully stamped with stamps

of the above-named description. Under no circumstances whatever can letters, etc., stamped with these postage stamps be allowed to pass unless endorsed as above indicated. Any letters stamped otherwise than in accordance with the foregoing directions must be sent to the Dead Letter Office as unstamped letters.

"Under no pretext whatever must postage stamps of the character herein specified be supplied to postmasters, or be sold by postmasters, or be purchased back from the public, or be changed for stamps of other denominations. In fact, it is to be fully understood by all persons employed in the Postal Department that these stamps are only available for *bonâ fide* official correspondence, posted in conformity with the above regulations. Public officers in the country will not be able to procure 'O S' stamps from the country postmasters, but can obtain them from the head of their department in Sydney, to whom they will be supplied on requisition to this office.

"The Postmaster-General enjoins on all postal officials a strict observance of the foregoing regulations. "S. H. LAMBTON, *Secretary*."

Mr. Lambton's reply is appended, and it will be seen that he acknowledges the red surcharge only on the 1s., black. The mere fact of an official denial of the existence of a variety has before now failed to convince collectors from the stubborn logic of facts, but Mr. Lambton's statement is interesting as showing the official intentions. The 3d., 5d., 8d., and 10d. are numerously known with the red surcharge, but at least two of these values are open to doubt as to their having been in actual and regular issue. In former days other values, the 9d. on 10d. and 2d. of 1871 and after (De la Rue type), were found by me and others in first-rate Australian collections, but have been deservedly ruled out, and I fancy that the final list of accepted *and issued* varieties will not be very far from Mr. Lambton's list.

"GENERAL POST OFFICE, SYDNEY,

"*September 27th*, 1886.

"MY DEAR M——,—Some of the statements in Mr. X——'s letter and Memo (which latter I return) are not quite correct. It is true that some years since there was good reason to suppose that stamps supplied to public departments were appropriated by employees and converted into cash, but I do not remember that there were any prosecutions.

"However, to remove the opportunity, we decided to mark all stamps issued to public departments with the letters 'O S' (On Service), and to only recognise such stamps when placed on letters bearing the endorsement 'O. H. M. S.' and the name of the department, as explained in circular enclosed.

"The only denominations marked, or which have ever been marked 'O S' (I think 'surcharged' is an incorrect word to use), are the 1d., 2d., 3d., 4d., 6d., 8d., 1s., and 5s. The 'O S' is printed in black on all the stamps except the 1s. ones. On these it is printed in red, as the stamp being black, or nearly so, the black letters would not show plainly. I enclose a specimen of each of our 'O S' stamps; they are, of course, the same as those I gave you, specimens of the 'O S' endorsement being the only addition.

"Yours truly, "S. H. LAMBTON."

Philatelic Notes.

THE BAVARIAN "REPRINTS."

WE alluded last month to the question of these so-called reprints, which, in view of such a considerable quantity of old stamps being suddenly placed on the market, has roused widespread interest on the Continent. It appears that the Bavarian Philatelic Society wrote to the postal authorities at Munich in November, asking for explanations and an interview. On January 9th, at the meeting of that Society, a letter, addressed to Herr Chelius, the President, in reply, dated January 4th, was read. This letter was from the "General Direction of the Royal Bavarian Posts and Telegraphs," and signed by the head of the department, Herr Bredauer. The purport of this important communication is as follows:—

"1. The postal authorities are unable to accede to receiving a deputation, it being against official regulations, etc.

"2. As the Society, failing the acceptance of their proposals, declined any further discussion, the authorities state that they consider the affair closed, and limit themselves to the following remarks:—

"3. The entire stock of stamps sold to Herr Phillip Kosack, of Berlin, were taken from the remainder stock, and are therefore 'originals in the technical sense.'

"4. With respect to a few single specimens sold to Herr Kosack, there were probably a few of the 1 kr., 1867, and 7 kr. (1868), to which the term of original could not apply. The authorities understand that some years ago a small number of these two stamps were reprinted for official purposes, therefore it could not be denied with any certainty that a few of these reprints had become mixed with those sold.

"5. It should, however, be expressly pointed out with regard to these reprints that they display a marked difference in shade and gum to those of the 'other undoubted remainders of original stamps.'

"6. Under these circumstances there can be no foundation for statements that 'Herr Kosack was putting on the market large quantities of reprints,' and in view of these facts all the Bavarian Society's further remarks fell to the ground."

This seems a very explicit and straightforward reply, and we fail to see how any society can go behind it. The Bavarian Philatelists, however, gallantly return to the charge, and have indited a further reply to the Post Office Direction, stating that they hold to the opinion that these stamps are reprints, relying upon the "knowledge" that for many years the Bavarian Post Office has possessed none of the old issues of stamps. It was therefore impossible that they could now evolve such in sheets and large quantities. The numbers of the several varieties were given in the last issue of the

London Philatelist, but do not represent "masses," as the Bavarian Society called them. It seems to us quite feasible that in some dusty corner or dim archive of the Munich Post Office, or perhaps even at Nuremberg, Würzburg, or some other large town, the newborn zeal of a fresh hand may, in ransacking the place, have discovered these stamps. It appears, anyhow, in face of this authoritative official statement, unless the stamps themselves, after comparison with others, are found to be entirely different, that, as the General Director of the Posts tersely remarks in his letter, "the affair is terminated." We are writing without personal inspection of the stamps, but we feel sure that so able a body of collectors as the Berlin Philatelic Club would not have endorsed the originality of these stamps, had there been any such marked divergence of appearance such as we have alluded to.

THE LATEST "POST OFFICE" MAURITIUS.

SINCE the appearance of our note hereon last month, M. Lemaire, of Paris, has supplied us with some further information and a photograph of this latest discovery of the first issue of Mauritius. It appears that the owner of this valuable envelope was a schoolboy at Marseilles, who found these with a few more old stamps among his late father's papers. Having heard that some stamps were valuable, the sapient lad procured a catalogue and was able to identify his discovery; to confirm his hopes he took counsel of a collector in Marseilles, who promptly assured him of the value of his stamps, and advised his taking them to Paris. Arrived in the metropolis, the fortunate lad had no difficulty in disposing of them to M. Lemaire for about £1,600, and we trust, in gratitude for his good fortune, will remain a steadfast Philatelist for the remainder of his life! M. Lemaire informed us that their re-sale was a rapid transaction, and, indeed, that he had more than one willing purchaser. We were therefore not fortunate enough to see the envelope itself, but from the photograph can be gathered one or two items of interest that are worthy of being recorded.

The two stamps are lightly postmarked with the words "Post Paid" within an oblong frame, and the One Penny, which is on the left, is so lightly obliterated as to have the head almost clear. Although, as usual, there are but slight margins, both stamps have the whole of the design present, and are remarkably fine specimens. The letter in question was addressed to a firm in Bordeaux "*viâ* England," and bears a circular postmark, "Boulogne Dec 47" (there is doubtless also an English postmark, but it is not visible on the photograph). Beyond this there is a notification (indistinct) showing that the payment of 3d. was insufficient and that a further payment was requisite. As far as our knowledge goes we were unaware that any of these stamps had franked letters out of the island. This may be due to defective memory, but the use of the two values on the same envelope is assuredly a novel and highly interesting discovery, and we can but hope that some other schoolboy may now find two twopennies side by side, and thus complete all the possible combinations of these popular rarities.

Occasional Notes.

"OCEANIA."

WE are glad to hear that Mr. A. F. Basset Hull, after some particularly rough climatic experiences in Japan, is once more on *terra firma* and busily engaged upon the above work. His task is certainly an arduous one, but fortunately he is well equipped, having been enabled to have access to official sources that are denied to the ordinary compiler of philatelic history. For example, permission has been accorded him to inspect the official records in the postal departments of all the six colonies in the offices of the Agents-General, and especial facilities have been given to him by the Hon. J. G. Drake, Postmaster-General to the Commonwealth. In addition, Mr. Basset Hull, when in London, was furnished with introductions to Messrs. Perkins Bacon and Co. and Messrs. De la Rue and Co., from both of which firms he will probably have a mass of information. Beyond this there is the co-operation of the leading Australian collectors (already alluded to in this journal), prominent among whom is Mr. David H. Hill, of Melbourne, who has placed all his valuable articles on the Victorian stamps at Mr. Hull's disposal.

The work of the Committee on this side of the water will also be no sinecure, including as it does either the compilation or the revision of reference lists of all the stamps and the illustration of all types and plates. With regard to the latter, it would have, of course, been desirable if the magnificent illustrations of MM. Mirabaud and de Reuterskiöld's work on the Swiss stamps could have been followed by the depictment of all stamps in unused condition, but we fear that such is impossible in the case of the Australian stamps. Failing this, it will be the duty of the Committee to procure, by the kind permission of their respective owners, the finest plates extant of each variety and, by the additional borrowing of specimens where any type is heavily postmarked, to present plates that will be so lightly postmarked as to leave the whole design practically clear. With the large number of plates in New South Wales, Tasmania, and Victoria this will be no light task; hence it would lighten the work of the Committee if Philatelists would kindly communicate as to what plates they would be prepared to lend, and what specimens on such plates were susceptible of improvement.

AMERICA v. AUSTRALIA.

THIS caustic comment of *Mekeel's Weekly*, which we quote, can hardly excite any resentment in the breast of even the most devoted son of Australia:—

"South Australia is very much in the public eye at the present time.

The average Philatelist is at a loss to account for the huge placards that are foisted upon us in the name of postage stamps. At the present time four values are shown here—the 8d., 9d., and 10d. and 2s. 6d.—and we are promised other pence and shilling values. The *Weekly* has already pictured these stamps, but scant justice has been done the beautiful colours and generally handsome effect of these late arrivals. From their very nature they must be shortened, and to the lover of English Colonials their mute appeal for recognition will not pass unnoticed."

We cordially endorse the views of our American contemporary. It would really seem, as also in the case of the substitution of the hideous Victorian designs for those of Western Australia, that the postal authorities had purposely selected the ugliest designs in the whole series of Australian stamps. The issues of stamps since the Commonwealth have been very numerous, and they are truly deplorable in appearance. *Delenda est Australia!*

"O S": PUNCTURED VARIETIES.

A CORRESPONDENT writes us that he is in sad perplexity as to these varieties which are now appearing in Tasmania, New South Wales, Victoria, and elsewhere. This innovation—the substitution of punctured for printed letters, following the usual commercial system—is assuredly one that will find little favour with collectors. It seems to us that if our friend collects the type-printed "O S," he cannot well exclude the punctured "O S." In both cases the stamp is identically the same, and the overprint or the puncture, which designates simply that the stamp is for official use only, has an equal value in either case. This new practice undoubtedly opens the door to the discussion as to the real *status* of official stamps of all sorts. There are those who contend that the *stamp* is the only thing to collect, and that the surcharge, denoting its limited use to particular Government offices, is only one degree more interesting than the perforation of the initial letters of a firm! There are, again, others who find that the world is too full of stamps and that it is well if some be ruthlessly banned; it is therefore quite possible that this class of stamp, despite some solid claims to respect, may follow the fate of envelopes and post cards. It is in accord with the spirit of the age. For example, there are presumedly too many public-houses, therefore modern justice demands that thousands of innocent people shall be deprived of their living, without any compensation, for the public benefit! So in stamps, some things must be slaughtered for the benefit of the rest, and the weakest will go to the wall!

PHILATELY IN ITALY.

DURING my wanderings in Italy (writes Mr. M. P. Castle from Naples) I have failed to be impressed with any very active indications of philatelic life in Italy. In cities such as Venice, Genoa, Florence, and Naples there are the usual selections *au choix* in tobacconists' or stationers' shop windows, generally

containing a variety of the commoner stamps that are genuine with some of the rarer ones that are the reverse. If the price is asked of any unmarked stamp, the quotation is likely to be double its value, and minor stamps, such as low values of Tuscany or Papal States, used on the envelope, are frequently marked up at four times their value. The modern craze for picture post cards is, however, very much to the fore, as might be expected in a country abounding alike in ancient monuments and beautiful scenery. That this feature has nearly developed into an important industry may be deduced from the fact that M. E. Ragozino, of Naples, one of the most prominent stamp dealers in Italy, and with whom I have had important transactions for many years past, has practically ceased selling stamps in favour of picture-cards. M. Ragozino has two large establishments in Naples—wholesale and retail—one being a very extensive corner shop in the superb Gallery Umberto, which seems to be thronged from morning to night with eager purchasers. M. Ragozino, in fact, informed me that he is doing a large and successful business, and that he regarded the stamp as quite a side issue.

At Rome I had the pleasure of meeting my old friend Dr. Emilio Diena, and my visit to the capital was rendered very enjoyable owing to his courtesy and kind offices in looking after me. The doctor is at present very busy with his forthcoming work on the stamps of Sicily, as to which he gave me interesting information that it would not be fair to announce before the appearance of the book. Suffice it to say that both as to text and illustration the work will be found to be one of the highest philatelic interest. I much regretted that the shortness of my visit did not allow me to inspect Dr. Diena's very fine collection of Italian stamps, which has a great historical interest and embraces specimens unused, used, and on original covers. *Apropos* of the latter, the doctor informed me that the large and very interesting collection of M. Fino, of Milan, that was shown at the Manchester Exhibition, had changed ownership, having been sold to one of the best-known Italian collectors. As is well known in England, there are in Rome several collectors of importance, but I could not gather that there was any community of interest in the guise of philatelic societies.

From Italy I have come on to the Riviera (writes Mr. Castle at a later date), and in this sunny spot people's ideas run rather to "frocks and frills" than to Philately. There has, however, been a fair representation of collectors here, M. Paul Mirabaud having been here, and among well-known stamp-folk I have come across Mr. W. W. Mann, Mr. L. L. R. Hausburg, Dr. Stanley Taylor, Mr. Harold Hillman, and others.

MESSRS. WHITFIELD KING AND CO.'S CATALOGUE.

WE have received a copy of the new edition of this catalogue from the publishers, which seems to bear out the excellent work of its predecessors, but regret that we must defer its review until our next issue.

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.

GREAT BRITAIN.—Mr. A. B. Creeke informs us that the following values of the current adhesives, etc., overprinted "ADMIRALTY OFFICIAL," have been issued.

Adhesives. ½d., green.
1d., scarlet.
1½d., purple and green.
2d., green and scarlet.
2½d., ultramarine.
3d., brown on yellow.
Registration Envelope. 3d., brown.
Post Card. ½d., green.

AUSTRALIAN COMMONWEALTH.—The 2d. and 3d. of the Postage Due series, with the space at foot filled in, have reached the *M. J.* or *Ewen's.*

Postage Due. 2d., emerald-green; altered type.
3d. ,, ,,

BERMUDA.—Messrs. P. L. Pemberton and Co. have sent us specimens of ¼d. and ½d. wrappers for use here.

The design is similar to the new 1d. adhesive lately issued.

Wrappers. ½d., brown on buff.
½d., green ,,

CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.—The 4d. and 5s. values of the King's Head set have reached this side, and Messrs. P. L. Pemberton and Co. and Bright and Son have supplied us with specimens.

A ½d. wrapper is listed by *Mekeel's Weekly.*

Adhesives. 4d., sage-green; wmk. Anchor; perf. 14.
5s., orange-brown ,, ,,
Wrapper. ½d., green on amber.

CEYLON.—From several sources we hear that the first stamps to appear with the King's Head are a 5 c. adhesive and a 10 c. Registration envelope.

Adhesive. 5 c., lilac; CA; perf. 14.
Registration Envelope. 10 c., rose.

CYPRUS.—Specimen copies of the King's Head set have reached Washington, and the *Metropolitan Philatelist* gives the values and colours as follows:—

Adhesives. 30 paras, green and purple.
1 piastre, blue and carmine.
4 ,, purple and olive-green.
6 ,, pale green and brownish green.
12 ,, black and brown.

FIJI.—*Ewen's Weekly* has received the ½d. V.R. issue, perf. 11½ × 12.

Adhesive. ½d., dark grey-green; no wmk.; perf. 11½ × 12.

HONG KONG.—Here again the *Metropolitan Philatelist* is able to give early information of the values and colours of the remainder of the set taken from specimen copies.

Adhesives.

2 cents, light green.
4 ,, brown on salmon.
5 ,, orange and light green.
8 ,, violet and black.
10 ,, ultramarine and mauve, on light blue paper.
12 ,, brown and green on yellow.
20 ,, brown and black.
Head in second colour.

INDIA.—*Gwalior.*—The *P. J. of India* has been informed of the issue of the Queen's Head ½ anna, pea-green (shades), and 1 anna, carmine, surcharged for official use.

Officials.

½ anna, pea-green (shades), with Service overprint.
1 ,, carmine, with Service overprint.

Puttialla.—A correspondent tells us that he possesses the ½ a., No. 35, and the 12 a., No. 44, with the second "A" in "PATIALA" deficient of the crossbar, like an inverted "V."—*M. J.*

MAURITIUS.—Some provisional post cards are listed by the *P. J. G. B.*

Each half of the 8 cents reply card has been surcharged "2 Cents," with a line through the old value.

In the reply half the word "Reply" has been obliterated with a thick line, and the cards are sold separately as singles. There are two varieties of the line that obliterates the old value, which is sometimes thin and sometimes thick.

Post Cards.

2 c. on 8 c., black and carmine on cream; first half.
2 c. on 8 c. ,, ,, ,, second half.

NEW ZEALAND.—As predicted, the higher values are arriving perforated 14 instead of 11. We have to chronicle the 4d. in this new perforation on the new paper, blued on the face side, wmk. single-line N Z and Star. —*Australian Philatelist.*

Adhesive.

4d., brown and blue; wmk. single-lined N Z and Star; perf. 14.

Messrs. Louis E. Bradbury and A. H. Stamford send us the 8d. value on the new paper, perf. 11, and a Post Office Express Delivery stamp, value 6d., oblong in shape, and perf. 11. The inscription on the latter reads, "POST OFFICE" at top, "EXPRESS DELIVERY" in the middle, and at foot, "SECURES IMMEDIATE DELIVERY AT A SPECIAL DELIVERY OFFICE." In the centre of the stamp there is a white shield, upon which the value, 6d., is printed in red, the body of the stamp being in violet. It is printed on the new watermarked paper—at least the specimens sent by Mr. Bradbury are. The copies received from Mr. Stamford appear to be on thicker paper, are badly perforated, and the watermark is difficult to make out.

Adhesive.

8d., blue; wmk. single-lined N Z and Star; perf. 11.

Special Delivery Stamp.

6d., violet and red; wmk. as above.

ORANGE RIVER COLONY.—Early last year we gave particulars of the proof of a new 2½d. stamp bearing the King's Head, etc., which had been submitted for approval.

The design has been accepted, and the 1d. value has been received from Messrs. Whitfield King and Co.

Adhesive. 1d., carmine; C A; perf. 14.

QUEENSLAND.—The following is taken from the *Australian Philatelist*:—

"Mr. Van Weenen has shown us an official reply to some questions asked the Deputy Postmaster-General *re* the 6d., green, with the figure '6' in the lower corners only; it is stated that this stamp was never issued by the department. In the official book of stamps they have one copy, which is marked as an essay. It appears that only four in a block were printed, but what has become of the other three it is impossible to say.

"The Government printer does not appear to have any record of it."

Our contemporary goes on to say:—

"There is no intention to issue a new 2s. 6d. stamp. A 9d. stamp has been submitted to the head office for approval, but up to date no intimation of it having been approved has been received by the authorities in Brisbane."

ST. VINCENT.—A wrapper bearing the King's Head is reported.

Wrapper. ½d., green on buff.

SIERRA LEONE.—To our lists of stationery belonging to the King's Head issue must be added a wrapper.

Wrapper. ½d., green on buff.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA.—The *Australian Philatelist* remarks that the new 2s. 6d. value, "POSTAGE" only, is now appearing in a much deeper colour.

A used specimen of the 2d., orange, perf. 15, with tall "O S" *inverted*, has reached the *P. J. G. B.* *Adhesive.*

2s. 6d., violet, "POSTAGE" only; perf. 11½, clean-cut.
Official. 2d., orange; perf. 15, tall "O S" *inverted.*

SUDAN.—We see from *Mekeel's* that another value, 3 m., has appeared on the paper with the new watermark, and also that there is a set of Official stamps surcharged in sans-serif block letters, "O.S.G.S."

Adhesive. 3 m., green and purple; multiple wmk.

Officials.

3 m., green and purple; surcharged "O.S.G.S."
5 m., black and carmine ,, ,,
1 p., colour ?
2 p. ,, ?
5 p. ,, ?

TONGA.—Two interesting varieties have been submitted to the *Australian Philatelist* —the ½d. on 7½d. on 2d., type-written surcharge, the words "Half-Penny" being a double surcharge; and the ½d. on 7½d. on 2d., value in Tongan reading upwards, the latter being also a double overprint.

EUROPE.

ICELAND.—We are told by the *M. J.* that the centres of the new Official stamps are printed in sepia and not in black.

It is reported that on each sheet of 100 of the new 20 aur *postage* stamps there may be found two stamps inscribed "PJONUSTA" instead of "FRIMERKI," and *Ewen's Weekly* asks whether this error is a public or official stamp. We think it should be catalogued as an "Official," error of colour.

The surcharge $\frac{\text{i Gildi}}{\text{'02 '03}}$ appears in black on the following Officials of the old type:—

5 aur, brown.
10 ,, blue.
20 ,, green.
50 ,, lilac.

Official. 20 aur, blue and black (error); new type.

SERVIA.—Another value, the 1 dinar, is reported, similar in size and design to the current 3 and 5 dinars.

Adhesive. 1 dinar, light brown; perf. 11½.

SWITZERLAND.—We gather from the *M. C.* that a new wrapper has been issued.

Wrapper. 2 centimes, black on pale yellow.

WURTEMBERG.—The *M. C.* chronicles two new values of the Official set.

In each the words "AMTLICHER VERKEHR" and the numerals of value are in black.

Officials. 30 pfennig, orange and black.
40 ,, claret ,,

AMERICA.

ARGENTINE REPUBLIC.—Some new stationery has to be recorded.

Letter Card. 4 c., orange-red on buff, white interior.
Wrappers. 1 c., blue on manilla.
2 c., slate on buff.

COLOMBIAN REPUBLIC.—*Panama.*—The 50 c., bistre-brown, of 1896 has been bisected diagonally.

Mekeel's has examined a specimen which was used as a 25 c. stamp on December 31st, 1902.

Our contemporary remarks that the cancellation was apparently genuine, and no charge was made for unpaid postage.

Provisional.

Half of the 50 c., bistre-brown, of 1896 used as a 25 c. stamp.

COSTA RICA.—Errors of the provisional Official listed on page 18 are reported. One has the surcharge "PROVISIORO," and another "PROVISOIO."

ECUADOR.—The provisionals and district surcharges now appearing are getting so numerous that we may have to drop them as we did those of Salvador.

In the meantime we note in *Mekeel's* that the 25 c., bistre, 1901–2, fiscal, has been surcharged in a long vertical oval "Correos UN CENTAVO," in black.

Provisional.

1 c. on 25, bistre, fiscal of 1901–2; surcharge as above.

GUATEMALA.—A set of Officials has lately appeared, and the *P. R.* informs us that they are type-set, bear the words "Franqueo Oficial Guatemala, 1902," and the value in figures within an ornamental border.

The "0" of 20 c. in this value has been changed into a "5," in black.

Officials. 1 c., green; perf. 12.
2 c., carmine; perf. 12.
5 c., blue; perf. 12.
10 c., brown-violet; perf. 12.
25 c., brown-orange and black; perf. 12.

HONDURAS.—Some uncatalogued varieties of the 1898 issues are noted in the *Metropolitan Philatelist.*

Adhesives.

1 centavo, brown, on vertically laid paper.
5 centavos, ultramarine ,, ,,
6 ,, lilac, on horizontally ,,
5 ,, ,, on wove paper.
5 ,, violet-brown ,,

MEXICO.—The 5 c. envelope is reported in a new colour.

Envelope. 5 centavos, orange-vermilion.

NICARAGUA.—Other values of the new set are listed, and we have now to add:—

Adhesives. 1 c., emerald-green and black; perf. 12.
2 c., carmine ,, ,,

PARAGUAY.—Another provisional 5 c. "Habilitado" stamp has been made by surcharging the 80 c., blue, "Habilitado En Cinco—5 cent. 5," in black, reading upwards. Messrs. Whitfield King and Co. send us a specimen.

Adhesive. 5 cent. on 80 c., blue; surcharge as above.

SALVADOR.—We have to add to the list of the new issue given on page 43.

Mekeel's states that the stamps are watermarked with the letter S.

Adhesives.

1 c., green, wmk. S; perf. 14½×14.
2 c., carmine ,, ,,
10 c., brown-lilac ,, ,,
12 c., slate ,, ,,
24 c., red ,, ,,
50 c., yellow ,, ,,
100 c., blue ,, ,,

UNITED STATES.—Messrs. Whitfield King and Co. have sent us the new 1 c. stamp, and Messrs. P. L. Pemberton and Co. the 3 c. and 4 c. We hear that the 10 c. has also been put into circulation.

Adhesives. 1 c., green; wmk. USPS; perf. 12.
3 c., violet ,, ,,
4 c., brown ,, ,,
10 c., yellow-brown ,, ,,

OTHER COUNTRIES.

CHINA.—A correspondent in India tells the *M. J.* that he obtained a few months back a copy of the 1 c., No. 87 in the Catalogue, overprinted "4 cents," in *black*, at foot, which came on a letter from China.

It is strange that this variety (if genuine), has not been heard of before.

ERITREA.—A correspondent of *Ewen's Weekly* writes:—

"The Postmaster-General announces that on the 1st of April, 1903, the colony of Eritrea will be furnished with a new set of postage stamps with portrait of Victor Emmanuel III. This new set will be made by surcharging in black 'Colonia Eritrea' on the current stamps of Italy, and the values will consequently be:—1, 2, 5, 10, 20,

25, 40, 50 cent., 1, 5 lire. Also the new post cards will be similarly overprinted. The present set of stamps will remain available for use till 31st March, 1904."

FERNANDO POO.—A new set for 1903 is expected, but no particulars are yet to hand as to colours, etc.

FRENCH POST OFFICES ABROAD.—Additions have to be made to the lists we gave on pages 272 and 294, vol. xi., and pages 19 and 44, vol. xii. The following particulars are taken from various sources, and specimens of some of the stamps reach us from Messrs. Whitfield King and Co.

Alexandria—

15 c., carmine.
20 c., brown-purple.
25 c., blue.
30 c., lilac.

Cavalle—

10 c., rose.
15 c., carmine.
20 c., brown-violet.
1 p., in black, on 25 c., blue.

Crete—

10 c., carmine.
15 c., red.
20 c., brown-violet.
25 c., blue.
30 c., lilac.

1 piastre on 25 c., blue
2 piastres on 50 c., cinnamon and lavender
4 ,, 1 fr., lake and yellow-green
8 ,, 2 fr., slate and dull yellow
20 ,, 5 fr., deep blue and buff
} surcharged in black.

Dedeagh—

10 c., rose.
15 c., carmine.
20 c., brown-violet.
1 p., in black, on 25 c., blue.

French China—

10 c., red.
15 c., carmine.
20 c., brown-violet.
25 c., blue.
30 c., lilac.

French Levant—

15 c., pale red.
20 c., brown-lilac.
1 p. on 25 c., blue.

French Morocco—

15 centimos, in black, on 15 c., carmine.
20 ,, ,, 20 c., brown-violet.
25 ,, ,, 25 c., blue.

Port Said—

10 c., rose.
20 c., brown-lilac.
25 c., blue.
30 c., lilac.

HAYTI.—*Mekeel's Weekly* notes the 5 c., *sky-blue*, 10 c., and 50 c. of the surcharged issue, with the overprint inverted, to be added to those already listed.—*M. J.*

HOI-HAO.—The overprint "Hoi-Hao" on the 15 c., *blue*, Indo-China stamps is believed to be the work of a local forger.

If this be true, we trust the report that *only* 150 copies were manufactured is correct.

IVORY COAST.—We are told by *Ewen's* that the 50 c. and 1 fr. Postage Due stamps of the French Colonies are surcharged "Cote d'Ivoire—Colis—Postaux," for use as Parcel Post stamps.

PERSIA.—*Ewen's Weekly* states that the new 50 krans stamp has already been converted into other values by means of overprinting, and adds, on the authority of a Continental journal, that the 5 and 12 chahi, and 1, 2, 5, and 10 krans, have been surcharged "*Service.*"

2 tomans, in blue, on 50 kr., green.
3 ,, in black, on 50 kr. ,,

Official Stamps.
5 ch, rose.
12 ,, blue.
1 kr., mauve.
2 ,, blue.
5 ,, light brown.
10 ,, vermilion.

PORTUGUESE COLONIES.—Messrs Bright and Son send us the following list of new issues or changes in colours.

Cabo Verde, *Guiné*, *S. Thome*, *Congo*, *Angola*, *Lourenco Marques*, *Moçambique*, and *Zambezia*—

15 reis, green.
25 ,, rose.
50 ,, brown.
65 ,, grey.
75 ,, lilac-rose.
115 ,, brown on rose.
130 ,, brown on yellow.
400 ,, blue on yellow.

Macau—

2 avos.
3 ,,
4 ,,
5 ,,
6 ,,
8 ,,
10 avos.
12 ,,
13 ,,
18 ,,
20 ,,
31 ,,

Portuguese India—

1 real.
1½ reis.
2 ,,
2½ ,,
3 ,,
5 ,,
9 ,,
1 tanga.
2 tangas.
2½ ,,
5 ,,
8 ,,
12 ,,
1 rupia.
2 rupias.

Timor—

3 avos.
5 ,,
6 ,,
9 ,,
10 ,,
12 ,,
13 avos.
15 ,,
22 ,,
31 ,,
47 ,,
78 ,,

Philatelic Societies' Meetings.

Philatelic Society, London.

Council for the Year 1902–1903.

President—
H.R.H. The Prince of Wales, K.G., etc.
Vice-President—The Earl of Crawford, K.T.
Hon. Secretary—J. A. Tilleard.
Hon. Treasurer—C. N. Biggs.
Hon. Assistant Secretary—H. R. Oldfield.
Hon. Librarian—T. Maycock.

W. B. Avery.	T. W. Hall.
E. D. Bacon.	L. L. R. Hausburg.
M. P. Castle, J.P. (*Hon. Vice-President.*)	C. E. McNaughtan.
R. Ehrenbach.	Franz Reichenheim.
	Gordon Smith.

The eighth meeting of the season 1902–1903 was held at Effingham House, on Friday the 6th February, 1902, at 7.45 p.m.

The members in attendance were Messrs. E. D. Bacon, W. Dorning Beckton, H. R. Oldfield, R. Meyer, W. N. Usher, C. N. Biggs, T. Maycock, T. W. Hall, C. McNaughtan, L. W. Fulcher, W. Schwabacher, R. B. Yardley, E. J. Nankivell, Gordon Smith, A. R. Barrett, and J. A. Tilleard.

The chair was taken by Mr. E. D. Bacon, and the minutes of the meeting held on the 23rd January were read and signed as correct.

The members then proceeded to the election of Mr. W. A. R. Jex Long (proposed by Dr. W. J. Tivy, and seconded by Mr. P. J. Lloyd), who, after ballot, was declared duly elected.

Mr. W. Dorning Beckton then read some notes on the earlier issues of the stamps of Roumania, illustrated by a display of his collection of this country. Considerable interest was shown both in the notes and in the stamps exhibited, and at the conclusion of Mr. Beckton's remarks a very hearty vote of thanks was moved by Mr. Gordon Smith, expressing the pleasure of the members present, and particularly thanking Mr. Beckton for having come specially from Manchester to read the notes and show the stamps. This resolution was seconded by Mr. T. W. Hall, and, after some remarks by the Chairman, was put to the meeting and carried unanimously.

The ninth meeting of the season was held at Effingham House, on Friday the 20th February, 1903, at 7.45 p.m., the chair being occupied by Mr. C. N. Biggs, in the absence of the Vice-President and the Hon. Vice-President.

Two visitors were present, and the following members were also in attendance, viz. Messrs. W. Schwabacher, Gordon Smith, R. Meyer, R. Frentzel, J. C. Sidebotham, L. E. Bradbury, C. McNaughtan, A. R. Barrett, T. Maycock, R. B. Yardley, L. W. Fulcher, B. D. Knox, and J. A. Tilleard.

The minutes of the last meeting having been read and confirmed, the Hon. Secretary reported the death of Mr. Mercer and Miss Feyl de Pfeil, both members of the Society, and the announcement was received with much regret.

A letter was read from Mr. Beamish intimating his desire to retire from membership, and his resignation was directed to be accepted with regret.

The meeting then proceeded to ballot for the Rev. C. E. Atkinson, D.D., proposed by Mr. L. E. Bradbury, and seconded by Mr. H. R. Oldfield; and Mr. H. Bennett, proposed by Mr. Beckton, and seconded by Mr. C. N. Biggs. Both candidates were declared duly elected members of the Society.

Mr. Schwabacher read a paper entitled "A Bird's-eye View of Fiscal Philately," tracing the growth of this branch from an early date, and claiming amongst other inducements to collectors the large field of study which "fiscals" afford, the practical absence of forgeries of these stamps, and the possibility of the acquisition of a good collection without great expense.

The paper was accompanied by a display comprising a large number of beautiful and interesting examples of the fiscal stamps of Great Britain, Mauritius and other British colonies, the Transvaal, and other countries, including a fine series of the issues of Mexico.

A hearty vote of thanks to Mr. Schwabacher for his interesting paper and display, and for affording the members present an insight into a branch of Philately outside the ordinary objects of the Society, was moved by Mr. Fulcher, and seconded by the Hon. Secretary, and being put to the meeting was carried unanimously.

Birmingham Philatelic Society.

Hon. Secretary—
Mr. G. Johnson, B.A., 208, Birchfield Road, Birmingham.

Dec. 4th.—Auction of 227 lots, nearly all of which were mint colonials. After the sale the following were unanimously elected members: Prince de Nissole, Messrs. D. P. Masson, J. Bryson, Watkin Watkins, W. Batty Mapplebeck, C. H. Goulden. Messrs. Bright and Son were thanked for a copy of their new catalogue.

Jan. 8th.—Discussion, "N.S.W., 1854–1883," and a display of these issues by Messrs. Pimm, Peck, and Wadams. Further details will be published after the next discussion.

Messrs. H. Wade, P. D. Gelling-Hayton, W. Hart, A. Bishop, W. J. Newton, M.A., F.R.G.S., W. Johannides, were unanimously elected members.

Messrs. H. L. Hayman, P. Fabri, H. Dethloff, A. Sempad, W. M. Thompson, and Prince de Nissole were thanked for contributions to the permanent collection, and W. Morley for a number of periodicals and catalogues.

The next auction will take place on February 26th and 27th, for which a very fine lot of stamps has already been sent in. Any others must reach the Hon. Secretary by January 26th.

The Philatelic Society of India.

The Annual General Meeting of the Society was held at Mr. Larmour's residence, Calcutta, on Friday the 19th December, 1902, at six o'clock, Mr. C. F. Larmour being in the chair.

A provisional statement disclosing a satisfactory financial position was presented, and a few minor alterations made in the rules, which, as amended, were ordered to be published in the Journal. Mr. E. W. Wetherell was accorded a special vote of thanks for his editorship of the *Philatelic Journal of India* during 1902. The Hon. Mr. D. P. Masson was invited to publish his series of articles on the stamps of Afghanistan which have appeared in the Journal during the year in the form of a handbook; and the fact was noted with pleasure that the fiscal issues of India are at last receiving careful attention, as evidenced by the instructive articles of Mr. C. H. Crosse in course of publication in the Journal. A discussion on the subject of an exhibition in Calcutta in the cold weather of 1903-4 was adjourned to the March meeting.

A *souvenir* of interest to Philatelists to be issued with the Delhi Durbar Postal Guide was announced. It consists of a complete collection of the whole of the adhesives (both Victorian and Edwardian) now on sale at the post offices throughout India. The stamps (of all values from 3 pies to 5 rupees) bear an official overprint (it can hardly be termed a postmark) indicating the special circumstances of their appearance. The guide will only be procurable at Delhi at noon on the 1st January, 1903, and its issue should aid very considerably in reducing the stock of remainders of the stamps of the last reign.

The following honorary officers were appointed for 1903: President, Mr. C. Stewart-Wilson, I.C.S. (Lahore); Vice-Presidents, The Right Hon. the Earl of Crawford, K.T. (London), Mr. W. Dorning Beckton (Manchester), Mr. C. F. Larmour (Calcutta), and the Hon. Mr. D. P. Masson, C.I.E. (Lahore); Secretary, Mr. W. Corfield (Calcutta); Treasurer, Mr. D. P. Masson (Lahore); Librarian, Mr. T. Hoffman (Calcutta); Editor of the Journal, Mr. C. Stewart-Wilson (Lahore); Council, the above *ex-officio*, and Lieut.-Col. G. F. A. Harris (Calcutta), Lieut.-Col. C. P. Lukis (Agra), and Messrs. G. A. Anderson (Bombay), W. James (Calcutta), F. N. Schiller (Calcutta), P. A. Selfe (Calcutta), and E. W. Wetherell (Bangalore).

W. CORFIELD, *Hon. Sec.*

CALCUTTA, *December 20th*, 1902.

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. A. CHURCHILL EMERSON (Advertising Department), Effingham House, Arundel Street, London, W.C.

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THE GREAT BRITAIN P.O. CIRCULAR OF 1841.

To the Editor of the "London Philatelist."

DEAR SIR,—With reference to Mr. Dendy Marshall's interesting note, is it not probable that very few of the new stamps were sold in Scotland before the new black composition arrived?

The first paragraph of circular reads: "I enclose you specimens of the new labels, which are intended to replace those in present use when the stock of the latter shall be exhausted. In the meantime, however, these new stamps are to be brought into immediate use in common with those now circulating."

This wording probably meant that the old stamps were to be sold out at each office before commencing to sell the new ones, but as certain offices would have sold out earlier than others, the circular informed all postmasters as to the new issue, so that the stamps might be recognised as genuine and duly authorised. It is quite possible, therefore, that the new stamps were only on sale at a limited number of offices before the black composition arrived, which presumably was as soon after February 12th as possible.

Though the circular is not dated, it was probably issued about the same time as the English editions, judging from the next Scotch circular (enclosing a specimen of the 2d. envelope), which is dated Edinburgh, April, 1841.

It may be interesting to note that the 2d. specimen envelope enclosed with this latter circular is the rare variety with all flaps pointed, and the larger 1d. one sent with the earlier circular measured 128 × 82 mm. (see Philbrick and Westoby, *Stamps of Great Britain*, page 181, footnote).

Yours faithfully,

S. CHAPMAN.

225, S. GRESHAM HOUSE,
OLD BROAD ST., E.C., *March 3rd*, 1903.

DEAR SIR,—We were pleased to see your kind remarks in reviewing our *1903 Popular British and Colonial Price List*, and would venture to call your attention to an error you fell into. You make it appear that we do not quote for unused stamps; but this is only in regard to Great Britain. For all other colonies we quote prices for used and unused stamps. We should be glad if you can find space for this correction in the next number of your valuable journal, otherwise your remarks might give a wrong impression.

Yours faithfully,

P. L. PEMBERTON AND CO.

229, HIGH HOLBORN, LONDON, W.C.,
March 10th, 1903.

The Market.

NOTE.—*Under this title will be inserted all the information that may refer in any way to the financial aspects of Philately*, e.g. *the sales or values of stamps, the state of the Market, Trade publications, etc.*

MESSRS. PLUMRIDGE AND CO.

Sale of February 17th and 18th, 1903.

* Unused.

	£	s.	d.
British South Africa, 1896, 1d. on 4s., grey*	1	15	0
Great Britain, 1847–54, 10d., oct., brown*	3	0	0
Ditto, 1885, "I.R. Official," 1s., green, *used*	1	14	0
Sandwich Islands, 1853, thick paper, 13 c., red*		18	0
Straits Settlements, 1895, $10, hor. pair,* mint	3	0	0
Transvaal, "V.R.I." inverted on 1s., very fine, on entire original, with censor's mark, postmarked Heidelberg, June 2nd, 1902	2	4	0
U.S.A., set of sixteen "Columbus,"* mint	2	15	0

* * *

Sale of March 3rd and 4th, 1903.

* Unused.

	£	s.	d.
Bahamas, 1861, rough perfs., no wmk., 4d., rose,* part gum	1	14	0
Cape of Good Hope, triangular, 6d., pair,* mint	2	15	0
Ditto, 1882–3, C A, 5s., orange	1	5	0
Ceylon, 9d., lilac-brown, imperf.	2	11	0
Ditto, 1s. 9d., yellow-green, ditto	2	15	0
Ditto, 1d., blue, C C, perf. 11½*	3	3	0
Cyprus, 1s., green, pair, heavily postmarked	1	14	0
Danish West Indies, 14 c., green and lilac,* mint	1	2	0
Great Britain, 1857, Large Crown, perf. 16, 1d., rose-red on white, horizontal pair,* mint	6	10	0
Ditto, ditto, ditto, perf. 14, 1d., rose-red, block of seventy-two,* mint	3	3	0
Ditto, 1858–64, 2d., Plate 8, block of four,* ditto	1	18	0
Ditto, 1855–87, 6d., no letters, on blued paper*	3	10	0
Ditto, 2s., brown*	4	10	0
Ditto, 1867, 5s., rose, Plate 1,* mint	1	10	0
Ditto, 10s., grey-green, Anchor	1	10	0
Ditto, 1873, 2½d., rose, Plate 3, wmk. Orb, a block of six, one stamp has slight ink spot and there are two slight creases, otherwise mint	8	0	0
Ditto, O. W. OFFICIAL, 10d., purple and scarlet, Queen's Head	6	15	0
Jhind, 1885, black surcharge, 8 a., dull mauve*	1	18	0
Newfoundland, 5d., brown, sheet of forty*	6	0	0
Queensland, 1860, 6d., imperf.	1	18	0
Ditto, 1860–61, 1s., dull violet, clean-cut perf.,* no gum	4	10	0
Moldavia, 1854, 54 p., cut round	4	10	0
South Australia, 1859, colonial print, 2d., dull red*	3	12	6
Ditto, 10d., in black, on 9d., yellow, perf. 11½,* mint	4	15	0
Tonga, 1887–92, perf. 12½, 1d., rose-carmine, two*	4	12	6
Transvaal, 1878, fine roulette, 6d., blue on green,* mint	2	0	0
Ditto, ditto, imperf., 6d., blue on green with surcharge inverted,* but damaged	3	0	0
Ditto, ditto, ditto, wide roulette, 3d., mauve on green, a very fine copy of this rarity	4	7	6
Ditto, 1900, "V.R.I.", 2½d., inverted surcharge	1	11	0
Ditto, ditto, ditto, 4d., ditto	4	4	0
Ditto, ditto, ditto, 6d., ditto, vertical pair	2	10	0
Trinidad, 1s., bright mauve, perf. 13	1	10	0

* * *

MESSRS. VENTOM, BULL, AND COOPER.

Sale of February 19th and 20th, 1903.

* Unused.

	£	s.	d.
Great Britain, 1855–57, 6d., lilac on blue paper, a horizontal pair, used, on front of original envelope	4	12	6
Ditto, 2s., brown, thinned	2	2	0
Bergedorf, 1½ sch., used on piece	1	18	0
Russia, 1st issue, watermarked, 20 k.,* with gum	3	15	0
India, Jhind State, on Indian, 1st issue, 8 annas and 1 rupee, both* with gum	3	12	6
Straits Settlements, 1879–82, provisional 5 c. on 4 c., rose, a horizontal pair*	2	0	0
Natal, first issue, 1d., buff, a horizontal strip of three, on entire envelope, creased	4	7	6
Ditto, watermark Star, 3d., blue, imperforate, a horizontal pair*	2	0	0
U.S.A., Agriculture, full set of nine,* with gum	2	10	0
Ditto, Justice, set of ten, used, some faulty	3	10	0
Ditto, Navy, 1 and 30 c., used	3	0	0
Ditto, State, set of eleven*	3	7	6
St. Vincent, 5s., Star wmk.,* with gum	6	6	0

	£	s.	d.
British Honduras, 1885, 6d., yellow,* full gum	2	0	0
Nevis, 4d., litho, reconstructed plate of twelve	3	7	6
Trinidad, 1d., blue, litho, on thick paper, no margins on two sides	2	14	0
Buenos Ayres, 5 pesos, orange	4	12	6
U.S. Colombia, 1862, 1 peso, lilac*	1	16	0
Peru, first issue, Pacific Steam Navigation Co.'s stamps, 2 rls., brown-red, with Lima postmark, very rare	16	10	0
Ditto, ½ peso, orange-yellow, a fine horizontal strip of ten, exceedingly rare in this state, and probably unique	16	0	0

Collections, 814, £37; 4,672, £27; and 4,583, £19 10s.

* * *

Sale of March 5th and 6th, 1903.

* Unused.

	£	s.	d.
Great Britain, 1847–54, 6d., violet,* with gum	4	4	0
Tuscany, 2 soldi	4	5	0
Ditto, 60 crazie	10	15	0
Ditto, 9 crazie, lilac-grey	2	15	0
Spain, 1851, 2 reales*	18	10	0
Ceylon, 9d., brown, imperf.	3	0	0
Labuan, first issue, 2 c., blue-green, wmk. sideways,* mint	4	5	0
Ditto, 1880, provisional, "6," in red, on 16 c., blue, a brilliant unused specimen in mint state with the lower "6" upright, very rare	8	0	0
British East Africa, provisional, value surcharged in violet with a hand-stamp, "½ anna" A.D. on 2 annas vermilion	5	10	0
Guinea, first issue, 10 r., orange-yellow	3	3	0
Natal, first issue, 1d., rose	2	6	0
Ditto, ditto, 6d., green	3	0	0
U.S.A., Executive, set of five complete*	5	10	0
Ditto, Justice, 1 to 30 c.*	5	2	6
Ditto, ditto, 90 c.,* mint	4	0	0
Ditto, ditto, 1 to 90 c., used	6	5	0
Nevis, 1867, 1s., yellow-green*	6	0	0
Barbados, 1870, Large Star, rough perf., 1s., black,* with gum	2	14	0
Ditto, 1873, Large Star, clean-cut perf., 4d., dull rose-red,* with gum	2	14	0
British Guiana, 1852, 1 c., black on magenta	7	10	0
Ditto, ditto, 4 c., ditto on deep blue	7	10	0
Ditto, 1853, 1 c., vermilion, horizontal pair	4	17	6
Ditto, with small letter "o" to "one," 1 c., red-brown, a superb horizontal strip of four on entire	14	5	0
Ditto, a fine horizontal pair, used, on piece	3	12	6
Ditto, 1856, 4 c., on magenta, a fine cut-square specimen, on large piece of original	7	0	0
Ditto, ditto, another, used, on envelope, corners clipped and a little rubbed one side	3	17	6
Ditto, ditto, 4 c., black on blue, corners clipped, used, on original and very fine, an extreme rarity	92	0	0
Ditto, 1862, 4 c., black on blue, pearl in heart border, roulettes at bottom	5	0	0
British Guiana, another fine specimen with trefoil border and full roulettes	6	2	6
Ditto, 1876, 96 c., drab,* full gum	2	0	0
Ditto, 1888–89, $1, green,* mint	2	18	0
Porto Rico, 1877, 10 c., brown, error	2	8	0
St. Vincent, 5s., Star wmk.*	7	10	0
Victoria, Too Late stamp	2	0	0
Ditto, 5s., blue on yellow	2	15	0

Collections of British Colonials in plain album, 1600, £112, and 1780, £135.

* * *

Messrs. Puttick and Simpson.

Sale of February 24th and 25th, 1903.

* Unused.

	£	s.	d.
Gibraltar, 1886, ½d. to 1s., complete*	3	10	0
Ditto, 1889 (Nov.), 10 c., carmine, the rare error with figure of value omitted, two slight creases*	10	0	0
Great Britain, 1840, 1d., black, a block of twenty, with side margin and inscription, very fine, and in brilliant condition, but rather creased*	12	5	0
Ditto, 2d., deep blue, a superb block of ten, with side margin*	32	0	0
Ditto, 1847–54, 1d., red-brown, Archer roulette*	4	10	0
Ditto, ditto, octagonals, 6d., purple, a block of six, one is slightly cut into at top, and two are a little creased in bottom margin, but otherwise in brilliant condition*	17	0	0
Ditto, ditto, a single copy, a little close at bottom*	4	5	0
Ditto, ditto, another, close at left and top*	5	5	0
Ditto, ditto, 6d., dark violet, a pair; one is a little cut into at bottom, and has a small ink spot at top, other is very fine, scarce shade*	9	0	0
Ditto, ditto, 10d., brown, Die 3, a superb block of four, with large margins, and in brilliant condition, but one stamp is slightly creased*	15	0	0
Ditto, ditto, a single copy without Die No., close at left, and a little creased in right margin*	9	0	0
Ditto, ditto, another, Die 3, very fine*	3	0	0
Ditto, ditto, another, Die 4, superb*	3	17	6
Ditto, ditto, 1s., green, Die 1, a fine copy, but slightly cracked down the silk thread*	3	12	6
Ditto, ditto, 1s., green, Die 2, a vertical pair, with large margins all round; top stamp is a little damaged, but bottom stamp is very fine*	6	15	0
Ditto, 2d., blue, Large Crown, perf. 16,* no gum	9	5	0
Ditto, 1d., rose-red on white, ditto, pair*	8	0	0
Ditto, 1855–57, Small Garter, 4d., carmine, pair*	12	0	0
Ditto, ditto, Medium Garter, on blue, 4d., carmine, part gum*	12	0	0
Ditto, ditto, ditto, on white, 4d., carmine*	6	5	0
Ditto, 10s., grey, Maltese Cross, superb*	12	12	0
Ditto, £1, brown-lilac, ditto*	17	0	0
Ditto, 1s., green, Plate 12, entire pane of twenty*	6	0	0
Ditto, 8d., brown, pair*	5	15	0

	£	s.	d.
Great Britain, Plate 13, entire pane of twenty*	6	0	0
Ditto, 2s., brown*	3	10	0
Ditto, 1882-83, wmk. Anchor, 5s., rose on bluish, Plate 4*	7	10	0
Ditto, ditto, another, ditto*	7	10	0
Ditto, ditto, another, ditto*	7	10	0
Ditto, ditto, 10s., grey on bluish, superb and very rare*	48	0	0
Ditto, 1884, wmk. Crowns, £1, brown-lilac*	4	4	0
Ditto, 1888, wmk. Orbs, £1, brown-lilac*	10	10	0
British Bechuanaland, 2s., green, the rare variety with "o" omitted in overprint, thus: "Pr tectorate"*	8	0	0
Ditto, Protectorate, 2s. 6d., green*	3	7	6
Ditto, ditto, 5s., green*	6	5	0
Ditto, 10s., green*	9	15	0
British Central Africa, 1895, 1d. on 2d., green, a vertical strip of six, one stamp with *double* surcharge*	3	0	0
Ditto, ditto, 1d. on 2d., green, with *double* surcharge, the trial type printed in Blantyre*	4	0	0
British South Africa, 1891, set of four*	4	7	6
Ditto, 1896, 1d. on 3d., grey*	3	16	0
Ditto, ditto, 1d. on 4s., grey*	2	4	0
Cape of Good Hope, triangular, 1s., dark green, a superb block of four*	13	0	0
Ditto, ditto, a superb pair*	6	5	0
Ditto, ditto, a single copy*	2	10	0
Ditto, ditto, 1s., yellow-green*	3	15	0
Ditto, ditto, 6d., bright mauve, a superb block of four*	5	7	6
Ditto, ditto, 1s., emerald, a superb block of four from corner of sheet, with full margins*	18	0	0
Gold Coast, 20s., green and carmine*	5	12	6
Lagos, 1874, 1s., orange, value 15½ mm.*	3	0	0
Ditto, ditto, ditto, value 16½ mm., pair*	5	5	0
Ditto, 1876, ditto, CC, 14*	5	7	6
Ditto, 1884-6, 2s. 6d., olive-black*	3	10	0
Ditto, ditto, 5s., blue*	6	6	0
Ditto, ditto, 10s., lilac-brown*	11	11	0
St. Helena, 6d., milky blue, pair*	3	15	0
Ditto, 1884-5, CA, ½d., emerald, double surcharge*	4	15	0
Sierra Leone, 1883, CA, 4d., blue*	9	0	0
Ditto, ½ on 1½d., CC*	3	15	0
Ditto, ditto, 2½d. on 2s., lilac, Types A (square stop) and C *se tenant**	7	0	0
Ditto, ditto, 2½d. on 2s., lilac, Types A, B, and D *se tenant**	36	0	0
Bahamas, 1s., green, perf. 12½, CC*	5	0	0
Montserrat, CA, 4d., blue*	5	5	0
Nevis, 1867, 1s., yellow-green,* no gum	9	5	0
Ditto, ditto, 4d., orange, litho*	4	10	0
Ditto, ditto, another, different shade, ditto*	4	7	6
Ditto, ditto, 4d., orange-yellow, ditto*	4	17	6
Ditto, ditto, 6d., grey, ditto*	4	0	0
Ditto, ditto, another, ditto	4	0	0
Ditto, ditto, another, ditto, not full gum*	3	15	0
Ditto, 1883, Provisional, "Nevis, ½d." on half of 1d., lilac*	7	0	0
Ditto, 1883-90, wmk. CA, 6d., green*	4	10	0
St. Christopher, 1d. on 2½d., blue, the very rare small surcharge*	19	0	0
St. Lucia, 1860, Star wmk., 6d., green, pair*	8	0	0
St. Vincent, perf. 11-12½, 4d., dark blue*	4	0	0
Ditto, 1s., rose-red*	4	10	0
Ditto, 11-12½ × 15, 1s., vermilion*	5	12	6
Ditto, 1880, 1s., ditto*	6	17	6
Ditto, 5s., rose, Star* £8 10s. and	8	15	0
Ditto, 1d. on half 6d., pair*	12	0	0
Ditto, ditto, single*	3	3	0
Ditto, 1d. on 6d., yellow-green*	3	0	0
Ditto, 4d. on 1s., vermilion*	13	0	0
Ditto, 1883-84, CA, 4d., dull blue*	7	15	0
Ditto, 1885, CA, 4d., red-brown*	4	6	0
Tobago, CC, £1, mauve*	10	0	0
Ditto, CA, 6d., stone, very fine and scarce*	4	10	0
Ditto, 1886-89, provisionals, ½ Penny on 6d., stone, a block of six, centre pair being twice surcharged*	4	0	0
Trinidad, Official, 1894, ½d. to 5s.*	4	10	0
Turks Islands, 2½d. on 1s., dull blue, Type 10*	10	0	0
Virgin Islands, 1899, 4d., brown, "PENCF"*	6	6	0
British Guiana, 1853, 4 c., blue, with white line*	5	0	0
Ditto, 1862, provisionals, 1 c., black on rose, No. 17 on plate, full roulettes and gum, very fine	22	10	0
Ditto, 1875, perf. 15, 6 c., ultramarine*	3	0	0
Ditto, ditto, ditto, 12 c., lilac*	4	0	0
Ditto, 1888-89, 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5 dollars, green*	6	12	6
British Honduras, 2 cents on 1d., rose, with *inverted* surcharge	6	0	0

A very fine Catalogue.

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THE

London Philatelist:

THE MONTHLY JOURNAL OF

THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY, LONDON.

VOL. XII. APRIL, 1903. No. 136.

Discussion.

IT is to be regretted that the somewhat limited time available for the sittings of the London Philatelic Society does not permit of a fuller discussion of the many excellent papers that are read before that body. There are frequently, as a matter of necessity, many points raised both novel and important, and it goes without saying that listeners or even capable critics are loath to discuss, much less to controvert, some intricate point that the reader of the paper has been at the greatest pains to investigate and elucidate. It not infrequently happens, therefore, that the discussion practically resolves itself into simply a eulogium of the paper by the proposer and seconder of the usual vote of thanks. It is further to be regretted that, doubtless from the diffidence of the junior members, these resolutions should so very seldom emanate from the lower end of the Society's rooms, and should be left almost entirely in the hands of present or past members of the Council.

It is far easier to diagnose the complaint than to prescribe the remedy, but we feel convinced that it would greatly add to the interest of the meetings, and certainly to the philatelic knowledge of the less advanced members, if a fuller discussion could be arrived at. In order to attain this end two things are obviously requisite—more time and more knowledge. With regard to the former point, it would seem possible, on the nights devoted to a paper of any length or importance, to take only such formal business as might be absolutely necessary, leaving matters of minor importance to another meeting of less philatelic import. Beyond this it is quite feasible that the meetings could be commenced a little earlier—say a quarter of an hour.

As regards the second consideration—more knowledge or acquaintance with the subject of the debate—the only remedy that occurs to us is the

duplication, by multiple type-writing or some similar inexpensive process, of the paper to be read. If this could be accomplished, and a copy placed before each member, he would obviously have a far better opportunity to study and reply to any particular point on which he would wish either to dilate or be more fully informed on. To mention one point only: articles read before the London Society frequently bristle with figures and dates, and the owner of the most retentive memory would be at a loss to make an effective criticism thereon without the actual data before him. Assuming that the additional time could be devoted, it would be well to have a pause or interval after the completion of the reading of the paper, and then to allow half an hour to discussion and examination of the stamps submitted. In the majority of cases the exhibition of specimens is a necessary concomitant of an article, and we fear that these frequently fail to receive the minute examination and consideration that they merit. It seems clear to us that there is room for improvement in the handling of scientific papers, and, crude as perhaps may be our suggestion, we trust that the Council of the Society will give the matter their attention, and improve upon our somewhat improvised suggestions. It is becoming increasingly difficult to get good articles read, and we cannot therefore devote too much attention to the few papers that are evolved in a season.

The Reprints of Moldavia.



E are much indebted to M. G. Mihailescu for the following interesting and important letter on this question, by which it will be seen that the final judgment as to the status of these reprints must be withheld :—

"BUCHAREST, *March*, 1903.

"A friend of mine has lately shown me your journal, in which I find my name figuring with regard to the Moldavian Reprints. For the last five years I have been living in the country, and I have had nothing to do with stamps; but I very well recollect that in 1891 the late Director of the Post had all the four values of the first issue of Moldavia reprinted in black ink on white paper, also in coloured ink on papers of colours similar to those used for the old stamps.

"I know that this is true, and I can affirm that the late Mons. Gorjan presented me with two sets on coloured paper and one set of black on white, which in turn I passed on to friends, only keeping the three specimens sent herewith, which I present to you for the Philatelic Society of London, as I understand that a certain M. Paul Paulescu, whose real name is Paul Focseaneanu, has been working a species of chicanery of the very first order, recommending the stamps under the name of Paulescu, and criticising them under his real name of Focseaneanu, in order to obtain them for nothing!

"This humbug has not, however, been very successful, as he has only found one collector, Mons. ——, who has fallen into the snare, as the others have better known how to appreciate the true value of his rarities.

"I have lately heard that a former employee of the manufactory of postage stamps, named Constantine Wach, has sold some of these reprints to several collectors and dealers, and it seems that the article in the *Echo de la Timbrologie* was written in support of M. Wach, who was in want of a recommendation.

"As regards the question of Reprints there is no doubt, and if the late M. Gorjan had them printed on paper differing a little from that of the old issue of 1858, this was only done in order to prevent dealers of bad repute selling them as being originals of the first issue.

"Accept, etc.,

"G. MIHAILESCU.

"P.S.—I enclose the three stamps, 81, 108, and 5 paras, in order that you may possess specimens for comparison."

The specimens so kindly sent by M. Mihailescu, which will be both of interest and value to the Expert Committee of the London Society, are as follows:—

1854. 81 paras. Impression dull slate-blue, on horizontally laid blue paper. The impression is fairly clear and distinct, but the outer circle is weak and uneven in certain places. In general colour and appearance the stamp, however, closely resembles the originals, and (writing without copies available for reference) we should think it extremely difficult for anyone to say that it was not original, were it not for the fact that it is printed on horizontally laid instead of wove paper. As our correspondent says, the late M. Gorjan purposely printed these stamps on paper different from that of the originals, and it is indeed fortunate that he took this precaution.

108 paras. Impression in dull violet, on pale rose wove paper. The colours, both of the printing and the paper, are somewhat brighter than those of the original, but in general appearance the specimen closely resembles the original, except, of course, in the paper, which is wove instead of laid. The outer frame is, however, defective on the right side, both above and below, due, as explained in former articles hereon, to the rusting of the dies.

5 paras. 1858. Impression black, on pale blue wove paper. The printing in this case is defective and blurred, the outer line being continuously broken on the left-hand side, and with slighter breaks in the frame above and below. The printing, however, is too indistinct to speak with certainty as to the presence of the well-known break on the normal unused specimens (on white), under the numeral of value. Except, however, for the breaks in the outer frame the specimen is not more blurred than many of the stamps on white paper that have until lately always been accepted as originals. There is, moreover, no trace of the blotches of colour that are frequently found to right and left of the bull's head.

We have described these specimens, although other descriptions have been previously mentioned in this and other philatelic journals, as their authenticity

seems to us unimpeachable, and it is not without interest to compare them with others that have been previously noted.

M. Mihailescu's letter gives us the interesting information that the M. Paul Paulescu whose first letter appeared in the *Echo de la Timbrologie* is no other than the well-known dealer Focseaneanu, whose career is too well known in Continental stamp circles to require any further description at our hands. We further learn that a certain number—and it would seem by recent events that the quantity was by no means inconsiderable—of these reprints of all five stamps have been placed on the market by late employees of the Post Office at Bucharest. To support and recommend the sale of these specimens the letters of M. "Paul Paulescu" and others have been sent to the philatelic Press. It would seem, therefore, that as to both the value of these reprints and the *modus operandi* of their sale they merit but scanty recognition at the hands of collectors.

It is, however, on the more important philatelic point of the real status of these stamps that our correspondent's letter is so interesting. M. Mihailescu, whose testimony we can fully accept, clearly states that "*as regards the question of Reprints there can be no doubt*," and he further explains the reasons for the appearance of the Reprints on paper differing from that of the originals. In view of this letter, therefore, judgment can well be suspended as to the exact status of these stamps. The opinion has gradually gained ground, owing to the suspicious and objectionable methods practised in their sale, that these stamps were forgeries, but, having regard to our correspondent's information, we should now rather say that the onus of proof thereof would lie with those who refuse to accept them as Reprints.

Since the foregoing was written, we have seen the able article hereon by the editor of the *Monthly Journal* for March, from which we gather that that gentleman shares our opinion as to the last word as to these "Reprints" not having yet been said. We have also read the article in the *Stamp Collector* by Herr R. Friedl, at the conclusion of which he states that—

"A gentleman of high standing I know, and who was able to get the most accurate *official* information regarding the authenticity of the lately appeared Moldavian 'Reprints,' communicates to me the following note:—'The original dies still exist, and are at the Royal Mint (at Bucarest), but *reprints have never been made*.' It is, therefore, completely proven that the so-called Moldavian 'Reprints' are only forgeries, manufactured by photographic means. At the same time I would like to draw the attention of my readers to a very dangerous forgery of the Moldavia, 1858, 27 parale, black on rose, which appeared recently. It is made from a much better electro than the 'Reprints,' and can be detected only by the spotty paper—being coloured afterwards—differing also in the 'laid' from the originals."

This "official" statement contravenes that of our correspondent, and it remains to be seen which is correct. It seems to us probable that the 27 paras last referred to may possibly be one of Colonel Gorjan's black impressions.

A Supplement to "British Isles."

By A. B. CREEKE, Jun.

(*Continued from page* 56.)

Page 170.—The later printings of the Twopence Halfpenny of 1887 show the vertical line-blocks between the panes, as in the One Penny value.

Page 171.—The first plate used for the Threepence of 1887 was no. 5, and not, as stated, no. 4. This value also shows, in the later printings, the line-blocks between the panes.

Page 173.—In the last but one of the marginal varieties of the Fourpence, the thin horizontal lines are in the space down the centre of the mill-sheet, and therefore appear on the right-hand side of one Post Office sheet, and on the left side of the other.

Page 174.—The description, in *Remarks* at the top of the page, of the margins of the sheets of the Fourpence Halfpenny should have been by reference to the last variety but *two* of the Fourpence value. (*See Illustration* 90.)

A Post Office circular of April, 1900, announced that the issue of the Fourpence Halfpenny would cease on the exhaustion of the then stock in hand, and that no supplies would be sent out after the 31st August following.

In giving the date when the first plates of the bicoloured Fivepence were put to press, "1896" was inadvertently written for "1886." The error was obvious.

Page 175.—The fourteenth line should have commenced "Plates 3 and 4 . . ." Possibly further plates have since come into use, but, like the plates of the other values recently current, they are of no interest.

Under "*Paper*" it should now be stated that there are three distinct shades or tones of the red paper used for the Sixpence of 1887.

The vertical line-blocks appear, in the later printings, between the panes of the stamps of this value.

In discussing the *Plates* of the Ninepence, the 31 pairs should have been given as put to press and running from 5 to 35. Plates 1 to 4 belonged to the similar value issued in August, 1883.

Page 176.—The Ninepence and Tenpence stamps were, for some time before they were superseded, issued in full sheets of four panes, not in single panes of twenty as formerly.

The last, and additional, marginal variety of the Ninepence is similar to the last one of the Fourpence, the purple "Jubilee" line being broken at the corners of the panes, but the thin marginal lines being omitted.

Page 177.—The sub-heading to the One Shilling should now read "FIRST ISSUE: . . . ".

To *Remarks* add that the later printings of this value had the "Jubilee" line round the panes.

Insert, just before the *Synopsis*—

SECOND ISSUE: 11th JULY, 1900.

Date of Issue.—The Post Office circular of 27th March, 1900, after announcing the change of colour in the Halfpenny value, continued :—

"A new One Shilling bicoloured postage and revenue stamp will also be issued about Midsummer next, when the stock of the present single-coloured One Shilling stamp will be becoming exhausted. The stock of the present One Shilling stamps should be sold out; but, as these stamps bear a considerable resemblance to the new green halfpenny stamps, and as these two kinds of stamps will for some period to come be on sale together, care must be taken to prevent mistakes. A further announcement will be made, stating when the Shilling stamp will be ready for issue."

The bicoloured Shilling was issued on the 11th July following.

Design.—As before. (*Illustration* 96.)

Plates.—I am not aware how many pairs of plates have been made or used for this issue.

(*State.*)—There was no change. The *imprimatur* sheet was registered on the 12th April, 1900. (*Diagram N.*)

Paper.—The Large (1880) Crown paper, as before. (*Diagram N.*)

Colours.—The central portion, including the inscriptions, was in green, and the frame in scarlet, varying to carmine—shades of both.

Gum.—As usual.

Perforation.—Machine-perforated 14.

Remarks.—The sheets were divided into two panes, before being despatched to Somerset House from the printers.

Each pane was surrounded by two Jubilee lines, the inner being carmine and the outer one green. The latter was broken at each corner.

To the *Synopsis*, which should now have a sub-heading of "FIRST ISSUE.", add :—

SECOND ISSUE.

Paper watermarked with a Large (1880) Crown; perforated 14.

11th July, 1900.—One Shilling, green and scarlet to carmine (shades and tones of both).

It should be noted that the hexagonal marginal ornaments, indicating where the sheets were to be divided into £1 sheets, were omitted from about 1899, when the Post Office sheets were half-sheets of 120 stamps, whatever their face value might be.

Page 179.—In describing, at the foot of this page, the Foul Anchor paper used for some of the fiscal stamps admitted to postal uses, the dimensions given were not quite accurate. The height of the sheet was 709½ mm. ($27\frac{15}{16}$ inches), and of the pane of stamps 676½ mm. ($26\frac{5}{8}$ inches).

Page 181.—The Foul Anchor paper, as used for the earliest printing of the first issue of the One Penny Inland Revenue stamp of May, 1860, was

similar to that described on page 179, the watermarked words "*Penny Duties*" not being omitted until later.

Page 184.—There is an error in the third issue of the One Penny Inland Revenue stamp of September, 1867. The last plate, no. 120, was discarded on the 5th October, not the 12th July, of 1878.

Page 190.—We now come to the embossed fiscal stamps available, until recently, for postal purposes; and it was from this series that I was accused, by a gentleman holding a very high position at Somerset House, of having omitted a value, viz. THE ONE SHILLING & SIXPENCE.

It is true, as was pointed out to me, that the official archives contain an impression from a die of this value, struck on paper previously overprinted "INLAND REVENUE" in green, the date, as indicated by the plugs, being the same as that on which the first-issued values of this series were registered. I would point out, however, that most, if not all, of these dies were used (on paper suitably overprinted) for many specific duties, as well as for the comprehensive one of "Inland Revenue"; and that, as impressions for registration must be struck on some kind of paper, it was only natural that the paper most extensively used should be selected.

Although I could not find any other record of such an Inland Revenue stamp, I made careful inquiries of two of my official friends. One had, in a private note-book, marked this value "? *issued*," and the other possessed a full record of the quarterly issues of these embossed Inland Revenue stamps, from their creation early in 1860, up to the end of 1871, but there was not any mention of an Eighteenpenny value.

In view of the above, I am not disposed to admit this value, unless and until a copy, other than the one in the archives, is forthcoming.

Pages 192, 193.—The various values of these embossed fiscals were registered as follows:—The Threepence, the Sixpence, and the One Shilling & Sixpence on the 4th April, 1860; the One Shilling, the Two Shillings, and the Two Shillings & Sixpence on the 27th September, 1860; and the Twopence and Ninepence on the 20th December, 1870.

In the fifth line of the seventh issue, under "*Synopsis*," there is an error. Impressions from Die E only of the One Shilling, vermilion, on the Orb paper, are known.

Page 197.—To the overprints, used for appropriating postage stamps to the various Government Departments, add:—

(v.) "BOARD OF EDUCATION", which indicates its use.

Page 198.—To the list of stamps overprinted "I.R. OFFICIAL" add, at the top of this page, as follows:—

To "C."—Of the issues of 1887–91:—

The Sixpence.

And below these:—

D.—Of the issue of 1900:—

(*a*) The One Halfpenny: and

(*b*) The One Shilling.

Page 200.—Between the Twopence Halfpenny and the One Shilling, insert :—

THE SIXPENCE.

ISSUE : AUGUST, 1901.

Description.—The Sixpence, purple on red, of 1887, was overprinted as above, under a warrant of the 5th June, 1901, and the stamp came into use early in the following July. (*Illustration* 218.)

Remarks.—The large supply of the greenish-grey Sixpence of 1882 would have rendered unnecessary the overprinting of the Sixpence of 1887, if it had not been demonetised by a notice in the *London Gazette*, to which reference is made *infra*. 500 sheets, or 120,000 stamps, were overprinted.

Page 200.—Just before the *Synopsis* of the "I.R. Official" stamps, add :—

(D) STAMPS OF 1900.

(*a*) THE ONE HALFPENNY.

ISSUE : APRIL, 1901.

Description.—This stamp, issued in green on the 17th April, 1900, was overprinted in pursuance of a warrant dated the 16th June following, and its earliest date of use known to me is in the above month. (*Illustration* 139.)

(*b*) THE ONE SHILLING.

ISSUE : DECEMBER, 1901.

Description.—On the 18th October, 1901, instructions were given to overprint the One Shilling, green and scarlet, issued in July, 1900, and it appears to have come into use towards the end of the year. (*Illustration* 141.)

Remarks.—The total creation of this stamp was 10 entire sheets, or 2,400 stamps.

There are two distinct types of the **"I.R. OFFICIAL"** overprint—one thin, the other thick.

Both the thin and thick overprints are to be found on three stamps—the Halfpenny, vermilion (of 1887); the One Penny, purple (of December, 1881); and the One Shilling, green (of 1887).

Page 201.—Insert in the *Synopsis* of these stamps, after the word "Halfpenny" in the second line: "and red for the Sixpence"; and between the fifth and sixth lines :—

July, 1901.—Sixpence, purple (shades) on red paper.

At the end of this *Synopsis* add :—

(*d*) STAMPS OF 1901.

Paper watermarked with a Large (1880) Crown; perforated 14; overprinted in black.

April, 1901.—One Halfpenny, green (shades).
December, 1901.—One Shilling, green and scarlet (slight shades).

Page 203.—To the preliminary list of stamps, overprinted **"GOVT PARCELS,"** add :—

E.—Of the issue of 1900 :—
The One Shilling.

Page 205.—Add before the *Synopsis* :—

(E) A STAMP OF 1900.

THE ONE SHILLING.

ISSUE : APRIL, 1901.

Description.—The bicoloured One Shilling, issued in 1900, was, under warrant of 13th October, 1900, overprinted for the prepayment of official parcels, and appears to have been first used in the following April. (*Illustration* 151.)

Remarks.—The overprint was applied to 150 sheets, or 36,000 stamps.

At the foot of the page add :—

(*e*) A STAMP OF 1900.

Paper watermarked with a Large (1880) Crown ; perforated 14 ; overprinted in black.

April, 1901. One Shilling, green and scarlet (slight shades).

Page 206.—The list of stamps overprinted **"O.W. OFFICIAL"** should now read :—

Only four values were issued ; they are :—

A.—Of the issues of 1881–90 :—
(*a*) The One Halfpenny :
(*b*) The One Penny :
(*c*) The Fivepence : and
(*d*) The Tenpence.

B.—Of the issue of 1900 :—
The One Halfpenny.

The heading to the issues should be altered to :—

(A) STAMPS OF 1881–90.

After the One Penny, "O.W. Official," add :—

(*c*) THE FIVEPENCE.

ISSUE : MAY, 1902.

Description.—The Fivepence, originally issued in January, 1887, was overprinted in April, 1902, and was put into circulation shortly afterwards. (*Illustration* 219.)

Remarks.—Of this value only 50 sheets, or 12,000 stamps, were overprinted.

(*d*) THE TENPENCE.

ISSUE: JUNE, 1902.

Description.—The then current stamp of this value, first issued in February, 1890, was overprinted May, 1902, and a supply at once forwarded to the Office of Works. (*Illustration* 220.)

Remarks.—The creation was very small—only 10 sheets, or 800 stamps—and the stamp is difficult to obtain, especially in an unused condition.

(B) A STAMP OF 1900.

THE ONE HALFPENNY.

ISSUE: APRIL, 1902.

Description.—On the 23rd October, 1901, a warrant was signed for the overprinting of the One Halfpenny value, then being issued in green. (*Illustration* 152.)

Remarks.—Of this stamp 25 sheets, or 6,000 stamps, were issued.

The *Synopsis* should now read :—

(*a*) STAMPS OF 1881–90.

Paper watermarked with a Large (1880) Crown; perforated 14; overprint of "**O.W. OFFICIAL**" in black.

March, 1896.—One Halfpenny, vermilion-red (shades).
One Penny (Die II.), purple (shades).

May, 1902.—Fivepence, purple and blue.
June, 1902.—Tenpence, purple and carmine.

(*b*) A STAMP OF 1900.

Paper watermarked with a Large (1880) Crown; perforated 14; overprinted in black.

April, 1902. One Halfpenny, green.

Page 207.—To the list of the various stamps overprinted "**ARMY OFFICIAL**" add :—

(*d*) The Sixpence.

B.—Of the issue of 1900 :—

The One Halfpenny.

(To be continued.)

Philatelic Notes.

THE RETOUCH OF THE ONE PENNY OF GREAT BRITAIN.

BY W. T. WILSON.

I AM sorry that owing to my hastily written note on this subject I used the word "roller" instead of "plate." This error is so palpable that it hardly required the elaborate replies it has received. Subject to this correction, and after a further examination of other specimens, I must reiterate I am satisfied that one at least of the One Penny plates was retouched in the true sense of the term. The deepened lines speak for themselves as having been added to the plate after it had been considerably worn in use. It is unfortunate that owing to the destruction of the old plates reference cannot be made to them, so that proof of my statement can hardly be given; and the fact of there being no record of any retouch does not invalidate my theory. To produce two stamps from the same position on the same plate is of course a practical impossibility, as there is no means of distinguishing the one from the other, although Mr. Creeke considers it absolutely necessary to do this to prove a retouch.

Mr. Creeke states that "unless we admit the softening, retouching, and hardening of a plate after it has already been put to press," etc. Now that this was done must be admitted in one case (see page 25 of Messrs. Wright and Creeke's *British Isles*). It is there stated that the error on Plate 77 with blank corner was discovered and corrected about nine months after registration; therefore this plate was softened, the missing letter punched in and rehardened. This was not a difficult matter to do, and I have no doubt the same thing occurred when a worn plate, which was urgently wanted, required touching up. That this treatment of steel plates was no difficulty is proved by the number of retouches upon the New South Wales issue 1854–60, and New Zealand 1862–72, all Perkins-Bacon plates; that the plates were being worked at high pressure to supply the almost overwhelming demand for stamps points to the probability of one or more of the worn plates having to be softened and retouched, as it would be obviously quicker to do this than to make new plates, which were being made as rapidly as possible. I have been unable to find any signs of a retouch amongst the One Penny perforated stamps of Die I., although some of the plates give very much worn impressions.

It is unfortunate that the enlarged photo I sent with my note was not given, as it shows what I am contending for. I must therefore refer anyone interested in the subject to the illustrations given in *The Philatelic Journal of India* for September, 1902, and the illustrations of some of these stamps which will appear in that journal about April next.

THE "POST OFFICE" MAURITIUS.

IN our remarks on the latest find of these rarities (see March *London Philatelist*) we stated, with reserves, that we were not aware of another "Post Office" that had paid postage out of the island of Mauritius. Mr. W. H. Peckitt, however, writes us as follows:—

"With reference to your note in the *London Philatelist* on the recently found Mauritius, and your remark that you thought these were the only known copies that had paid postage out of the island, I would point out that the two pennies (two 1d.) on the envelope that I bought in November, 1898, were posted to Bombay, as will be seen by the enclosed photo."

We are indebted to Mr. Peckitt for the reminder. The pair of stamps in question are of course the well-known and superb specimens that are in the collection of Mr. Vernon Roberts.

Occasional Notes.

TO OUR READERS.

WE have to express our regrets to one or two correspondents, as also to our readers, that we are unavoidably compelled to hold over a certain portion of the philatelic part of the *London Philatelist* until next month. The most important feature hereof is the continuation of the able article on the "Stamps of Portugal," by Mr. J. N. Marsden, which we are confident will be much appreciated by collectors of that very interesting country.

FORGED ZULULAND STAMPS.

THERE seems unfortunately to be no close time for the forgers, nor do they ever cease from troubling. The particular field of operations that these *chevaliers d'industrie* are favouring at the present moment is that of Zululand. The means for prosecuting this little swindle are readily available, consisting as they do simply of certain values of the British stamps and the preparation of a die for the surcharge. These false surcharges emanate from the Continent and are now being placed on the English market. We would therefore warn our readers against purchasing these overprinted stamps of Zululand except from well-accredited quarters. We are indebted to the Stamp Trade Protection Association, Ltd. (63, Chancery Lane), for the information, and are glad to note that this Society is fulfilling the functions denoted by its title. There is so much chicanery and humbug both with regard to forgeries and superfluous issues that the Stamp Trade may indeed require "protection." We might add that the address of the Secretary, Mr. William Ewing, is 76, Sussex Road, Holloway, N., and that all correspondence should be directed to him there.

DEATH OF MR. H. STAFFORD SMITH.

WITH much concern we have heard of the death of the bearer of this well-known name. Mr. Henry Stafford Smith expired at Brighton, where he had resided for very many years, on the 23rd of February. (We much regret that no earlier intimation of this sad event should have reached us.) Mr. Stafford Smith, who was born at Bath (about 1846, we believe), had by no means attained a ripe age, but to those of us who had been in personal contact with him it was evident that his health was breaking up. He was one of the most assiduous attendants at the Brighton Philatelic Society, of which he had been a member from its foundation, and his kindly, genial manners and fund of philatelic knowledge caused him to be liked and respected by everyone.

Mr. Stafford Smith may be said to have been "in stamps" the whole of his life, and started at Bath the well-known business bearing his name as early as 1862. As the business was one of rapid growth he took his brother, the late Mr. Alfred Smith, into partnership, and the new firm had the credit of starting the first philatelic journal on January 1st, 1863—the well-known *Stamp Collector's Magazine*, which ran for many years, and to-day forms one of the most interesting sets of volumes that can be found in the library of a Philatelist.

Mr. Stafford Smith separated from his brother in 1866, and removing to Brighton in the same year carried on a business there until his death. The writer's personal acquaintance with him commenced in 1876, owing to the discovery of a sackful of old stamps, which contained many thousands of Colonials and nearly half a million of old English stamps, all of which he was able to exchange with the firm upon a satisfactory basis. Since that date we have had the pleasure of an unbroken friendship, as fellow-residents of Brighton, with Mr. Stafford Smith, and it is with very sincere regret that we notify the death of so kindly and honest a man. His many friends in Brighton will associate themselves with us in tendering our very sincere sympathy to his relatives.

We should add that Mr. Stafford Smith published the *Philatelist* for a number of years (at Brighton), but that journal failed to obtain the eminence of the *Stamp Collector's Magazine*. In the course of his varied experience in stamps Mr. Stafford Smith acquired a vast amount of philatelic knowledge, and possessed a judgment and discrimination that was rarely at fault. He had also formed a very choice and extensive collection of stamps, which was acquired a few years back by Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., and which contained several stamps of extreme rarity.

We are indebted to an article in the *Monthly Circular*, by Mr. Overy Taylor, for some of the foregoing information, and we cannot better conclude our remarks than by quoting his kindly concluding paragraph:—

"May I add a few words as to Stafford Smith—the man—in private life? I have known him ever since 1856, when he and I were boys. Personally I have experienced in the days long gone by the greatest kindness, and received the greatest help from him; and I am but one of many who could say as much. His gentle, affectionate nature, his quiet, dry, unwounding

humour, his forethought for everyone about him, his abnegation, all helped to form one of the most beautiful characters it is possible to conceive, and, together with his family and his friends, I mourn their loss."

THE TOTAL NUMBER OF STAMPS ISSUED.

IN the Preface to their recently issued Catalogue, Messrs. Whitfield King and Co. state that "the total number of stamps issued to date, as included in this Catalogue, is 17,382, of which 4,578 are apportioned to Great Britain and Colonies, and 12,624 to the rest of the world. Europe has issued 3,917, Asia 3,120, Africa 3,342, America 4,214, the West Indies 1,411, and Oceania 1,378. The Republic of Salvador has issued the greatest number of varieties, and Boyaca, Poland, and Wadhwan the smallest. Of course these figures refer to standard varieties only."

These figures are colossal, and apply, of course, only to the main varieties catalogued by Messrs. Whitfield King and Co. When amplified by minor varieties they would probably be trebled, and when shades are added this total might well again be doubled, which would represent an approaching total of over 100,000 varieties! Well may the general collector refuse to consider the necessity for collecting "inverted stops," and the specialist entrench himself behind his favourite philatelic stockade!

A NEW COLLECTION.

UNDER this heading Mr. C. F. Dendy Marshall lately read a most interesting paper before the London Philatelic Society (see February number, pp. 27–30); but excellent as were Mr. Marshall's remarks as to his theory, we must demur—as more than one correspondent has pointed out—to the accuracy of his title. Mr. Dendy Marshall's new system of collecting is defined by him as "used specimens being taken on a piece of the original cover cut out so as to show the whole postmark." There is nothing "new" under the sun, and those who have a close acquaintance with Continental systems of collecting would not regard Mr. Marshall's system as anything beyond the application in this country of a practice that largely prevails abroad.

It is only of late years, outside a select circle of first-class collectors in France, that the cult of unused stamps on the Continent has found many followers. In Germany, Switzerland, Italy, and many other countries, used stamps have been—and still very largely are—the most favoured, and they have been broadly differentiated and appreciated in value under the three divisions—

1. Used, not on paper.
2. „ on a piece of original (German *Brief-stuck*).
3. „ on entire original.

The third class obviously presents considerable difficulties of attainment, notably with regard to the rarities, and such stamps as those of the minor

States and free towns of Germany, and the consequent prices have perhaps had a deterrent effect upon their collection, despite their popularity.

The second class is one that has found very many followers, and we have seen very many collections, notably of the German and Italian States, composed entirely of specimens "on piece of original." The importance, in certain cases, of preserving intact the postmark was justly remarked upon by Mr. Dendy Marshall; but this is also fully appreciated abroad, and we have frequently seen stamps priced in the books of well-known dealers, such as Mr. E. Stock, of Berlin, or Mr. H. Decker, of Hanover, in which a considerable increase of price was asked for specimens having postmarks evenly distributed over the surface of stamp and paper alike. In cases where the postmark was quite upright (*gut sitzend* in German) a still higher price is demanded. In any case, the collection of stamps "on pieces of original" is one that has long been in vogue abroad, and has been sedulously pursued with all the philatelic appreciation that Mr. Dendy Marshall himself so amply possesses.

Review.

MESSRS. WHITFIELD KING AND CO.'S CATALOGUE.*



THE fact that this is the fourth edition of Messrs. Whitfield King and Co.'s Catalogue is ample vindication of the Ipswich firm's enterprise in starting a reference list founded on dissimilar lines from those previously existing. We have quite recently drawn attention to the ever-growing necessity of catering for the middle-class or general collector, having regard to the ever-increasing influx of new issues and minor varieties, and as we consider that this Catalogue travels on the same road, we hail its continued success with gratification. The aim of the *Universal Standard Catalogue* is to include only the more important stamps and to discard all minor varieties of paper, perforation, watermark, or surcharge that can be consistently ignored by the general collector. Those only who have thus tried to condense an ordinary catalogue can appreciate the delicacy and difficulty of this work—where the stamps of each country have to be examined separately on their own merits, and where these fine lines of division have to be drawn. It says much, therefore, for the editors of the work in question that they should have succeeded in producing so excellent and judicious a *selection* of varieties for the benefit of the "generalist." The present Catalogue is a decided improvement on its predecessor, which appeared some sixteen months since, and necessarily includes all the numerous and important varieties created by the accession of His Majesty King Edward VII. All the new issues of the British Empire, as well as those of other countries, have been brought up to the end of February, 1903, so that the Catalogue is literally up to date.

* *The Universal Standard Catalogue of the Postage Stamps of the World.* Whitfield King and Co., Ipswich.

The publishers in their prefatory note state that "numerous improvements in classification have been made, our aim being always simplicity and clearness, and whilst rigidly excluding all minor varieties, especially of perforation, we have felt it necessary in some cases to extend the lists by including many varieties which are not found in previous editions; these include Bavaria, Belgium, Brazil, Newfoundland, New Republic, Oil Rivers, Switzerland, etc., all of which have been entirely rewritten. The whole Catalogue has been reset in fresh type, and as the alterations are very numerous, the numbers in many countries do not agree with those of the third edition. Arrangements have now been made to keep the whole of the type standing, and it will be our endeavour in future editions to disturb the catalogue numbers as little as possible. The stamps of the Royal Mail Steam Packet Co., Suez Canal, and Terra del Fuego have now been omitted, as they must be considered as locals."

The Catalogue is illustrated with all the types of stamps of distinct if small character, and in type and general get-up leaves nothing to be desired. We are convinced that the object-lesson of such a catalogue is one of great value to the collectors of the present and future, and to them we cordially commend the work as an excellent and reliable catalogue.

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.—Changes in the colours of two stamps of the 1892 type are announced by the *Metropolitan Philatelist.*

Adhesives. 2d., orange and grey.
2s. 6d., green and black.

BERMUDA.—A post card has to be added to the list of new stationery given on p. 64, and Messrs. P. L. Pemberton and Co. send us the 2d. Registration Envelope in the Arms type—a decided novelty.

Registration Envelope. 2d., blue; Arms type.
Post Card. ½d., green on cream ,, ,,

CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.—Another value of the King's Head set has reached this side, and Messrs. P. L. Pemberton and Co. and Bright and Son send us specimens.

Adhesive. 6d., mauve; wmk. Anchor; perf. 14.

HONG KONG.—The list of new King's Head stamps given on page 64 is incomplete, and the *Metropolitan Philatelist* makes the following additions, *Ewen's* announcing a couple of post cards.

Adhesives.
30 cents, dark green and light green.
50 ,, purple and light green.
$1, yellow-green and purple.
$2, red and dark grey.
$3, blue and black-grey.
$5, blue-green and mauve.
$10, brown and purple-grey on bluish paper.

Post Cards.
1 c., dark brown on thick white laid paper.
2 c., green ,, ,, ,,

INDIA.—The *Metropolitan Philatelist* informs us that the 2 annas with the King's Head has received the official overprint.

Official. 2 annas, purple; surcharged $\frac{\text{On}}{\text{M}}$ S in black.

Chamba.—Ewen's Weekly reports the 2 annas surcharged for use here.

Adhesive. 2 annas, purple; surcharged Chamba State Service

Official. 2 annas, purple; surcharged Chamba State

Travancore.—A correspondent tells us that he has seen a copy of the 1 chuckram in *red*, apparently printed in error in the colour of the 2 chuckrams. The specimen was used, and on an envelope with the 1 ch., *blue.—M. J.*

1 ch., red; *error* (?).

MALTA.—Messrs. P. L. Pemberton and Co. and Whitfield King and Co. have shown us the new ½d. and 2d. values of the King's Head issue; and from the *Metropolitan Philatelist* we hear of other values, of which specimen copies have reached Washington.

Adhesives.

½d., green;	CA;	perf. 14.
1d., scarlet and black	,,	,,
2d., grey and mauve	,,	,,
3d., mauve and grey	,,	,,
1s., dark violet and drab	,,	,,

MAURITIUS.—We hear from various sources that the 5 cents, of the Arms type, now comes with the value printed in black in the place of violet, and the *Metropolitan Philatelist* states that the Washington Bureau has the 4 cents in grey-green and purple.

Adhesives.

4 cents, Arms type, grey-green and purple.
5 ,, dull lilac and black on buff; Crown CA; perf. 14.

NATAL.—To the list of new King's Head stamps additions are made by the *Metropolitan Philatelist* and *Ewen's*. The *M. C.* lists a couple of envelopes.

Adhesives. 2½d., ultramarine.
4d., chocolate and scarlet.
4s., orange and lake.

Envelopes. ½d., green on white laid.
1d., carmine ,,

NEWFOUNDLAND.—It would appear to be only a question of time for all the current stamps of this Colony to be found imperf. or partially perforated.

The *Philatelic Record* lists the following:—

Adhesives. ½ c., slate-green; imperf.
1 c., green; imperf. vertically.

NEW SOUTH WALES.—It is stated in the *Australian Journal of Philately* that the design for the new 2s. 6d. New South Wales stamp has been approved of.

The centre is similar to the 8d. Lyre Bird stamp, but there the similarity ceases. The words "ONE HUNDRED YEARS" have been taken out, and "2s. 6d." in figures appears at each lower corner, those at the top being filled in with scroll work. The words "NEW SOUTH WALES POSTAGE," in white letters, encircle the upper half of an oval frame in which the lyre bird stands. The value does not appear in letters, and the colour has not yet been approved.

NEW ZEALAND.—Mr. A. T. Bate has kindly sent us the following new stationery:

A letter card, bearing on the address side the Royal Arms and the words "NEW ZEALAND LETTER CARD."

The King's Head appears in an oval in an ornamental rectangular frame.

On the bottom and left hand is a stretch of New Zealand beach, with Maoris, canoe, palm trees, etc.

On the back of the cards are vignette pictures of New Zealand scenery.

A 1d. card, similar to the letter card, but without the scenery at front and back.

A 2d. envelope, with the original value printed across "ONE PENNY" in red, in sans-serif caps.

Mr. Bate further informs us that the 2s. adhesive is now appearing on *laid* paper.

Adhesive. 2s., blue-green; *laid* paper.
Envelope. 1d., in red, on 2d., purple.
Letter Card. 1d., chocolate on green, white inside.
Post Card. 1d., blue on buff.

NIGER COAST PROTECTORATE.—The ½d., no waterwark, of 1895 is known, states the *M. J.*, in dark olive or sage-green.

ORANGE RIVER COLONY.—Another value, the 4d., of the new King's Head issue has reached Washington, states the *Metropolitan Philatelist.*

Adhesive. 4d., greenish bistre and scarlet.

PACIFIC ISLANDS.—*Niué and Penrhyn Island.*—We have received the 3d, 6d., and 1s. of New Zealand—wmk. single-lined N Z and Star, perf. 11, surcharged in two or three lines in dark blue, for use here—from Messrs. Whitfield King and Co.

Adhesives.

3d., yellow-brown.
6d., rose.
1s., red.
} Single-lined N Z and Star; perf. 11; dark blue overprint.

Aitutaki.—We take the following from *Ewen's Weekly*:—

"A rumour reaches us that this island may in the near future be provided with 1d. stamps overprinted 'Aitutaki.' It is situated about (roughly) 700 miles east of Niué, 700 miles south of Penrhyn, and 700 miles west

of Tahiti (these distances are only approximately estimated by us), and is just north of the Cook and Hervey Islands. The principal of the Cook Islands are generally given as Rarotonga, Mangaia, Aitutaki, Atiu, Mitiaro, Mauke, and Takuatea; whilst the Hervey Group, which is a little to the north, consists of two coral atolls, one very small, known as Manuae and Te-auotu. As Aitutaki is still further north, it seems to be hardly correctly grouped with the Cook Islands. It is described in *Stanford's London Atlas* as a 'volcanic island and atoll.'"

SEYCHELLES.—A correspondent of the *M. J.* sends particulars of uncatalogued varieties, and adds that the somewhat frequent provisional issues have been due to the fact that communication with Europe was at one time very irregular, and consequently supplies of new stamps took a long time in coming. On one occasion no European letters reached the islands from April to September! While at the same time homeward bound ships called in about once a fortnight and took mails.

1893 12 c. on 16 c., with the overprint so misplaced as to read $\frac{\text{cents}}{12}$ instead of $\frac{12}{\text{cents}}$.
1896. 18 c. on 45 c., the overprint too much to the left, so that it reads "8 CENT," the figure "1" being lost in the perforations.
1900. 3 c. on 36 c., with the original value not cancelled.
3 c. on 16 c., surcharge inverted.
— on 16 c., the value cancelled, but the overprint "3 cents" omitted.

The set with the King's Head appears to have reached Washington, and the *Metropolitan Philatelist* gives the values and colours as follows:—

Adhesives.
2 cents, red-brown and green.
3 ,, blue-green.
6 ,, rose.
12 ,, blue-green and dark drab.
15 ,, ultramarine.
18 ,, yellow-green and carmine.
30 ,, green and violet.
45 ,, chocolate and carmine.
75 ,, violet and orange.
R1.50, black and carmine.
2.25, mauve and green.

STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.—A small addition has to be made to the King's Head stationery.

Post Card. 1 c.+1 c., green on cream.

TRANSVAAL.—The new 3d. and 4d., and the 1s. and 2s. in altered colours, have reached this side, and *Ewen's Weekly* informs us that the two lower denominations are inscribed "POSTAGE—REVENUE," while the 1s. and 2s. have "POSTAGE" only.

Two high values are added to the list, but "specimen" copies only have been seen as yet.

The 3d. and 4d. values have reached us from Messrs. Whitfield King and Co., who inform us that the colours of the new 2s. stamp are yellow and steel-grey.

Adhesives. £1, violet and green; CA; 14.
£5 ,, dark orange; CA; 14.

VICTORIA.—Messrs. J. H. Smyth and Co., writing under date February 24th, inform us that the ½d. and 1d. stamps of this Colony will shortly appear perf. 11.

Our correspondents have received the following letter from the Government printer:—

[*Copy.*]

"GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICES,
"MELBOURNE,
"*17th February*, 1903.

"DEAR SIRS,—In reply to your favour of the 4th instant, I beg to inform you that a new perforating machine has been introduced into this department, the gauge being 11.

"I am, yours truly,
"(Signed) ROBERT S. BRAIN,
"Government Printer.

"Messrs. J. H. SMYTH and Co.,
"88, King Street, Sydney."

Adhesives. ½d., green; wmk. V and Crown; perf. 11.
1d., rose-red ,, ,, ,,

EUROPE.

BAVARIA.—It is reported that the 5 pf., deep green, may be found with the watermark of *vertical* wavy lines.

Adhesive. 5 pf., deep green; wmk. *vertical* wavy lines.

CRETE (*Austrian Post Offices*).—The Austrian 10 heller reply card, as well as the single card, is reported surcharged 10+10 centimes for use here.

Post Card. 10+10 centimes on 10+10 heller, rose.

FRANCE.—Messrs. P. L. Pemberton and Co. and Whitfield King and Co. have received a supply of the 15 c. of the new "Sower" design. The colour is dull green, white paper, no wmk., perf. 14 × 13½.

It is now reported that the current 40 c. and 50 c. stamps do not exist without the pale blue or lavender patches, though in some printings this centre ornament is hardly perceptible.

Adhesive.
15 c., dull green; Sower design; no wmk.; perf. 14 × 13½.

ICELAND.—Our previous chronicles of surcharged stamps were not quite complete.

The following additions are taken from the *A. J. P.* and *M. C.*, surcharged $\frac{\text{i Gildi}}{\text{'02 '03}}$

Adhesives. 5 aur, yellow-green; red surcharge.
16 ,, brown; black surcharge.
Postage Due. 3 aur, yellow; black surcharge.
4 ,, grey ,, ,,
16 ,, carmine ,, ,,

ROUMANIA.—There are some varieties of perforations, etc., chronicled in the *M. J.* that we have not come across before.

Adhesives.
5 bani, emerald; unwatermarked paper, tinted pink at back; perf. 13½.
40 ,, green; unwatermarked paper, tinted pink at back; compound perfs.

Postage Due.
30 bani, emerald; wmk. Arms; perf. 11½.
50 ,, ,, ,, PR ,,

RUSSIA.—The *M. C.*, on the authority of a Continental journal, states that the 14 kopec stamp exists with inverted centre.

The tale goes that "a sheet of 100 stamps was sold by the Astrachan Post Office, *without the clerk remarking the error.* A business man who bought a block of 25 did not notice it until he had only 14 left."

SERVIA.—Messrs. Whitfield King and Co. send us the 20 paras, orange, of the 1902 design, and *Ewen's* lists the 15 paras.

Adhesives. 15 paras, violet.
20 ,, orange; perf. 11½.

AMERICA.

ARGENTINE REPUBLIC.—The new stationery, it is reported, contains in the set a ½ centavo wrapper.

Wrapper. ½ centavo, orange on buff.

COLOMBIAN REPUBLIC.—*Ewen's* lists six new adhesives, all lithographed, on plain white wove paper, imperf., rect.

The 1 peso bears the portrait of General Prospero Pinzon. The two higher values have Arms in the centre; and the 5 cents., oblong in shape, bears the representation, it is stated, of the cruiser *Cartagena* in the centre.

Adhesives. 5 c., dark blue.
1 peso, pink.
1 ,, dull yellow.
1 ,, blue.
5 pesos, brown-lilac.
10 ,, emerald-green.

The provisional card we referred to on page 250, vol. xi., exists, the *M. C.* states, in reply form also.

Post Card. 2 c.+2 c.+5+5 c., black and red on buff.

Later information reaches *Ewen's* that there is a new 50 c. stamp with portrait of Simon Bolivar, and printed in three different colours, all lithographed on thin white wove paper.

Adhesives. 50 c., vermilion; imperf.
50 c., brown ,,
50 c., orange ,,

The *A. J. P.* has the latter stamp in green, and thinks it is possible that they are an out-and-out swindle.

COSTA RICA.—The *Metropolitan Philatelist* and the *A. J. P.* inform us that three more of the higher values of the current set, bearing the official overprint, have reached Washington.

Officials.
50 c., lilac and blue; surcharged "Oficial" in black.
1 colon, olive and black ,, ,, ,,
2 ,, carmine and dark green; surcharged "Oficial" in black.

NICARAGUA.—Mr. C. Witt has shown us some provisional issues for this country, made by surcharging the 10 c., violet, lithographed, with new values. The first is surcharged "6 Centovos" (apparently an error in spelling) across the bottom, a small figure "6" over the "10" in each upper corner, and a group of irregular lines (made by two pieces of border type) in the centre.

The second has the surcharge "1.00 PESO" across the centre and "1.00" in each lower corner.—*A. J. P.*

Provisionals. 6 c. on 10 c., violet.
1 peso on violet.

PARAGUAY.—Presently there will be none of the ordinary stamps left if the overprinting business goes on much longer.

According to the *Philatelic Record*, the 1 peso of 1900–2 and 60 cents of 1892 have been surcharged respectively 1 cent. and 5 cents.

Perhaps the authorities are preparing the way for another issue.

Provisionals.
1 peso, slate-blue; surcharged Habilitado En un 1 cent. 1 in black.
60 c., orange; surcharged Habilitado En cinco 5 cents. 5 in black.

We have since received the pair of provisionals from Messrs. Whitfield King and Co., and also from the same friends a set of seven stamps of a new issue.

For design we have a lion in the centre; above, a cap of liberty; and the inscription "Paz y Justicia."

"U.P.U" appears at top, "Republica Del Paraguay" round the centre, and at bottom "Centavos 1903" with figures of value in lower corners.

The stamps are lithographed on unwatermarked white paper, perf. 11½.

Adhesives. 1 c., grey.
2 c., green.
5 c., blue.
10 c., brown.
20 c., carmine.
30 c., blue.
60 c., mauve.

UNITED STATES.—Messrs. Bright and Son have shown us the new 6 cents stamp, bearing a portrait of General Garfield, and we think it should give every satisfaction. The *A. J. P.* gives the colours of the remainder of the set yet to be issued as—

15 c., olive.
50 c., orange.
$1, black.
$2, dark blue.
$5, green.

There is some talk of fresh designs for the 1 c. and 2 c. values of the new set. We think it would not be easy to improve upon the dies for all the values yet issued.

Some new envelopes are reported, a 1 cent with head of Franklin, and a 2 cents with head of Washington; also 4 and 5 cents, but of the latter two the portraits and colours are not mentioned.

Adhesive. 6 cents, lake; wmk. USPS; perf. 12.
Envelopes. 1 cent, green on white.
1 ,, ,, blue.
2 cents, carmine on white.
2 ,, ,, blue.
2 ,, ,, amber.
2 ,, oriental buff.
4 ,, colour?
5 ,, ,,

VENEZUELA.—Messrs. P. L. Pemberton and Co. have shown us the 50 centimos of 1899, Type No. 35 of Gibbons, in orange colour, but *without* the overprint "1900" in black.

According to the catalogues we have referred to, this stamp was issued in 1900 in orange colour, surcharged with the "Reselladа" type in black, and later in the year with "1900" alone.

Adhesive.
50 centimos, orange; type of 1899; no overprint.

OTHER COUNTRIES.

COREA.—*Ewen's Weekly* has received three provisionals which we understand are novelties. The surcharge, it is stated, consists of the Chinese sign for "Cheun" with one, two, or three horizontal bars above. The surcharge on the 3 cheun is consequently similar to the Chinese inscription in the lower right-hand corner of the Commemorative stamp.

Adhesives of 1895-99 issue (S. G. Type 6) surcharged with Chinese characters in black.
1 cheun on 25 poon, lake; perf. 11½, 12.
2 ,, ,, ,, ,,
3 ,, on 50 poon, violet; perf. 12½, 13.

DANISH WEST INDIES.—We hear that some of the low values have run out, and we have received a specimen of the 4 c., perf. 12½, divided diagonally for use as 2 c.—*M. J.*

ERITREA.—We hear that the Postage Due stamps of Italy are to be surcharged "COLONIA ERITREA" for use here.

FERNANDO POO.—The values and colours of the 1903 set are reported to be the same as those of 1902.

FRENCH POST OFFICES ABROAD.—*French Zanzibar.*—From Messrs. Whitfield King and Co. we have the 1 anna and 2½ annas surcharged in black on the 10 and 25 c. French stamps, and *Ewen's* lists the 1½ and 2 annas as well.

Adhesives. 1 anna on 10 c., rose; black surcharge.
1½ annas on 15 c., carmine ,, ,,
2 ,, 20 c., brown-violet ,,
2½ ,, 25 c., blue ,, ,,

Ivory Coast.—It is interesting to hear through *Ewen's* that of the new Parcel Post stamps noted on page 67, 75 copies of each value existed with "CÔTE D'IVOIRE" omitted, and that only 5,850 altogether of the normal varieties were issued.

PERSIA.—We may expect a crop of provisionals from this part of the world; indeed, some have already made their appearance, it is reported.

Additions are also made to the Official set.

Provisionals. 1 ch., in black, on 3 ch., green.
2 ,, blue ,, ,,
12 ,, ,, on 10 k., vermilion.

Officials. 1 ch., mauve.
2 ,, grey.
3 ,, green.
10 ,, light brown.
50 kr., green.
2 tomans on 50 k., green.

SOMALI COAST.—A batch of new stamps is reported in various journals.

A 4 centimes has to be added to the Village type; six values having for the design a camel mounted by two natives; and three larger stamps each showing a group of three natives fully armed. The colours are taken from the *M. J.*

Adhesives. 4 c., blue and carmine.
20 c., purple and green.
25 c., blue and pale blue.
30 c., red and black.
40 c., brown-yellow and blue.
50 c., green and pale red.
75 c., orange and lilac.
1 fc., orange-red and lilac
2 fcs., green and carmine.
5 fcs., orange and blue.
No wmk.; all perf. 11.

Philatelic Societies' Meetings.

Philatelic Society, London.

Council for the Year 1902-1903.

President—
H.R.H. The Prince of Wales, K.G., etc.
Vice-President—The Earl of Crawford, K.T.
Hon. Secretary—J. A. Tilleard.
Hon. Treasurer—C. N. Biggs.
Hon. Assistant Secretary—H. R. Oldfield.
Hon. Librarian—T. Maycock.

W. B. Avery.
E. D. Bacon.
M. P. Castle, J.P. (*Hon. Vice-President.*)
R. Ehrenbach.
T. W. Hall.
L. L. R. Hausburg.
C. E. McNaughtan.
Franz Reichenheim.
Gordon Smith.

The tenth meeting of the season 1902-1903 was held at Effingham House, Arundel Street, Strand, on Friday the 6th March, 1903, at 7.45 p.m.

Members present: E. D. Bacon, C. Neville Biggs, L. W. Fulcher, R. B. Yardley, W. Schwabacher, C. McNaughtan, Thos. Wm. Hall, T. Maycock, J. A. Tilleard, Robert Ehrenbach, F. Ransom, Rudolph Meyer, William Silk, jun., Henry Hetley, Rudolph Frentzel, J. C. Sidebotham, L. S. Wells, A. R. Barrett.

The chair was taken by Mr. Bacon, and the minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed.

Mr. W. D. Martello Gray, proposed by Mr. Stamford and seconded by the Hon. Secretary, was after ballot duly elected a member of the Society.

Mr. R. B. Yardley read some notes on the stamps of St. Vincent, illustrated by his own collection. In addition to a description of the several issues and the varieties to be found in each, a very clear explanation was given as to the several perforations and the means of distinguishing them. The stamps, which comprised some novelties in minor varieties, were greatly admired for the perfect condition in which they were shown.

On the motion of Mr. Bacon, seconded by the Hon. Secretary, the cordial thanks of the meeting were voted to Mr. Yardley for his very interesting notes and display.

A paper on the 1861 and 1863 issues of Colombia, by Messrs. T. W. Hall and E. D. Bacon, was then read by Mr. Hall, and was accompanied by a display of his fine collection of the stamps under consideration.

Owing to the recent discovery of some large blocks of several of the values constituting each issue, the joint authors of the paper were able to give full particulars of the number of type varieties in each value, and to correct the ideas which have hitherto prevailed as to the number and arrangement of the stamps on the sheets. The paper, which was listened to with the greatest interest, is, by reason of the large amount of novel information which it contains, one of the most important read during the present season, and on publication it will be found to well repay a careful study by all serious Philatelists.

A resolution expressing the great indebtedness of the Society to Mr. Hall and Mr. Bacon for their valuable contribution, and the thanks of the meeting for the interesting display which had been given, was moved by Mr. R. Ehrenbach, and being seconded by Mr. McNaughtan, was carried unanimously. The proceedings then terminated.

The eleventh meeting of the season 1902-1903 was held at Effingham House, Arundel Street, Strand, on Friday the 20th March, 1903, at 7.45 p.m.

Members present: C. Neville Biggs, Rudolph Meyer, J. A. Tilleard, Thos. Wm. Hall, Rudolph Frentzel, Herbert R. Oldfield, L. W. Fulcher.

The chair was taken by Mr. C. Neville Biggs, and the reading of Mr. Moser's paper upon the first issue of the stamps of Bolivia was postponed until the next meeting of the Society, on the 3rd April, 1903. Some of the stamps and photographs illustrating the paper were, however, produced and inspected with considerable interest. The proceedings then terminated.

Birmingham Philatelic Society.

Hon. Secretary—
Mr. G. Johnson, B.A., 208, Birchfield Road, Birmingham.

Feb. 5th.—Mrs. A. H. Bridson, Messrs. T. A. McIntyre, J. G. W. Boulton, T. W. Morris, and C. Giacomini were unanimously elected members.

Messrs. G. W. Martin, W. Schwarte, G. L. Edwards, C. J. Byrne were thanked for contributions to the library, and Messrs. W. F. Wadams, F. W. Ayre, and W. G. Walton for donations to the permanent collection.

Mr. J. A. Margoschis then gave, by means of the aphengescope, which shows the stamps on the screen in their natural colours, a very interesting and instructive lantern display of over one hundred varieties, and remarks on each.

Feb. 27th and 28th.—A very successful auction was held on these evenings. Mr. J. H. Telfer (of the firm of Messrs. Plumridge and Co.) very kindly conducted the sale of over four hundred and eighty lots, which belonged to members only. At the close Mr. Telfer was accorded a very hearty vote of thanks. Messrs. W. H. Lythall, C. P. Rogers, J. Bouchard, F. Gerhartz, and A. F. Pickford were unanimously elected members.

March 5th.—Mr. A. Graham was unanimously elected a member.

Messrs. T. W. Peck, A. P. Walker, and G. Johnson then showed collections of various countries, and gave notes on them.

Disclaimer.—A person giving the name and address of Dr. E. W. Kemps, 31, Emsholt Street, Camden Gardens, London, N.W., and sometimes adding, "Directeur du médical contrôle," is writing to many dealers asking for selections, and saying that he is a member of the Birmingham Philatelic Society. He is not a member, and never has been. I immediately put the matter into the hands of the police, and they inform me that as usual it is a small barber's shop where letters are left, and that several registered and other letters were then awaiting him. They were doing the same. I hope that long ere this they have met.

We have the following books for sale for the benefit of the permanent collection. All are in

good order. Offers in cash or stamps to be sent by April 30th at latest :—

London Philatelist, vols. 5, 6, 7, 10.
P. J. of G. B. ,, 2, 3, 4, 5, 9, 10, 11, 12.
Gibbons' M. J. ,, 4, 5, 6, 8, 10.
Stamps ,, 3, 4, 5.
S. C. Fortnightly ,, 2, 3, 4, 7.
Ewen's W. S. N. ,, 5, 6, 7, 8.
Stamp Collector ,, 6.
Stamp News ,, 7, 8, 10.
,, ,, *Annual*, 1891.
Phil. Chron. and Ad., vols. 2, 8.
Stamp Auction Reporter, 14 Nos., complete.
Philatelic Referee, vol. 1.

Herts Philatelic Society.

THE dates of the annual dinner and the annual meeting have been altered to *May 19th and May 26th respectively.*

The river party (at Mr. Haynes' invitation) will probably be held on a Saturday in June; due notice will be given.

At the March meeting it was proposed and carried: "That one evening next season be set apart for an exhibition, by the members, of the stamps (including fiscals) of either Great Britain, France, Natal, or India." You are specially requested to inform the Hon. Sec., by post card, not later than April 20th, as to which of these countries should, in your opinion, be selected for exhibition.

H. A. SLADE, *Hon. Sec. and Treasurer.*
INGLESIDE, ST. ALBANS.

Suburban Stamp Exchange Club.

FOUR packets, containing 168 sheets, valued in the aggregate at £1,972 4s. 9d., were made up and despatched on the January circuit on the 23rd ult.

Many rare and medium stamps, in good condition and priced moderately, were included in the selections sent in, and members should have no difficulty in meeting some of their wants. South Africans and West Indians were specially well represented, and there were several good sheets of British and Australians.

Collectors having good duplicates for disposal should give the Suburban Club a trial. They will find it a capital medium for sale or exchange. Good buyers are also welcomed, the prices showing a great reduction on catalogue quotations.

Seven applications for membership were accepted during the past month, and two were held over for consideration. Copies of rules and full information gladly sent on demand. As the packets are very valuable, undeniable references are required in every case. H. A. SLADE, *Sec.*

INGLESIDE, ST. ALBANS,
February 12th, 1903.

International Philatelic Union.

AN interesting lantern display was given by the I.P.U. on Thursday evening, March 12th, when an enjoyable evening was spent. Amongst those present were Major J. de C. Laffan, R.E. (who ably occupied the chair in the unavoidable absence of the President), Mr. and Mrs. Schwabacher, Mr. and Mrs. Schwarte, Miss Cassels, Messrs. J. C. Sidebotham, P. L. Pemberton, W. S. King, H. Thompson, A. B. Kay, L. W. Fulcher, J. E. Joselin, W. Silk, H. Atherley, E. P. Airlie Dry, E. J. Bridger, Philip P. Brown, G. S. Godden, Mr. and Mrs. Stiley, and many other friends and visitors. An interesting programme was gone through, including "King Edward's Stamps," W. Pemberton; "Interesting Marks on Stamps and Bogus Stamps," Messrs. A. B. Kay and L. W. Fulcher; "Fiscal Stamps," Mr. Schwabacher; and "Historical and Zoological Stamps," Mr. T. H. Hinton. On the conclusion of the display a hearty vote of thanks to the Chairman and exhibitors was proposed by Mr. Joselin and carried unanimously. In his reply the Chairman briefly referred to the prize essay competition, and reminded members that all essays should reach the Hon. Sec. by April 13th next.

The Boston Philatelic Society.

THE 123rd regular meeting and annual jollification was held in Elks' Hall on Tuesday evening, February 17, at eight o'clock. President Lombard occupied the chair, and sixty-two members and friends were present. A communication was read from R. R. Bogert presenting a claim for the value of several books stolen from the Sales Department two years ago. The matter was laid on the table until the next meeting. The resignation of C. B. Pratt was read and accepted. The following were elected members: Mr. C. J. Barton, Melrose, Mass.; Mr. F. S. Cook, Brighton, Mass.; Mr. C. C. Bigelow, Somerville, Mass.; Mr. G. Gelli, Brussels, Belgium; Mr. A. P. Hanscom, Cambridge, Mass.; Mr. R. D. Maynard, Springfield, Mass. The President announced with deep regret the death of our fellow-member Mr. J. F. Johnson, on February 8, in Denver. Mr. Johnson was always interested and active in the Society, and for several years managed the Sales Department. He was also Resident Vice-President of the American Philatelic Association. The Secretary announced that several members of the Society had attended the funeral services in Roxbury on the 13th inst., and that a suitable floral tribute had been provided. It was voted that the Secretary extend to the family the sympathy of the Society and our regrets at the loss we have sustained.

Mr. Sawyer announced for the Exhibition Committee that a silver and bronze medal had been given by Mr. G. L. Toppan for an exhibition of U.S. cut-square envelopes, and had been accepted by the Committee. Notice of this exhibition was given in the last circular. Mr. Rothfuchs then entertained the Society with a very interesting account of the "Fourteenth German Philatelists' Day" in Vienna last September, and also many other details of his trip in Europe last summer. He had many photographs and *souvenir* post cards, which those present very much enjoyed examining. Supper was then served in the lower hall, and after that the exhibition for the evening was displayed. This was for general collections of not over 6,000 varieties, and there were two entries, Mr. F. D. Moffat, of Brooklyn, N.Y., who was present, carrying off the silver medal, and Mr. C. A. Grimmons, of Somerville, the bronze medal. That our interest in general collections has not been spoiled by the many specialised ones we have been shown was evidenced by the way those present inspected the exhibits. Many out-of-town members were

present, including a delegation of five from Springfield, whose defiance of weather and railroad conditions on that day was laudable. A most entertaining meeting was finally adjourned at 10.55.

C. A. HOWES, *Secretary.*

The Collectors' Club.

351, FOURTH AVENUE, NEW YORK.

THE eighty-eighth meeting of the Board of Governors was held at the Club House on Monday evening, January 12th, 1903. Present: Messrs. Andreini, Dewing, Luff, Morgenthau, and Scott. Meeting called 8.30 p.m. In the absence of the Secretary, Mr. Luff was appointed Secretary *pro tem.* The Treasurer's report, showing a cash balance in bank of $709.05, exclusive of reserve fund, was accepted as read. The Amusement Committee reported that the arrangements for the entertainment to be held at the Club House on the evening of Saturday the 17th inst., have been completed. The Judges of the Exhibition of Australian Stamps reported as follows:—"To the Governors of the Collectors' Club. Gentlemen,—At the competitive exhibition of one hundred unused Australian stamps for cash prizes offered by Stanley Gibbons, Limited, which was held on January 8th, at the rooms of the Collectors' Club, only one collection was entered for competition. In the opinion of your judges it was deemed unwise to award any of the prizes, and your judges suggest that a competition be set for some future date, and that wider publicity be given the competition. Respectfully submitted, J. M. Andreini, Jos. S. Rich, J. C. Morgenthau." The report was approved and recommendation endorsed. Moved, seconded, and carried that the Australian Competitive Exhibition be held in March, at the same time as the Exhibition of U.S. Documentary and Proprietary Revenue Stamps.

The following dates were set for forthcoming exhibitions, and the Secretary was instructed to send cards of notification to the members and also to the Press: February 9th, Great Britain; March 9th, U.S. Documentary and Proprietary; April 13th, Russia, Finland, and Poland; May 11th, Egypt and Sudan. Exhibits to be sent to the office of Mr. J. C. Morgenthau, 87, Nassau Street, New York, not later than the Thursday preceding the date of each exhibition. The following resolution was passed: "The Board of Governors have heard with regret of the death of our former fellow-member and friend, Wm. Alex. Smith, jun., and instruct the Secretary to express their condolence to his widow." The name of Chas. H. Stone, having been posted the required length of time, was balloted on, and he was declared to have been unanimously elected a subscribing member of the Club.

JOHN N. LUFF, *Secretary pro tem.*

A SPECIAL meeting (the eighty-ninth) of the Board of Governors was held at the Club House on Saturday evening, January 17th, 1903. The Secretary read the resignation of Mr. H. L. Calman as Governor. Moved by Mr. Scott, duly seconded and carried, that the resignation of Mr. Calman from the Board be accepted with regrets. The name of Mr. Jos. S. Rich was placed in nomination for Governor by Mr. Perrin, and seconded by Mr. Scott, to fill the vacancy on the Board. There being no other nominations, the Secretary was instructed to cast the vote, and the chair declared Mr. Rich unanimously elected. Adjourned at 8.50 p.m.

THE ninety-first meeting of the Board of Governors was held at the Club House on Monday evening, March 9th, 1903. Present: Messrs. Bruner, Luff, Morgenthau, Rich, Scott, and Perrin. The Treasurer's report, showing a cash balance in bank of $432.93, exclusive of reserve fund, was approved as read. The report of the House Committee was read and received. The Literary Committee reported that Mr. Charles J. Phillips had donated to Club library bound vols. 8, 9, 10, and 11 of *Stanley Gibbons' Monthly Journal.* The Judges on the Exhibitions of U.S. Documentary and Proprietary, Russia, Finland, and Poland Stamps reported as follows:—

"NEW YORK, *March 9th,* 1903.

"To the Board of Governors, Collectors' Club.

"Gentlemen,—We the undersigned, appointed by your Board as a committee to judge the entries in competition for the prizes instituted by you, beg to submit the following report:—

"For the U.S. Revenues, Documentary, and Proprietary no entries were received.

"For the competition of the stamps of Russia, Finland, and Poland only one collection was entered for competition, although a second collection, consisting of the stamps of Poland only, will be exhibited this evening, but not in competition, as the owner of this collection has paid no attention to the stamps of Russia and Finland, and hence did not feel justified in entering in competition. The one collection entered your judges found to be such an excellent one that we have no hesitancy in recommending that the prize shall be awarded, even though there was no competition, as this collection would undoubtedly have secured the prize against any and all known collections of these stamps in this country. The collection is that of Mr. W. H. Sussdorff, and is practically complete in the issues of the three countries, containing not only the main varieties, but also nearly all the minor varieties and errors, and is particularly rich in shades, and the condition of the stamps is as perfect as can be expected.

"Respectfully submitted,

"J. C. MORGENTHAU,

"PAUL ROWE."

The report of the death of our fellow-member, J. B. Brevoort, was received with regret. The application of Wm. H. Hendrickson, having been posted the required length of time, was balloted upon, and he was declared to have been unanimously elected a subscribing member of the Club.

ALBERT PERRIN, *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. A. CHURCHILL EMERSON (Advertising Department), Effingham House, Arundel Street, London, W.C.

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A SUPPLEMENT TO "BRITISH ISLES."

To the Editor of the "London Philatelist."

DEAR SIR,—I notice in your March issue, under the above title, an article by Mr. A. B. Creeke, jun., in which he makes certain corrections of statements made in *British Isles*. I notice one instance in which the "correction" is inaccurate and the original statement is quite correct.

The alteration in the design of the Large Crown watermark took place in 1862, not 1861. I believe I was the first to notice the two types, or at least to publish descriptions of them, and before I gave the later watermark the name of "Large Crown of 1862" in my catalogue I was at some pains to ascertain the correct date.

The change took place during the life of the 2d., Plate 9, and Mr. Skipton must therefore be mistaken in the watermark of his specimen of Plate 8.

Yours faithfully,

H. L'ESTRANGE EWEN.

The Market.

NOTE.—*Under this title will be inserted all the information that may refer in any way to the financial aspects of Philately*, e.g. *the sales or values of stamps, the state of the Market, Trade publications, etc.*

WE have received a priced catalogue of a sale (mostly stamps) held by Mr. M. P. Vallentine, in Johannesburg, on March 4th and 7th, 1903.

The lots numbered three hundred and eighty-eight, and the stamps were principally South African.

Running through it we notice that the lots are either bulky or, if single, are in many cases described under the numbers in Gibbons' 1903 Catalogue. Our time is too valuable to hunt out the particular varieties described by numbers only. Hence, as these sales increase, as doubtless they will, it would be well for the compilers of South African catalogues to follow the European lines.

* * *

WE learn that M. Jules Bernichon, of Paris, has purchased the very fine collection of M. Marconnet, whose name is so well known in connection with his work and writings on the stamps of France. The collection is extremely fine, notably in the French issues, and it would seem probable, even at the large price paid (£8,000), that M. Bernichon will have effected a lucrative transaction. The writer had the pleasure of meeting M. Bernichon at Nice, whither he had gone to meet M. Marconnet.

* * *

MESSRS. VENTOM, BULL, AND COOPER.

Sale of March 19th and 20th, 1903.

* Unused.	£	s.	d.
Ceylon, 9d., lilac-brown, imperf., on entire	2	4	0
Japan, 1874, 6 sen, purple-brown, Plate 15	1	0	0
Philippines, 1st issue, 1 r., blue, horizontal pair*	6	0	0
Mauritius, small fillet, 2d., blue, a reconstructed plate of twelve, comprising a horizontal pair and ten singles, one or two are a little defective	9	0	0
Natal, 1874–8, 12½, 4d., brown,* with gum	2	6	0
Orange River Colony, 1877, "4" on 6d., Types C and D,* with gum	1	8	0
Ditto, 1882, provisionals, 3d. on 4d., ultramarine, the complete set of five types,* all mint	4	4	0
Swazieland, ½d., red surcharge, ½d., black surcharge, 1d., 2d., 1s., and 5s., all with inverted surcharges and unused, with gum, one or two are a little defective	6	6	0
Ditto, 5s., slate-blue, error "Swazielan," in a mint horizontal corner pair, the other stamp is torn at top	4	0	0
New Brunswick, 1s., violet	7	10	0

	£	s.	d.
U.S.A., Agriculture, set of nine,* mint	2	10	0
Ditto, State, set of eleven,* mostly mint	3	3	0
Ditto, Guam, 1899, set of twelve*	1	18	0
British Guiana, 1888–9, $1, green,* mint	3	0	0
Grenada, 1883, provisional, surcharged "POSTAGE" diagonally, on half 1d., orange, an unsevered pair	2	0	0
Turks Islands, 1873–9, 1s., prune	3	12	6
Argentine, 1899–1901, the set of nineteen complete, including the 1, 5, 10, and 20 pesos,* all mint	3	2	6
Antioquia, 1st issue, 1 peso, red	1	16	0
South Australia, 1871, 4d., purple, wmk. V and Crown	1	18	0
Collections, 535 British Colonials, including some nice stamps, £90.			

* * *

Sale of April 2nd and 3rd, 1903.

* Unused.

	£	s.	d.
Great Britain, 1862, small letters in corners, 9d., bistre, an unused pane of twenty, mint, with full margins	24	0	0
Ditto, ditto, 9d., straw, an unused mint block of twelve, with full margins, being the top three rows of the pane	11	10	0
Ditto, ditto, another block of eight in the same shade, with full margins, mint, being the two top rows of the pane	9	10	0
Ditto, ditto, 1s., green, a very fine unused corner block of six, mint	7	10	0
Ditto, 1865–75, 4d., vermilion, an unused corner block of fifteen, mint, five rows of three	7	10	0
Ditto, 1867, 1s., green, wmk. Spray, Plate 4, an unused part pane of sixteen (four rows of four), mint, with full margins	7	5	0
Ditto, 1881, 1d., purple, error printed both sides, unused, mint	4	17	6
Belgium, 5 francs, red-brown, an unused block of four, mint	2	12	0
Oldenburg, 1861, ⅓ gr., green, error "Drittd"*	3	0	0
Spain, 1852, 2 reales	2	10	0
Ceylon, 9d., lilac-brown,* imperf.	15	0	0
Ditto, 1886–7, 25 c., buff, with value in yellow, block of four,* mint	3	17	6
Philippine Islands, 1855, 5 c., red*	5	15	0
Straits Settlements, 1st issue, complete*	3	15	0
Ditto, 10 cents on 30 c., Gibbons' No. 36*	2	10	0
Ditto, ditto, Gibbons' No. 39B*	3	3	0
Ditto, 1883, provisional, vertical surcharge, "TWO CENTS" on 5 c., blue, twice surcharged	4	4	0
British East Africa, 1891, provisional, surcharged in manuscript, ½ anna A.B. on 2 annas, vermilion	4	8	0
British South Africa, 1896, provisional issued in Buluwayo, "One Penny" on 4s., grey-black and vermilion, the extremely rare error "One Pennʎ," the letter "y" inverted, slightly nicked	7	0	0
Natal, 1st issue, 9d., blue, used, on entire letter	3	3	0
Ditto, another good specimen, used, on piece of original	3	10	0
Ditto, 1870, 1s., green, with curved surcharge in black, slight tear	6	17	6
Transvaal, surcharged "V.R. TRANSVAAL," in red, 3d., mauve	4	7	6
Zululand, on Natal, ½d., green, inverted surcharge*	3	17	6
British Guiana, 1862, provisional, 1 c., crossed ovals	3	5	0
Ditto, ditto, ditto, 2 c., ditto, roul.	2	5	0
St. Kitts, C A, 4d., blue,* mint	2	2	0
Brazil, 600 r., italic figures	3	5	0
Fiji, "V R" plain, 2d., in red, on 3d., green,* mint	3	7	6
New South Wales, Sydney View, 3d., green, horizontal strip of three	7	15	0
New Zealand, 1855, London print, 1d., dull carmine	2	12	6
Ditto, 1856, 1d., red on blue	1	12	0
Ditto, ditto, 1s., green on blue	1	16	0
Ditto, ditto, 1d., orange, rouletted	3	12	6
Ditto, ditto, 1s., green, ditto, defective	3	3	0
Ditto, ditto, 1s., blue-green, serrated perf., ditto	2	2	0
Ditto, 1872, N Z, 1d., brown	17	0	0
Ditto, ditto, 2d., vermilion*	3	15	0
South Australia, 1872, 9d., violet, printed on both sides	3	10	0
Victoria, 1st issue, 1d., orange-ver., horizontal strip of four	4	0	0
Ditto, ditto, 2d., lilac, fine background, slightly thinned	4	10	0
Ditto, 1858–61, 2s., green, rouletted, defective	2	17	6
Ditto, 1863–4, 1d., green, watermarked double-line figure 4, creased	3	0	0
Western Australia, 1st issue, black on red, 2d.	5	5	0
Ditto, ditto, 6d., bronze	4	12	0

* * *

MESSRS. PLUMRIDGE AND CO.

Sale of March 17th and 18th, 1903.

* Unused.

	£	s.	d.
British East Africa, 1895, on Company's stamp, 2 a., red, horizontal pair,* mint	3	10	0
Ditto, on Indian, 1 r., red and green, with double surcharge, horizontal pair,* mint	2	10	0
Great Britain, 1d., black, a reconstructed plate, practically being all picked specimens	5	7	6
Ditto, 2d., blue, with lines, a reconstructed plate, practically being very fine specimens	1	18	0
Modena, 1852, 1 l., used on piece	2	2	0
Ditto, 1859, 5 c., brown, error*	1	6	0
Natal, 1874, 1d., lake (S. G. No. 65) *	1	0	0
Nevis, 6d., grey, litho*	4	10	0
Queensland, 1860, 2d., blue, imperf.	4	0	0
St. Vincent, 5s., rose, wmk. Star,* with gum	10	0	0
Ditto, 1d. on half 6d.*	3	10	0
Tasmania, 1870, 4d., blue, used	1	14	0
Trinidad, 1860, clean-cut 14 to 16, 1d., rose-red,* mint	1	2	0
U.S.A., Executive, set of five*	4	4	0
Ditto, Justice, set of ten, used	4	15	0
Ditto, State, set of twelve*	3	12	0
Zululand, 5s., carmine, a mint horizontal pair	7	0	0
Ditto, 1894, £1, red, mint	2	6	0

* * *

Sale of March 31st and April 1st, 1903.

* Unused.

	£	s.	d.
British East Africa, 1895, on Indian, 3 a., dull orange, a block of twenty-five, used on entire, showing rare type inverted "V"	2	6	0
British South Africa, 1890, £10, brown, postally used	2	4	0
Cape of Good Hope, 1858, 1d., rose-red,* block of four	2	4	0
Ditto, ditto, 4d., blue,* pair	1	12	0
Ditto, 1863, De la Rue, 1d., blood-red, pair,* mint	1	16	0
Ceylon, 1s. 9d., yellow-green, imperf.	2	12	6
Ditto, 1862, no wmk., 1d., blue*	2	0	0
Montserrat, CA, 4d., ditto*	1	10	0
Orange River Colony, "V R I," second printing, 6d., carmine,* pair	1	4	0
Seychelles, 1893, 15 c. on 16 c., surcharge inverted,* mint	1	15	0
Trinidad, 1859, pin-perf. 14, 1d., rose-carmine, a mint horizontal pair	2	0	0
Ditto, ditto, ditto, 4d., brown-lilac, ditto, ditto	2	16	0
Ditto, ditto, ditto, 6d., yellow-green, mint	1	14	0
Ditto, 1860, clean-cut perfs., 1d., rose-red, ditto	1	12	0
Ditto, ditto, ditto, 4d., brown-lilac, ditto	1	16	0
Ditto, ditto, ditto, 6d., green, ditto	2	4	0
Ditto, 1894, "O.S.", ½d., 1d., 4d., 6d., 1s., and 5s., all mint	3	14	0
Ditto, ditto, ditto, 5s., dull lake, ditto	1	12	0
U.S.A., Agriculture, set of nine,* ditto	2	6	0
Ditto, Justice, 90 c.,* with gum	4	4	0
Ditto, State, set of eleven,* ditto	3	3	0

* * *

MESSRS. PUTTICK AND SIMPSON.

Sale of March 10th and 11th, 1903.

* Unused.

	£	s.	d.
Cyprus, CC, 6 p., grey,* with gum	1	6	0
Ceylon, 4d., rose, imperf.	13	5	0
Ditto, 8d., brown, ditto, minute tear	7	10	0
Johor, 1891, 2c., green, error "Censt,"* mint	4	4	0
Cape of Good Hope, triangular, 1s., dark green, pair,* ditto	5	10	0
Lagos, 2s. 6d., olive-black	3	0	0
Ditto, 5s., blue	4	17	6
Transvaal, 1878, "V.R. Transvaal," 6d., blue on blue, imperf., a block of six, unused, with full gum, three are very slightly damaged, others very fine	8	8	0
New Brunswick, 1s., mauve	10	10	0
U.S.A., Agriculture, 1 c. to 30 c.,* mint	2	12	0
Ditto, Justice, 1 c. to 30 c.	2	12	6
Ditto, State, 1 c. to 90 c.,* mostly mint	4	0	0
Barbados, CC, 12½, 6d., bright yellow,* no gum	1	18	0
Tobago, CC, 6d., stone	2	6	0
British Guiana, 1862, 2 c., yellow, No. 7	4	4	0
Victoria, 5s., blue on yellow	2	15	0
Western Australia, 6d., gold-bronze, superb	5	0	0
Collections, 4,927, £25; 726, in plain book, £22; and 3,097, £18 10s.			

* * *

Sale of March 24th and 25th, 1903.

* Unused.

	£	s.	d.
Cyprus, 1880, ½d., rose, Plate 19	1	1	0
Ditto, 6d., grey, and 1s., green*	1	12	0
Great Britain, 1d., VR,* mint	7	7	6
Ditto, 1841, 1d., pair, Dickinson paper*	1	3	0
Ditto, 1847–54, 1s., oct., Die 2,* cut into at left	2	10	0
Ditto, 1855–7, 4d., carmine, wmk. Small Garter,* a nice copy, but re-perforated at top	6	0	0
Ditto, 2s., red-brown,* corner perf. missing	3	3	0
Ceylon, 1d., imperf., blue on bleuté,* no gum	1	10	0
Ditto, 8d., brown, ditto, minute defect	8	0	0
British Bechuanaland, 1888, ½d., ver., pair, double overprint*	2	18	0
British Central Africa, 1891, £2, rose-red,* mint	4	0	0
British South Africa, 1891, set of four provisionals*	3	15	0
Cape of Good Hope, woodblock, 1d., red,* repaired	2	14	0
Ditto, ditto, 4d., dark blue,* ditto	2	15	0
Ditto, ditto, ditto, used and fine	3	17	6
Gold Coast, CA, 1d., blue, not brilliant	2	0	0
Griqualand, 1874, MS. surcharge, 1d., in red, on 4d., blue, mint*	1	5	0
Lagos, wmk. CC, perf. 12½, 1s., orange, value 16½ mm., mint*	2	10	0
Mauritius, 1848, "Post Paid," 2d., blue, medium early impression, the error "Penoe," enormous margins	10	10	0
Ditto, 1859, large fillet, 2d., dark blue, a nice lightly cancelled copy, but is a little damaged at top and in centre	7	10	0
Niger Coast, 1893, ½, in red, on half of 1d., pale blue	1	14	0
Orange River Colony, 1900, surcharged "V.R.I.", 1st printing, 2½d., blue, a block of four, one being the variety with Roman "I" and antique "2" in fraction,* mint	2	10	0
Canada, 7½d., green,* part gum	3	3	0
Newfoundland, 4d., scarlet-vermilion	4	17	6
Ditto, 1897, "One Cent" on 3 c., purple, a block of fifteen, ten are Type 1, three are Type 2, and two are the scarce Type 3, mint*	4	0	0
Nova Scotia, 1s., purple	8	0	0
Bahamas, CC, perf. 12½, 6d., lilac, block of four,* mint.	1	14	0
Montserrat, CA, 4d., blue*	3	5	0
St. Lucia, CA, 1s., orange-brown,* mint	2	2	0
St. Vincent, 5s., rose-red, Star,* no gum	8	0	0
Trinidad, pin-perf., 4d., brown-lilac, pair,* mint	2	10	0
Ditto, clean-cut, ditto,* mint	1	10	0
British Guiana, 1850, 12 c., blue, cut square, and on entire original, slightly creased, but a very fine and lightly cancelled copy	11	0	0
Ditto, 1852, 4 c., blue, a nice copy, with fair margins	3	10	0
Ditto, 1856, 4 c., magenta, a fine copy, but corners cut	4	4	0
New South Wales, Sydney, 2d., dark blue, Plate 1	2	10	0
South Australia, imperf., 1d., dark green, a pair,* a little repaired	4	0	0
Western Australia, 1857, 2d., brown on red, rouletted*	3	10	0
Collections, 5,330, £52, and 3,136, £21.			

THE

London Philatelist.

THE MONTHLY JOURNAL OF

THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY, LONDON.

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The Collectors' Catalogue.



IN the March issue of this journal we made some comments upon the growing necessity of a revision of the dealers' catalogues in order to keep down the varieties to a limit at which the general collector would not be driven out of the field. The remarks we then made were not hastily written, and we humbly think are worth consideration by the issuers of catalogues. Like Mr. Chamberlain, "what we have said we have said, and we withdraw nothing." At the same time we expressly stated that we had no intention of restarting the vexed question that forms the title of this note, nor do we intend to depart from this intention, as, in our view, it is but beating the air. In justice to the members of the London Philatelic Society, who have given much time to discussing this question, as well as in justice to this journal, we feel, however, bound to controvert a statement made by our esteemed contemporary the *Philatelic Record*. In the April number the editor of that journal writes :—

"According to Mr. Castle, in the *London Philatelist*, 'the final stages of discussion have elicited the general opinion as to the excellence of the idea and the utter impracticability of putting it into execution.' What a confession! If an idea is excellent and there are not brains enough, or enthusiasm enough, to carry it through, then are we poor indeed. In the opinion of the advocates of the catalogue compiled for collectors by collectors the end is not yet. Not a few are patiently content to let the idea ripen, as they believe it must when the average collector is sick and tired of dealer-made varieties. We can do little more than watch the progress of the enthusiastic reformer, and note his quiet determination to have his catalogue. Meanwhile let us hope that he will not land us in a Babel of catalogues, from the frying-pan into the fire."

It is not a question of brains or enthusiasm at all; it is a question of expense. To make a catalogue not only worthy of general acceptance, but one that is to form a guide or mentor for all collectors, it is evident that its compilation (by the best authorities), its illustrations, which must be fine, and its typographical paper and binding, which should all be faultless, would cost a sum of money measurable rather by thousands than hundreds of pounds. Leaving aside the enormous labour in evolving such a perfect catalogue, and assuming that dozens of collectors can be found to give up their time to the work (which we rather doubt), it is evident that no such catalogue could be produced without the laying down of a large amount of money. This could be done by some philatelic Carnegie or by a small limited company. The latter event is the less unlikely of the two, and if "the advocates of the catalogue compiled for collectors by collectors" would take this step, we should then agree with the *Philatelic Record* that the idea had ripened. Any such syndicate or company would have not only to closely examine the probable outside cost of the undertaking at its outset, but the future expenses of maintaining, revising, and adding to the work, and of distributing its various editions throughout the world. We use the last expression on the assumption that the "world" is going to take it as a guide, but it would more probably be only the English-speaking people who would accept its *dicta.*

It will therefore be readily seen that the issue of such a catalogue is primarily a matter of dry business, involving a large outlay and a permanent expenditure, *i.e.* practically carrying on a publishing business. Unless and until the money for this is forthcoming it seems to us, therefore, a waste of words to discuss the matter either at the meetings of our philatelic societies or in the pages of our journals. There is no question of doubt that the collector's head is under the heel of the dealer, both as to varieties listed and prices affixed, but the former can only supersede the latter by producing a better article, which spells money, although it may probably turn out a good investment!

The Adhesive Stamps of Portugal.

By J. N. MARSDEN.

A Paper read before the Philatelic Society, London, on December 19, 1902.



IN entering upon a study of the stamps of Portugal, I must crave the indulgence of readers of the *London Philatelist*, inasmuch as the subject has, with regard to the "relief" issues, been handled in so masterly a manner by Messrs. M. P. Castle and Ehrenbach in this journal, and by others, especially in the German philatelic press.

I am afraid my articles will be disappointing to many, as there are many points that require elucidation, which, owing to the lack of official informa-

tion, I have been unable to settle to my own satisfaction, and some of which I am afraid may never be definitely settled.

Dr. Anachoreta, who was for some time employed at the Lisbon Mint, wrote an excellent article on the first issue for the Bulletin of the Lausanne Philatelic Society of June, 1896, and we may hope that at some future time this gentleman will give to the philatelic world further information on succeeding issues, especially as to the quantities issued.

As stated by Dr. Anachoreta, the first engraver to the Mint, Senhor Francisco Borja Freire, was entrusted with the arrangements for the first issue, after the use of stamps for prepaying correspondence had been officially decided upon, and was sent on a special mission to England to study the question. The result was that two machines for printing and embossing stamps at the same time were ordered from Messrs. Dryden Brothers, Lambeth, the same firm that supplied the English Government with machines for producing the early English embossed postage stamps. These machines are still to be seen in the Lisbon Mint, and were used for printing all the relief issues of Portugal and the Colonies up to a comparatively recent period. Dr. Anachoreta states that the machine was worked by manual labour, which at so early a period was probable; I myself saw it in work in the year 1886, and it was then being worked by steam power.

At first the machines could only produce twenty-four stamps to the sheet, but subsequently—at what period is uncertain, but most probably for the 1866 issue—they were altered so as to produce twenty-eight stamps to the sheet, and the marks of the alteration are still to be seen in the machines. When I saw the machines at work, the die, a movable one, descended and printed and embossed only one stamp at a time, the paper underneath having its position altered by a man who worked with a couple of small hand-levers, one for the vertical and the other for the horizontal movement. The sheet was thus moved to receive the impressions until complete—six horizontal rows of four stamps—when it was withdrawn and another blank sheet substituted. If the workman delayed to move the sheet between two descents of the die, the result was a double impression. This delay frequently occurred in the last stamp of the sheet, when a fresh sheet was being got ready to place in the machine. Double relief impressions, as Mr. Castle explains,* occurred when two sheets were inadvertently placed in the machine at the same time, the lower one receiving the embossing only. This sheet put into the machine a second time would thus appear with two embossings.

It is interesting to note that the colours employed for the first issue were the same as those in vogue in England at the time, but allotted to different values. A red stamp for official use was authorised, Senhor Freire probably hearing of the existence of the 1d. V.R. in England, but the die was never prepared, and consequently no stamps were ever printed for this purpose.

With regard to details of paper, gum, and printing, I cannot do better than refer the reader to Dr. Anachoreta's article before alluded to.

In this series of articles it is my intention to give all the information I have been able to gather with regard to the reprints, and to give lists of

* *London Philatelist*, vol. x. p. 102.

them concurrently with the original stamps. They form a very interesting study in themselves, the more so that up to a certain period, as I fully believe, they were allowed to do postal duty. When the first reprints were made, and after the issue of Donna Maria had been superseded, they could be obtained at the Mint at face value by anyone who cared to apply for them, and I have met with several values postally used.

Issue I. 1st July, 1853.

The 5 reis is a stamp that has presented many difficulties, owing to types, varieties of paper, bad impressions, etc., but I hope that I shall here be able to give exactly the collectible varieties that exist. To Mr. Castle* belongs the honour of having discovered the points that certainly mark the difference in the two dies. The chief, and to my mind *only* reliable difference between Dies 1 and 2 lies in the small lines pointing upwards to the first and last letters of the word "CORREIO" and downwards to the "5" and "S" of "5 REIS." In Die 1 they are distinctly *angular*, and in Die 2 they are not only *curved*, but *longer*. The size of the pendent curl in Die 2 I do not consider a sufficient test, as although in Die 2 it is much shorter, badly impressed specimens of Die 1 exist also showing a short curl.

I do not agree with Mr. Castle when he states that the irregularities in the impression were due to the absorbent character of the thin paper, as I possess a specimen of Die 2 (most probably a reprint, as I have never seen a used copy) showing the "Adam's apple" and other defects on *thick* paper. These defects were, to my mind, due solely to a worn die, and the specimen of Die 2 above mentioned and the early reprint on thin paper show exactly the same wear of the die.

When my paper was read at the meeting of the London Society, on the 19th of December last, I was strongly of opinion that the impression of Die 2 on thick paper was an original stamp, but I have since had an opportunity of exchanging views with Mr. Castle, and through him with Mr. Ehrenbach, and the theory adduced by the latter gentleman seems to me not only extremely probable, but conclusive. It is that when the second reprinting took place a few sheets were struck off on thick paper, but it was seen that the die was so very much worn that for the succeeding reprinting an entirely new die was prepared.

With regard to the 25 reis, stamps printed from worn dies are frequently met with, and yet the first reprint can hardly be distinguished from some of the originals, except in having a white gum. What were probably the latest printings of the originals show a smudging of the colour on the right-hand side, both top and bottom, and so does the first reprint. Here, again, I have a specimen on the thick paper of Die 2 of the 5 reis, which very nearly approaches the state of the die of the first reprint, and in the case of this value also I believe that a small quantity were printed for the second reprinting and an entirely new die engraved for the third reprinting.

* *London Philatelist*, July, 1901.

The 50 reis calls for no special comment, and I agree with Mr. Castle that it does not exist on thin paper.

The 100 reis exists both on thick and on thin paper, and of this value no varieties exist except of shade.

Reprints.

In order to supply the numerous inquiries and orders from abroad for stamps of the first issue, the stamps forming it were reprinted, most probably in 1863, on the same paper and with the same quality of gum as the stamps then in use. They were sold, as I have previously stated, at the Lisbon Mint, at face value, to anyone who applied for them, and the authorities took no objection to their being used to frank correspondence.

The 5 reis of this reprinting is in a much darker shade of brown than the originals, and has none of the red-brown shade present in all the originals; it is of Die 2. The 25 reis I have already described. The 50 reis is readily discernible from the original by its colour, which is a very decided *yellow*-green (the shade of the original being a pure green sometimes verging towards the blue-green shade); there are, moreover, breaks in the outer frame between the "5" and "O" in the lower label, and in the shorter side of the octagon almost at the join of the two sides near the second "O" of "CORREIO." In the early impressions of the originals no breaks occur, but in later printings the break between "5" and "O" becomes more and more pronounced, but never so much as in the reprint. The reprint of the 100 reis is a difficult stamp to distinguish from the original on thin paper, but it may be known by the thicker printing of the projections on the left-hand side of the stamp.

The second reprints were made in 1885 to commemorate the meeting of the Postal Congress in Lisbon, every delegate being presented with a set. It is said that only five hundred sets of Portugal and Colonies existing up to that year were reprinted, and the 5 reis and 25 reis on thick paper, which I was previously inclined to think formed the tail of the original issue, I now believe were really part of the second reprinting. It is doubtful if they were gummed—most probably not.

A third reprinting was made in December, 1890, when stamps of the face value of 78,432,320 reis (£17,430) of Portugal and the Colonies were reprinted. It is commonly stated that they were printed on what is generally known as "chalky paper," but this is incorrect. The paper of the second and third reprintings is quite different, though it is thick and bears a gloss on its surface. With the exception of the 5 and 25 reis, D. Maria, I do not think it possible to distinguish the second and third reprintings with certainty, but where two shades of the same stamp occur, and in the case of the $12\frac{1}{2}$ and $13\frac{1}{2}$ perforations, it is possible that to this extent two sets can be made. The 5 and 25 reis were reprinted from new dies, which show conspicuous differences from the originals and the first and second reprints (they do not bear the engraver's initials at the base of the bust). The original dies were used for all reprintings of the 50 and 100 reis.

SYNOPSIS.

Issue I. 1st July, 1853.

5	reis,	Die 1,	on thick paper;	red-brown in many shades, the shades often influenced by the heaviness of the impression.
25	,,	,,	,,	pale blue, blue, dark blue; many shades of each.
50	,,	,,	,,	green, deep green,
100	,,	,,	,,	pale lilac, bright lilac, deep lilac.
5	,,	Die 1,	on thin paper;	red-brown shades.
5	,,	Die 2	,, ,,	brown, red-brown.
25	,,	,,	,, ,,	blue, dark blue.
100	,,	,,	,, ,,	pale lilac, lilac, deep lilac.
	Varieties.	25	reis, on thick paper;	pale blue, double impression.
		50	,, ,,	green ,, ,,

It is probable that double impressions exist of all the stamps in relief, but I only mention those I have actually seen.

Reprints.

1st.	1863.	5	reis, Die 2,	on thin paper;	brown
		25	,, ,,	,, ,,	deep blue.
		50	,,	,, ,,	yellow-green.
		100	,,	,, ,,	lilac.
2nd.	1885.	5	,, Die 2,	on thick paper;	red-brown.
		25	,, ,,	,, ,,	blue.
3rd.	189c.	5	,, new die,	on thick paper;	brown, bistre-brown.
		25	,, ,,	,, ,,	pale blue.
		50	,,	,, ,,	yellow-green.
		100	,,	,, ,,	lilac.

(To be continued.)

A Supplement to "British Isles."

By A. B. CREEKE, Jun.

(*Continued from page* 82.)

Page 208.—Just before the *Synopsis* of these stamps insert :—

(*d*) THE SIXPENCE.

ISSUE: JUNE, 1901.

Description.—The Sixpence of 1887, in purple, on red Large (1880) Crown paper, was thus overprinted, under a warrant dated the 11th June, 1901, and the stamp was issued towards the end of that month. (*Illustration* 221.)

Remarks.—Three very distinct shades of the paper are known, and the impression also varies.

(B) A STAMP OF 1900.
THE ONE HALFPENNY.

ISSUE: MAY, 1900.

Description.—The One Halfpenny, green, of April, 1900, was overprinted "**ARMY OFFICIAL**," and issued in this month. (*Illustration* 155.)

The second line of the *Synopsis* should now read :—"Paper (blue for the Twopence Halfpenny and varying shades of red for the highest value) . . ."; and the following should be added :—

June, 1901.—Sixpence, purple (shades).

(*b*) A STAMP OF 1900.

Paper watermarked with a Large (1880) Crown; perforated 14; overprinted "**ARMY OFFICIAL**" in black.

April, 1900.—One Halfpenny, green (shades).

There are two distinct types of this overprint—one thick, the other thin; both are found on the Halfpenny, vermilion, and the One Penny.

As mentioned previously, a fifth overprint has come into use since the main work was published, and those stamps, with head of Her late Majesty, so overprinted, are comprised in :—

SECTION V.

Postage Stamps overprinted "**BOARD OF EDUCATION.**"

These stamps, as their overprint indicates, were for the use of the Board of Education. Six values were issued, of which only the highest two concern us, viz. :—

Of the issues of 1887–1900 :—

(*a*) The Fivepence.
(*b*) The One Shilling.

STAMPS OF 1887–1900.
(*a*) THE FIVEPENCE.

ISSUE: FEBRUARY, 1902.

Description.—The lower of these two values was the Fivepence, purple and blue, first issued in 1887, its overprinting being under a warrant of the 28th January, 1902. (*Illustration* 222.)

Remarks.—The creation amounted to 275 sheets, or 66,000 stamps, of which only 23 sheets, or 5,520 stamps, were issued, the remainder being destroyed.

(*b*) THE ONE SHILLING.

ISSUE: FEBRUARY, 1902.

Description.—This was the bicoloured stamp of July, 1900, overprinted in pursuance of the above warrant of the 28th January, 1902. (*Illustration* 223.)

Remarks.—Of the One Shilling only 10 sheets, or 2,400 stamps, were issued, out of a total creation of 137½ sheets, or 33,000 stamps, the balance being cancelled.

SYNOPSIS.

STAMPS OF 1887–90.

Paper watermarked with a Large (1880) Crown; perforated 14; overprinted "**BOARD OF EDUCATION**" in black.

February, 1902.—Fivepence, purple and blue.
One Shilling, green and scarlet.

Pages 210, 211.—The only addition to the stamps surcharged for use in the Ottoman Empire is in the nature of an error. In the early part of 1902 the then current Forty Paras (on the Twopence Halfpenny of 1887) was found with a double surcharge. (*Illustration* 224.) The necessary insertion must be made on the first page, also in the *Synopsis* on the next.

There is a minor variety of the surcharge, in which the figure "0" is of smaller type. (*Illustration* 225.)

I notice a slip in the third and fourth lines from the bottom of *page* 210, and in the last line on *page* 211: "March" should, of course, be "February."

Page 232.—In the eleventh line insert the word "or" between "**SIX**" and "**EIGHT.**"

Page 238.—We should have given, under the "*Description*" of the "Army Telegraph" stamps, details of the Two Shillings & Sixpence, a value not included in the preceding Section on the "Military Telegraph" stamps. This value is similar to those described in paragraph II. on *page* 232, the inscriptions being "**TWO SHILLINGS**" above, and "**AND SIX PENCE**" below.

In October, 1899, a further value was issued, viz. the Five Pounds. The stamp is similar to the One Pound, the inscriptions being "**FIVE**" above, and "**POUNDS**" below. (*Illustration* 226.) The overprint is in green.

The vermilion-red One Halfpenny was, in due course, superseded by a similar stamp printed in green, which was overprinted for this service under a warrant dated 9th August, 1901. The type of this overprint differs from that on the vermilion Halfpenny. (*Illustration* 227.)

Mr. L'Estrange Ewen chronicled, in May, 1900, the Five Shillings surcharged, in large purple Roman capitals, "ONE SHILLING," in two lines; and added that the stamp, which appeared to be a local production, was used in South Africa early in 1900.

To the *Remarks* it may be added that the then current values of these stamps were used at the army manœuvres of 1899, and in the Boer War.

Of the Five Pounds value only 10 sheets, or 600 stamps, were printed.

Add to the *Synopsis* at foot of this page:—

THIRD ISSUE.

Fiscal paper watermarked with an Orb; perforated $14 \times 13\frac{1}{2}$; overprinted "**ARMY TELEGRAPHS.**"

October, 1899.—Five Pounds, purple.

FOURTH ISSUE.

Paper watermarked with a Large (1880) Crown; perforated 14; overprinted as above.

September, 1901.—One Halfpenny, green (shades).

PROVISIONAL.

The Five Shillings surcharged, in purple, with new value.

1900 (early in).—One Shilling on Five Shillings, green.

Page 249.—The *Remarks* as to the printings from Plate 4 of the Threepence, surface-printed, should read:—

35,495 on Heraldic Emblems, and 18,005 on Spray of Rose.

Page 251.—I think there must be a mistake as to the dates on which it is stated that the *imprimatur* sheets from Plates 13 and 14, of the surface-printed One Shilling, were struck, in red-brown, on the Large (1880) Crown paper. They should apparently be "4.1.81" for Plate 13, and "21.10.81" for Plate 14.

All the British postage and telegraph stamps bearing the head of Her late Majesty Queen Victoria have now been duly chronicled; all, except some few of the officially overprinted series, are obsolete; and the philatelic Victorian era, after enduring for sixty-two years, is practically a matter of history.

In conclusion, I reprint, from the *London Gazette* of 19th April, 1901, the following:—

STAMP DUTIES.

THE Commissioners of Inland Revenue in pursuance of section twenty-two of the Stamp Duties Management Act, 1891, as amended by section ten of the Revenue Act, 1898, hereby give notice that the use of the dies from which the covers and envelopes used for denoting duties of postage at the rates of one penny and two pence and commonly called or known as the Mulready Covers and Envelopes have heretofore been printed, and also of the dies referred to in the schedule hereunder written from which adhesive stamps have heretofore been printed for denoting certain duties of postage and of Inland Revenue, has been discontinued, and that on and after the first day of June, one thousand nine hundred and one, those dies will not be lawful dies for denoting the payment of any duty, and that the duties of postage and of Inland Revenue for which those dies have hitherto been available may and shall, on and after that day, be expressed and denoted only by the dies provided in lieu thereof, which are now in general use for denoting the said duties by adhesive stamps, as in the first part of the schedule mentioned.—Dated this 19th day of April, 1901.

By order of the Commissioners of Inland Revenue,

H. F. Bartlett, Assistant-Secretary.

The SCHEDULE above referred to.

FIRST PART.

Dies for denoting Duties of Postage as follows, of which some have since the passing of the Acts 44 and 45 Vict. c. 12, and 45 and 46 Vict. c. 72, been available for denoting also Duties of Inland Revenue.

Duty.	Dies Discontinued.
1. The duty of one penny	All dies in use previously to those used for the stamps now in general use for denoting this duty, which stamps are printed with the words "Postage and Inland Revenue" thereon and were first issued on the 13th day of December, 1881
2. The duties of one halfpenny, of one penny halfpenny, of two pence, of two pence halfpenny, of three pence, of four pence, of five pence, of six pence, of nine pence, and of one shilling	All dies in use previously to those used for the stamps now in general use for denoting these duties, which stamps are printed with the words "Postage and Revenue" thereon and were first issued on the 1st day of January, 1887
3. The duty of tenpence	All dies in use previously to those used for the stamps now in general use for denoting this duty, which stamps are printed with the words "Postage and Revenue" thereon and were first issued on the 22nd day of February, 1890
4. The duties of five shillings, of ten shillings, and of one pound	All dies in use previously to those used for the stamps now in general use for denoting these duties, which stamps were first issued on the first day of April, 1884
5. The duties payable in respect of the transmission of telegrams	All dies appropriated by words on the face of them to duties payable in respect of the transmission of telegrams.

SECOND PART.

Dies for denoting Duties of Inland Revenue as follows, of which some have since the passing of the Acts 44 and 45 Vict. c. 12, and 45 and 46 Vict. c. 72, been available for denoting also Duties of Postage.

Duty.	Dies Discontinued.
1. The duty of one penny	All dies appropriated by words on the face of them to the duties payable on (1) Receipts, (2) Drafts or Orders for the payment of money to bearer or to order on demand, and also all dies in use previously to the 13th December, 1881, having the words "Inland Revenue" thereon.
2. The duties of two pence, of three pence, of six pence, of nine pence, of one shilling, of one shilling and sixpence, of two shillings, and of two shillings and sixpence	All dies in use previously to the 1st day of January, 1887, having the words "Inland Revenue" thereon.

By this the first demonetisation of British stamps was effected; and when it is remembered how many varieties of the different values were formerly available for postal purposes, it is somewhat a matter for surprise that such a state of affairs should have been permitted for so long.

The Notice is by no means perfect. As regards the lately current One Penny, purple, it demonetised all impressions, except those issued on or after the 13th December, 1881, thus including those from Die I. No mention is made of the Eightpence and Two Shillings values.

Some of the fiscal stamps authorised to be used for postage are from dies described as having "Inland Revenue" thereon; but, as is well known, the only inscription was the value, the impressions being struck on paper previously overprinted with those words.

The mythical One Shilling & Sixpence, embossed fiscal, is solemnly demonetised!

NOTE.—Arrangements have been made for printing this Supplement in separate book form, and copies can be supplied to the subscribers to the original work. The Illustrations referred to in the text will be included therewith, and will not be published in the *London Philatelist*.—ED.

The Reprints of Moldavia.

IT will be remembered that in the April number of the *London Philatelist* M. G. Mihailescu, of Bucharest, informed our readers that the "M. Paul Paulescu" who wrote the first articles about these reprints and M. F. Paul Foçsaneanu, the Roumanian dealer, were one and the same person. It will also probably be within the recollection of those of our readers who have followed the correspondence with regard to these reprints in this and other journals that this M. Foçsaneanu has criticised and disparaged "M. Paulescu." It will therefore be of interest if we publish the following letter, or rather such excerpts from it as are not of a private nature, which has been sent to a member of the Philatelic Society of London.

The writer of it is M. Paul Foçsaneanu, and the purport of it is to offer for sale a series of "proofs" or "reprints" of the first issue of Roumania. This consists of three impressions in black, on horizontally laid paper with widely separated vertical lines, of each of the four values. The impressions are made in horizontal rows, but unevenly spaced and palpably hand-struck. The centre impression of each of the four values has been strengthened, apparently with a pen, in various places, notably in the outer circle and in the "K" and "II," and to a lesser extent as to some other parts of the lettering. We have carefully examined these impressions, and have closely compared them with the reprints sent to us by M. Mihailescu and also with genuine originals, and are of opinion that they are all the product of the same dies. If, therefore, the "reprints" are such, these should also be veritable proof

impressions from the original dies, and we must so regard them until further damaging evidence as to their character is forthcoming.

At the same time, the circumstances connected with the sale of all these stamps, proofs, and reprints are highly unsatisfactory, and there must be many more than is made out by the ingenuous Roumanian dealers, and we have ourselves refused many tempting offers, including one from M. C. M. Moriow in which he wanted only about £90 for a set, with one or two fancy varieties thrown in. However, we will let M. Foçsaneanu speak for himself, noting that he does not give the last-named dealer any better character than he seems to possess outside his own country. We give M. Foçsaneanu's letter exactly as written, as we fear that it would suffer in interest were we to alter his phraseology. We should add that his enterprise in writing was not rewarded with success!

"BUCAREST *the 22nd April* 1903.

"I beg to most respectfully submit for inspection the inclosed first-class philatelistic rareties.

"The object referred to is on the face of it a threefold set of impressions of *the earliest Moldavian postage-stamps*, comprising a whole set, viz. the postage of 27 parale, 54 parale, 81 parale, and 108 parale. But an exact description of these impressions as to genuinneness, origin, and philatelistic value, requires a few words of history in Roumanian philatelistic matters. In 1891 the late Colonel Gorjan, then Roumanian Postmaster General, discovered in Yassy, within the dependencies of the Post Office, in a sort of lumber-room, a lot of several old dies, amongst which were found four specimens of those original dies as well wich had served for making the very first set of Moldavian postage-stamps.

"The precious finding was then, as a matter of course, by the due authorities decided upon being properly conserved, after having been restored to a proper condition, as it has been found in a deplorable damaged state. For the sake of the in such matters required utter precaution lest no misuse be done with, the Finance Minister appointed a special comission (comprrising (1) the Postmaster General, (2) a Member of the High Court of Accounts, and (3) a Deputy of the Finance Minister) for surveying the required technic operations of cleaning, and the like, of thos dies, after which the latter have been closed into a safe (deposited at the Manufactury of Stamps), the three keys of which having then been entrusted to each one of the three Members of the said Comission. Now, pending those operations as recorded, the Colonel Gorjan, President of that Comission, a most fervent philatelist, did agree with the other Members of the Commission, philatelists too themselves, to draw from the so restored early Moldavian postage dies, previously to their being put to conservation, a small number of impressions solely for their own private stamp collections.

"Five sets have so been then drawn, viz. one threefold whole set, whiche passed into the possession of Colonel Gorjan (and these are the very blocks of impressions here enclosed), and two single whole sets, which passed each into the possession of the other two Commission Fellows.

"Later on, one of the single sets of impressions referred to appeared on

the market, and it was the undersigned himself who had the opportunity of buying the same, which he then re-selled, in 1896, to an English gentleman, Mr. Geo. B. Duerst, Esq., 22, Athol Road, Manchester. The other single set is—to be complete in recording the History so far of the re-impressions in question—not likely, for that I know of the matter, to have come into circulation. As to the threefold set, originally the property of the late Colonel Gorjan, they remained all during his lifetime with the latter, and it was only after his death that the Colonel's widow sold them, and so they came to being the undersigned's lawfully property.

"May I be still allowed to touch an event in that connexion wich caused a certain amount of excitement, particularly in the English Sphere of Philatelists. It succeeded to a certain *Moroiw* through cunning ways in getting hold for but a short time of the Colonel's precious property, and taking advantage of that circumstance he forged, employing thereby the way of photography, impressions, which were then offered by him for sale to an English Stamp-Dealer, the firm STANLEY GIBBONS LIMITED, purporting to present novel (coloured) impressions of the first genuine Moldavian postage stamps. But for the interference of the undersigned, who did, happily, learn in time of the swindle, the forger would have surely succeeded in his business. A group of experts appointed to examine the forgeries had, indeed, already pronounced themselves for their genuineness, when the undersigned cautioned the buyer, and brought thereafter the proof of those *Moroiw* impressions having been forged The undersigned is in the possession of a letter of thanks from the concerned party for the service rendered in that matter.

"A noteworthy particular may yet be here added. The impressions here enclosed (it was just they, that served to the forger for supplying him the photograph he required for his forgery purposes) show distinctly signs of manipulation with a view to executing by their means some forgery. That is, each middle impression of the four blocks has apparently been gone over with China ink, obviously with a view to render easier photographical processes. Which circumstances renders to the impressions in question the more philatelistic interest."

Philatelic Notes.

THE "RETOUCH" OF THE ONE PENNY OF GREAT BRITAIN.

MR. WILSON is very game; he fights to the last. Unfortunately for him, the quotation of Plate 77 cuts both ways, because it is a solitary instance of a slight alteration to a plate, and, be it noticed, the plate was re-registered, and numbered 77B. Consequently the inference is that if other retouches had taken place, similar evidence would be forthcoming.

But I am in a position to remove the discussion from the realm of theory. By the courtesy of the Secretary for Inland Revenue, I have been allowed to look through the registration sheets, and find that on Plate 90 every stamp has an added outline. I had not time to make a detailed examination of every sheet, but I feel fairly safe in saying that this peculiarity does not

occur on any other sheet except that of Plate 88, on which there are about a dozen stamps with outlines, some on one side only. The stamps "KG" and "LG" have it on the right only, and the adjacent ones, "KH" and "LH," on the left side only.

This proves what I said before, namely, that it is not a retouch, but a minor variety issued in 1849.—C. F. DENDY MARSHALL.

[*Note.*—The following note in *Ewen's Weekly* for May 15th corroborates Mr. Marshall's statement:—

"*Variety of 1d., red, with outline* (182 D 190).—Mr. V. H. Gregory writes: 'I thought it might be of interest to your readers to know that I have just found a block of eight 1d., red, English, imperf., showing the distinct outer lines at the sides of the stamps. In several of the stamps in this block the side lines are very much more distinct than in others, which I think clearly proves these lines to be an addition to the individual impressions, viz. a retouch to the finished plate, especially as it (the block) appears to be in a very worn condition.'"—ED.]

THE QUEENSLAND 6d. WITH FIGURES IN LOWER CORNERS ONLY.

ON page 32 of the February issue of the *London Philatelist* we described, on the authority of the *Australian Journal of Philately*, this curious and to us inexplicable variety. The stamp in question is the 6d. of the current type of Queensland, which normally has the figure of value repeated in each angle, but in this case has them only in the lower corners. Mr. A. F. Basset Hull, however, in the March number of the forenamed journal, comes to the rescue and explains, after interviewing the Government printer, that it is simply a proof that has somehow leaked out. This is just as well, as there is already no lack of the unattainables among the Australian stamps! Mr. Basset Hull's note is as follows:—

"The Sixpence, Queensland, figures in lower corners only, mentioned in your last issue, should be one of the world's great rarities! Fancy, being the possessor of one of four stamps—the only four printed—and so far as we know the only one of the four ever used postally! Alas that the demon of doubt should be so ready to cast his shadow over the scintillating brilliancy of this gem! How did it come to gain its postal experience? The Government printer asserts that it was never printed for issue by his office, but it nevertheless bore an obliteration that looked convincingly like a postmark, but unfortunately neither the name of the office nor the date was decipherable, owing probably to insufficient inking of the cancelling stamp.

"We all know that the late Government engraver, Mr. Knight, was in the habit of preparing his electros in a group of four, which formed a matrix—each individual stamp in such group showing minor variations in type—and from this group thirty blocks of four were made and clamped together to make the plate. Doubtless he made one such group with figures in the lower angles just before the order came for inserting the figures in all four angles, and printed off a sample or proof on watermarked paper. One stamp of this block has evidently made the acquaintance of the Post Office. Fortunately, under the circumstances, we need not worry about looking for more amongst our duplicates, and if the cataloguer omits the variety from his reference list it 'never will be missed.'"

Occasional Notes.

PHILATELIC EXHIBITION AT MULHAUSEN.

THIS Exhibition was held at Eastertide, and doubtless, from the fact of Mulhausen being readily accessible by railway from many quarters, scored a great success, the attendance being far in excess of anticipation. The *locale* of this show was the new Museum, and the exhibits were of considerable philatelic import, including the fine collections of Hawaii and Japan of Mr. H. S. Crocker, which were subsequently shown at the London Philatelic Society on the 22nd of this month. The principal exhibits were :—

ALSACE-LORRAINE.—Herr G. Maréchal, Herr J. Viénot, and Herr J. Hupfeld. These were all strong exhibits, notably that of Mr. Maréchal, which included the celebrated Linck Collection sold in 1901.

GERMANY.—Herr J. Hupfeld and Herr G. Koch. The former only showed a selection of his noted and fine collection, but included an exceptionally interesting lot of essays, proofs, etc., of the old German issues. Herr Koch's exhibit was a fine display of the German States.

FRANCE AND COLONIES.—Count Paul Durrieu. Essays of the last issue of French stamps.

GREECE.—Herr E. J. Mertzanoff. An extremely fine and very rich collection of this now popular country.

ROUMANIA.—Herr G. Koch. The first issue complete, with additional stamps on original, and many other rarities.

In addition to the foregoing there were numerous other exhibits of varying importance, and the leading dealers, such as Messrs. Kohl, Lemaire, Willadt, Kosack, and others, had fine exhibits of rarities. Included in M. Lemaire's show was a 2d. "Post Office" Mauritius on original, and in Herr Kohl's a complete set of the first Moldavians. Herr G. Koch also showed an extremely fine lot of rarities of all countries.

It will be seen that, in conjunction with Mr. Crocker's superb collections, the exhibits were both numerous and important, and the Exhibition therefore a distinct success.

The judges were Messrs. P. Kohl, H. Krötzsch, T. Lemaire, E. Stock, C. Willadt, and Baron de Reuterskiöld. The usual programme of festivities was fully upheld, and everyone seems to have had the best of times philatelically and otherwise, and to have departed with a favourable impression of the old Alsatian city.

AUSTRALIAN PENNY POSTAGE TO GREAT BRITAIN.

MR. SMYTHE has kindly forwarded a copy of the *Sydney Morning Herald* of March 23rd, which contains the regrettable information that the Australian authorities are unable to follow the lead of New Zealand and the other British Colonies in conceding penny postage to the mother country.

"MELBOURNE.

"The British authorities wrote to the Federal Government last month, again urging that the Commonwealth should become a party to the Penny Postage Union, and suggesting that the reduced rate of 1d. per ½ oz. to all parts of the Empire should come into force at the end of the year. The papers were referred to the Postmaster-General, who went into the subject again. Senator Drake has always held that the rate to Great Britain cannot be reduced to 1d. while the inter-State rate remains at 2d. He found that the permanent heads of several State departments estimated the cost of establishing penny postage throughout Australia would be:—

New South Wales	£83,000
Victoria	55,000
Queensland	58,886
South Australia	40,000
Western Australia	34,200
Tasmania	24,500
Total	£295,586

"It was calculated that if the penny rate were extended to the United Kingdom and all other parts of the British possessions, there would be a further loss of £20,924, distributed as follows:—

New South Wales	£8,000
Victoria	5,400
Queensland	2,824
South Australia	2,000
Western Australia	2,050
Tasmania	650

Thus making a grand total of £316,510.

"Last year there was a deficit on the working of the Postal Department. This year the expenditure will, most likely, again exceed the revenue. In view of these facts it is understood that the Postmaster-General decided to recommend the Cabinet to decline to accede to the request made by the British Government. At the same time he renewed his offer to permit the residents of the United Kingdom to stamp letters addressed to any part of the Commonwealth with only a penny stamp. The Federal Ministers have endorsed the decision of their colleague, and the Colonial Office will be communicated with in terms of Senator Drake's minute."

AMERICAN CRITICISMS UPON THEIR NEW ISSUE.



N the "New Issues" of our last number we stated that the new issues of the 15 and 50 c., and the 1, 2, and 5 dollars, had not yet appeared, but gave the proposed colours on the authority of the *A. J. P.* However, in *Mekeel's Weekly* for April 11th it appears that Mr. Joe E. Franklin has been enabled to see the entire set, and we reproduce his interesting description (with all acknowledgments), as we are sure that our readers will appreciate

alike the criticism and endorse Mr. Franklin's opinion as to the beauty of the stamps in question. There is no country that possesses such a beautiful series of stamps as the United States, and the last set is assuredly not the worst.

"We have been privileged to inspect the entire completed series of 1902 stamps. The stamps were single and placed side by side, so as to permit of comparisons. The set makes a very handsome showing taken as a whole. The colours are attractive and pleasing, and with two or three exceptions sufficiently distinct to render confusion unlikely.

"The similarity in the shades of the 8 and 13 c. stamps has been pointed out. As a matter of fact both are so near the black shade that one cannot tell which is which unless both stamps are side by side. Now comes the $1 stamp in a greyish sort of black, a close third to the 8 and 13 c. The 8 c. is the shade of the $1, with a slight touch of purple in it. The 13 c. is the $1 with a trifle more purple in it.

"The 4 and 10 c. are practically the same shade of colour; in fact, they are identical, save that the 4 c. appears to have been printed with slightly more ink, making the colour more intense.

"The blue of the $5 and $2 is practically the same, a very brilliant shade, in fact, although not as rich as the ultramarine of the 10 c. special.

"The green of the $5 is quite similar to that of the 1 c., but has a trifle more blue in it; in fact, the ink for the $5, of which but little is used, is undoubtedly the 1 c. ink with a dab of blue mixed in.

"The rose of the 2 c., the purple of the 3 c., the brownish lake of the 6 c., the olive of the 15 c., and the orange of the 50 c. have no rivals; they are separate and alone.

"The designs of all the stamps have been detailed save the $2, which we had never been able to get a view of in the drawing or the die-proof. This stamp will rank among the most attractive in the series; in fact, we believe will be one of the six best specimens. The central figure, of course, is Madison, facing almost front, slightly to the right. The portrait is in a complete circle, the only stamp, in fact, having a complete circle. The portrait is very similar to that of the $2.

"The most unattractive stamps in the series are the 1 and 3 c. The 4 and 15 c. are not really up to the standard of the rest, although they are pleasing designs.

"It is believed the Martha Washington 8 c. stamp will be given the blue ribbon, although the $1 gives the 8 c. a close race for first honours in the estimation of your correspondent, with the 50 and 13 c. very close; in fact, if the colours of the 8 and 50 c. stamps were swapped, the 50 c., we believe, would easily win out. The 50 c. design is beautiful, but orange is not a colour to bring out the best that is in the design, while the delicate lilac of the 8 c. is just adapted to make the best showing. The $2 and $5 are also very fine, as is also the 6 c., but the shade of the latter does not permit the design to come out well.

"The 3 c. stamp is easily entitled to the booby prize. In the first place, as has been intimated, the portrait of Jackson, while it may be lifelike and true to nature, gives the ancient statesman the appearance of being an unkempt 'jay.' Then the figures on the side require so much space that the

face seems squeezed and pinched. This latter criticism may be applied with equal force to the 1 c. value. The 2 c. stamp we have spoken of at length. As now printed, it is a magnificent stamp and one that would be entirely satisfactory, probably, to the masses of the people.

"The Special Delivery stamp is a gem and above criticism in every detail, as, in fact, are most of the stamps in the series. Taken as a whole the series is a magnificent one, and must create a most favourable impression in Europe and wherever art, originality, and execution are appreciated. Manifestly in producing a series of fifteen stamps, each one different from the others in all respects, it is not possible to produce all gems of the first water. There must be some firsts and some seconds and some thirds in a set so large, but the proportion of the latter in the 'series 1902' is extraordinarily small.

"Third Assistant Postmaster-General Madden set about producing a new and distinctive series, embodying several new ideas, such as front-facing portraits of the subjects, name of the individual, date of birth and death, series date and a distinct frame for each denomination. In this effort, with the aid of the Bureau, he has succeeded beyond expectations, and given the country and the world the finest and best-printed series of postage stamps."

SOMALI PHILATELY!

FROM various paragraphs in the daily papers it appears that there has been much excitement at Berbera on the reported issue of stamps for that, as yet, very uncivilised country—which we have not even conquered. For instance, *The Globe* says:—

"A curious instance of the mania of Philatelists is reported from Berbera. A rumour was started that a new Somali stamp had been struck, and many alleged samples were put upon the market. In consequence the authorities were absolutely pestered with letters from Philatelists all over the world to know if the issue was authentic. It is an astounding thing that so many people should care to spend their money on stamps as to make such forgeries, which are continually appearing, worth while. After all, man is not badly defined as a collecting animal; and stamps are as harmless as anything else."

The penultimate sentence is beautifully vague, and may apply to Somali in particular or the philatelic world in general, although we fancy the allusion is a local one; but that the "forgeries which are continually appearing" do constitute the greatest danger to Philately is indeed true, and it is one for which it is extremely and increasingly difficult to find a safeguard.

SUGGESTED REVERSION TO PLATE NUMBERS ON ENGLISH STAMPS.

IN the debate in the House of Commons on May 12th on the grant to the Post Office an interesting discussion took place with regard to a suggested reversion to the former practice of marking the plate numbers on the English stamps.

Mr. Marshall Hall asked the Postmaster-General "to revive the practice of putting small letters on the corners of stamps. These letters had enabled persons to trace the date when a stamp was issued, and that had proved very

useful at the Courts. Only recently a case had occurred where fraudulent receipts had been prepared two years after date, and had the stamps contained date-letters, those interested would have been enabled to trace when they were issued from Somerset House."

Mr. Marshall Hall probably meant the plate numbers, as the corner letters would not mark the date of issue. That indefatigable champion of postal reform, Mr. Henniker Heaton, in his long list of grievances, also touched upon the production of the current postage stamps. He said that "he regretted that the Postmaster-General had not returned to the old red stamp amongst English stamps, and complained that our present stamps had a very German look. He would like to see a stamp with the face of the Queen included in the British issue."

We should all of us like to see the "old red stamp" in use again. If His Majesty's head were simply substituted for that of the late Queen on the old die, and the stamps were printed by Messrs. De la Rue, similar to the latter issues of St. Vincent, we should have a stamp worthy of the British nation.

Mr. Henniker Heaton also urged the desirability of establishing an international postage stamp available for purposes of exchange in the case of small articles; for instance, in ordering a copy of a newspaper from abroad. This would also be a useful innovation, notably in the cases which so frequently occur of letters of which the sender has to pay the reply postage.

The Postmaster-General in reply said that "with regard to the suggestion that stamps should be so printed as to give an indication of the time of issue as a safeguard against the concoction of fraudulent receipts, this was a matter for the authorities of the Inland Revenue Office. He would call their attention to it, and see whether anything could be done as suggested."

THE FORTHCOMING NEW CANADIAN ISSUE.

VARIOUS paragraphs, of which we cite an example, with regard to the new issue of the Canadian stamps with the portrait of His Majesty have appeared in the philatelic journals, but we are informed on high authority that they are inaccurate in some of their particulars, and assuredly premature in making the announcement. As a matter of fact there have been many difficulties to overcome, and we understand that officially the arrangements are not yet complete, the earliest possible intimation of which will be given in this journal. The *Metropolitan Philatelist* for April 15th writes that "the King's Head series of Canadian stamps will probably shortly make its appearance. The die has been received by the Post Office Department and approved of. The stamp will be very similar to the present stamp, except that the maple leaf in each of the upper corners will be replaced by a crown. The figures of value will appear in the lower corner as at present, and the value will be spelled out as at present in the oval frame which surrounds the portrait. This frame will be as in the present stamp. The portrait of the King shows him three-quarters to the right—head and shoulders, as the Queen is in the present stamp, but there is no crown on his head."

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 4d. Registration envelope, with King's Head, in two sizes from Messrs. P. L. Pemberton and Co., and the *M. C.* lists a post card.

Ewen's Weekly states that the new 3d. adhesive has been issued, but does not give the colour.

Registration Envelope. 4d., blue; King's Head.
Post Card. ½d., green on cream ,,

CEYLON.—Further values of the King's Head set are chronicled in *Ewen's Weekly*.

Adhesives.

3 c., green; CA; perf. 14.
4 c., dark yellow and blue; CA; perf. 14.
12 c., olive-green and carmine ,, ,,
15 c., blue; CA; perf. 14.
25 c., buff ,, ,,
30 c., dark lilac and green; CA; perf. 14.
R1.50, grey and dark grey ,, ,,
R2.25, brown and green ,, ,,

GIBRALTAR.—The King's Head set has been sent to us by Messrs. Bright and Son and Whitfield King and Co., and we find it a handsome one, particularly the four higher values, which are long rectangular in shape, the watermark Crown CA appearing twice on each stamp. "GIBRALTAR" and "POSTAGE AND REVENUE" appear in each value.

Adhesives.

½d., dull green; value in emerald-green.
1d., purple on red.
2d., dull green; value in carmine.
2½d., purple on blue.
6d., lilac; value in mauve.
1s., black ,, carmine.
2s., dull green ,, ultramarine.
4s., lilac ,, green.
8s., purple on blue; value in black.
£1 ,, red ,, ,,
All CA; perf. 14.

HONG KONG.—A 10 cents Registration envelope is added to the list of King's Head stationery by the *M. C.*, and the *P. J. G. B.* gives a further list of envelopes, etc., for general use.

Envelopes.

2 c., green on white; King's Head.
4 c., carmine ,, ,,
5 c., pale lilac ,, ,,
10 c., blue ,, ,,

Registration Envelope.

10 c., purple; King's Head.

Post Cards.

1 c., green on cream; King's Head.
1+1 c. ,, ,, ,,
4 c., carmine ,, ,,
4 c.+4 c. ,, ,, ,,

Wrappers.

2 c., green on buff; King's Head.
4 c., carmine ,, ,,

INDIA.—We read in the *M. C.* that three other values of the King's Head issue have been prepared both for general and official use, and also that there is a ¼ anna post card for Service use.

Adhesives. 2 annas 6 pies, blue; King's Head.
4 ,, olive-green ,,
8 ,, violet ,,

Officials. Same as above, with H On S in black. M

Post Card. ¼ anna, blue; for Service use.

Chamba.—The *M. J.* chronicles the 3 pies, grey, King's Head issue, surcharged for use here.

Adhesive.

3 pies, grey; King's Head; surcharged Chamba State in black.

Gwalior.—The three King's Head stamps have received the Official surcharge.—*M. J.*

Officials.

3 pies, grey; King's Head; Service overprint.
½ anna, green ,, ,,
1 ,, carmine ,, ,,

Jhind.—From the same source we hear of the ½ anna, pea-green, Queen's Head, bearing the Service overprint.

Official. ½ anna, pea-green, Queen's Head, with Service overprint.

Patiala.—The ½ anna, light green, King's Head, with Official surcharge, is reported by the *A. J. P.*

Official. ½ anna, light green, King's Head, with Service overprint.

Ewen's Weekly lists five values of the King's Head issue surcharged "Patiala—State," in black, in two lines.

Adhesives. 3 pies, grey.
½ anna, green.
1 ,, carmine.
2 annas, violet.
3 ,, orange-brown.

LAGOS.—Specimen sets of King Edward series have now been distributed by the Postal Union.—*Ewen's Weekly.*

Head of King Edward; CA; 14.

Adhesives. ½d., green and dark green.
1d., violet and black on red.
2d., violet and blue.
2½d., violet and blue on pale blue.
3d., violet and brown.
6d., violet and lilac.
1s., green and black.
2s. 6d., green and carmine.
5s., green and blue.
10s., green and brown.

NEW SOUTH WALES.—The new 2s. 6d. stamp described on page 89 reaches us from Messrs. Whitfield King and Co., and we find the colour to be green, the watermark Crown N S W, and the perf. 12 × 11½.

Adhesive.

2s. 6d., green; wmk. Crown N S W; perf. 12 × 11½.

NEW ZEALAND.—Messrs. Bright and Son have shown us some varieties of perforation, both single, compound, and additional, that, we understand, have not yet been catalogued or noted.

The stamps are in blocks of four.

Adhesives.
Basted Mills Paper.

½d., green; perf. 11 all round and 14 vertically *in addition.*

½d., green; perf. 14 × 11 and 11 horizontally *in addition.*

1d., carmine; perf. 11 all round.

Cowan Paper.

1d., carmine; no wmk.; perf. 14 all round, and 11 horizontally *in addition.*

Single-lined N Z and Star.

½d., green; perf. 14 × 11 and 11 × 14.
½d. ,, ,, ,, and 11 horizontally *in addition.*

Upon looking through a consignment of New Zealand stamps kindly sent us by Mr. A. T. Bate, we noticed four varieties which appear not to have been previously chronicled in this journal. Our correspondent informs us that *all* are rare.

Adhesives.
Basted Mills Paper.

½d., green; perf. *11.*

Cowan Watermarked Paper.

½d., green; perf. 11 × 14.
1d., carmine ,, 14 × 11.
1s., *bright red;* perf. 11.

Mr. A. H. Stamford has shown us pairs of the 1½d., khaki, and 2½d., blue, of the colonial printing, imperf. horizontally, and the 1d. universal, perf. 11, in a rich marone-lake shade.

ORANGE RIVER COLONY.—We have the following additions to make to the King's Head set of adhesives on the authority of the *M. C.* and *Ewen's Weekly.*

Adhesives.

½d., green; wmk. CA; perf. 14.
2d., brown ,, ,,
2½d., blue ,, ,,
3d., lilac ,, ,,
6d., lilac and red; wmk. CA; perf. 14.
1s., brown-yellow and red; wmk. CA; perf. 14.
5s., blue and brown.

PACIFIC ISLANDS.—*Aitutaki.*—The *Australian Philatelist* tells us that six values of the New Zealand stamps—the ½d., 1d., 2½d., 3d., 6d., and 1s.—are to be surcharged for *use* here. But why stop at six values?

ST. LUCIA.—The new 2½d. and 3d. values of the King's Head issue have come to hand through Messrs. P. L. Pemberton and Co. and Whitfield King and Co.

Adhesives.

2½d., lilac and ultramarine, lined tablet; wmk. CA; perf. 14.
3d., lilac and yellow, white tablet; wmk. CA; perf. 14.

SEYCHELLES.—We omitted to mention last month that the 3 c. provisionals, with Type 5 inverted, have the bars at the top of the stamp, instead of across the original value, which is therefore uncancelled.—*M. J.*

SOUTHERN NIGERIA.—The first of the King's Head stationery, the 2d. Registration envelope, is reported.

The colours of the new set of adhesives given on page 269, vol. xi., are, it is stated, not quite correct, for, according to the *M. J.*, the frame of the ½d. is in *yellow-green*, that of the 2d. in *orange-brown*, the 6d. in *mauve*, and the 10s. in *purple*, or *mauve.*

Registration Envelope. 2d., blue.

STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.—We have a small addition to make to the King's Head stationery.

Post Card. 1 c., green on cream.

Johor.—Two provisionals have reached *Ewen's Weekly.*

Provisionals.

3 cents on 4 c., yellow and red; black surcharge.
10 ,, ,, green and rose ,, ,,

SUDAN.—The colours of the 1 piastre on the new watermarked paper, surcharged "O.S.G.S.", are given by the *M. J.* as *blue* and *brown.*

TASMANIA.—The 9d., blue, comes on the V and Crown paper, watermarked sideways, perf. 12½, from Messrs. Whitfield King and Co.

The *M. J.* informs us that the re-engraved 1d. stamp exists perf. 11 as well as the 2d.

Adhesives.

1d., dull red; wmk. V and Crown sideways; perf. 11.
2d., violet ,, ,, ,, 11.
9d., blue ,, ,, ,, 12½.

WESTERN AUSTRALIA.—We have received from Messrs. Whitfield King and Co. the 4d., red-brown, with inscription "POSTAGE FOUR PENCE," on the V and Crown paper, watermarked sideways, and perf. 12½ × 12, and we hear of the 8d., 9d., and 10d. from *Ewen's Weekly*, also the 2d., perf. 11.

Adhesives.

2d., yellow, "POSTAGE" added; perf. 11.
4d., red-brown ,, ,, 12½ × 12.
8d., yellow-green ,, ,, ,,
9d., deep orange ,, ,, ,,
10d., vermilion ,, ,, ,,
All wmk. V and Crown sideways.

EUROPE.

FRANCE.—Two other values of the Sower type have been circulated, and specimens reach us from Messrs. P. L. Pemberton and Co. and Whitfield King and Co.

Adhesives.

10 c., rose-carmine, Sower type.
25 c., ultramarine ,,

ICELAND.—We hope presently to get the list of stamps surcharged $\overset{\text{i Gildi}}{\text{'02 '03}}$ correct.

It would appear that certain values were bought up by speculators.

The following are listed by the *M. C.*:—

Adhesives.

4 aur, grey and rose; black surcharge.
100 ,, purple and brown ,,

Post Cards. 5, 5+5, and 8+8.

ROUMANIA.—On the authority of a Continental journal, *Ewen's Weekly* gives the following information:—

The new issue promised for October, 1901, is expected to appear on the 1/15 May next. It is in two designs:—

Type I. Horizontal, represents a mail coach drawn by six horses.

Type II. Vertical, a more complicated drawing, of which the chief points are a portrait of King Charles I., a view of the new General Post Office, and a mail coach.

The following is the scheme of the values and colours and a statement of the quantities to be issued. In the case of Type I. a sheet of eighty of each value has been withheld, so that only 499,920 of the 1 ban are available, and so on.

Type I. Horizontal.

1 ban,	olive-brown	500,000
3 bani,	brown-lilac	300,000
5 ,,	green	400,000
10 ,,	rose	400,000
15 ,,	black	500,000
25 ,,	blue	100,000
40 ,,	dark green	100,000
50 ,,	yellow	100,000

Type II. Vertical.

15 bani,	black	50,000
25 ,,	blue	25,040
40 ,,	grey-green	25,040
50 ,,	orange	25,040
1 leu,	brown	25,040
2 lei,	red	25,040
5 ,,	violet	25,040

Why two sets of the 15, 25, 40, and 50 are required is incomprehensible. The stamps are all in sheets of eighty, and the sheets bear the watermark "Johannot & Cnie, Annonay."

RUSSIA.—*Wenden.*—A correspondent informs us that the private post of Wenden was to be closed in April last.

SAN MARINO.—A new set has appeared here, and we have to thank Messrs. Whitfield King and Co. for specimens.

The stamps are of large size, nearly square, and, with the exception of the 2 centesimi, which has a numeral in the centre, bear the Arms of the State.

"LIBERTAS" and "REP DI S MARINO" appear at top, with "BOLLO POSTALE" and value at bottom. The watermark appears to be a Large Crown, sideways, appearing twice on some of the stamps. Thin white paper; perf. 14.

Adhesives.

2 centesimi, mauve; perf. 14.
5 ,, green ,,
10 ,, claret ,,
20 ,, orange ,,
25 ,, blue ,,
30 ,, lake ,,
40 ,, red ,,
45 ,, yellow ,,
65 ,, brown ,,
1 lira, olive-green ,,
2 lire, violet ,,
5 ,, dull blue ,,
All wmk. Crown sideways.

SPAIN.—The 20 c., orange, of 1899 has never been prepared for use, we are told by the *M. J.*, and will therefore disappear from the catalogues.

AMERICA.

ARGENTINE REPUBLIC.—It is reported that the 5 cents. Harbour Works stamp did not go off well, and that a large stock remained on hand.

To move this the authorities had the stamps surcharged "VALIDO POR 5 CENTAVOS—SERVICIO INTERIOR," and they are being used up for ordinary inland postage. This information is taken from the *M. J.*

Adhesive. 5 c., blue, surcharged as above.

COLOMBIAN REPUBLIC.—The *M. J.* makes additions to the list of lately issued Simon Bolivar and Prospero Pinzon, etc., stamps, and the *A. J. P.* and *Ewen's Weekly* state that the 4, 5, and 20 c. of the regular issue of 1902 and the 20 c. Registration stamp have appeared in new colours.

If it should turn out to be a case of Salvador over again, we shall cease to note this country's rubbish.

Adhesives.

4 c., blue on green; type of 1902; imperf.
5 c. ,, blue ,, ,,
20 c. ,, salmon ,, ,,
50 c., green; Simon Bolivar type ,,
50 c., rose ,, ,, ,,
1 peso, carmine-rose; Pinzon type ,,
1 ,, dark blue ,, ,,
5 pesos, brown; Arms type ,,
5 ,, reddish mauve; Arms type ,,
5 ,, blue-green ,, ,,

Registration Stamp.

20 c., blue on blue.

Antioquia.—The 2 centavos of 1902 in violet colour has reached the *A. J. P.*

Adhesive. 2 centavos, violet; 1902 type.

HONDURAS.—Another value of the 1898 issue is noted by *Mekeel's Weekly* as existing on horizontally laid paper.

Adhesive.

10 centavos, deep blue, on horizontally laid paper.

MEXICO.—A change in colours of the 10 centavos stamp has taken place; the *Metropolitan Philatelist* informs us it is now blue and orange. And from *Ewen's Weekly* we hear that the 1 c., 2 c., and 5 c. are now appearing in dark lilac, green, and orange-yellow respectively, and the 2 c. Post Card in green.

Adhesives. 10 centavos, blue and orange.
1 c., dark lilac.
2 c., green.
5 c., orange-yellow.
Post Card. 2 c., green.

PARAGUAY.—From various quarters we hear of another provisional, and also that the new set chronicled on page 91 has been overprinted for official use.

Provisional.

5 c. on 10 c., rose-red, of 1902; black surcharge.

Officials.

1 cent., grey; surcharged "Oficial," in black.
2 cents., green ,, ,, ,,
5 ,, blue ,, ,, ,,
10 ,, brown ,, ,, ,,
20 ,, carmine ,, ,, ,,
30 ,, blue ,, ,, ,,
60 ,, mauve ,, ,, ,,

SALVADOR.—Certain values of the new set of adhesives have had, the *A. J. P.* tells us, the words "Franqueo Oficial" placed diagonally across the pedestal of the statue. The words are not surcharged, but engraved upon the die. Four values have been listed, and *Ewen's Weekly* has received a quantity of new stationery in the new design. The envelopes are probably on white as well as on buff paper.

Officials. 1 c., green.
2 c., rose.
5 c., blue.
24 c., scarlet.

Envelopes. 1 c., dark green on buff.
2 c., carmine ,,
3 c., orange ,,
5 c., dark blue ,,
13 c., dark brown ,,

Post Cards. 1 c., green ,,
2 c., red ,,
3 c., orange ,,

UNITED STATES.—The new 50 cents, orange, is reported in circulation.

OTHER COUNTRIES.

EGYPT.—Additions to the set on chalk-surfaced paper are made by the *M. J.*

Adhesives. 1 mil., brown.
3 ,, orange.
10 p., violet.

ERITREA.—We have received from Messrs. Whitfield King and Co. the 5 centesimi Postage Due stamp of Italy, surcharged, in black, in one line, "Colonia Eritrea," and our friends inform us that the whole set has been similarly overprinted.

Postage Due. 1 c. to 10 lire of Italy, surcharged "Colonia Eritrea," in black.

FRENCH POST OFFICES ABROAD.—*Port Said.*—Messrs. Whitfield King and Co. send us the 15 c., red, to complete the new set.

Adhesive. 15 c., red.

LEVANT (*German Post Offices*).—The 1, 5, and 25 piaster stamps are now coming, the *A. J. P.* and *M. J.* inform us, surcharged in a new type.

The word "PIASTER" is in slightly heavier letters, and the letter "A" has a cross-bar at the top.

Adhesives.

1 piaster on 20 pf., ultramarine.
5 ,, 1 mk., carmine.
25 ,, 5 ,, black and lake.

LEVANT (*Russian*).—It is reported that the 10 kop., blue, of Russia has been overprinted "1 PIASTRE," in red, for use here.

Adhesive.

"1 PIASTRE," in red, on 10 kop., blue.

NYASSA (*Portuguese Possessions*).—We have received from Messrs. Whitfield King and Co. the 15 r. and 25 r. stamps of 1901 surcharged vertically "Provisorio," and the 80 r., 150 r., and 300 reis surcharged horizontally "65 reis," "115 reis," and "130 reis" respectively, in black.

We are told that the overprinting was done locally.

Provisionals.

15 reis, black and buff-brown; surcharged "Provisorio."
25 reis, black and orange; surcharged "Provisorio."
80 reis, black and mauve; surcharged "65 réis."
150 ,, ,, orange-brn. ,, "115 réis."
300 ,, ,, green ,, "130 réis."

SAMOA.—A correspondent shows us a horizontal pair of the 2½d. on 1s., No. 53 in the Catalogue, one of which has a distinct double impression of the overprint, while the other has the single impression only.—*M. J.*

SPANISH COLONIES.—*Ewen's Weekly* states, on the authority of a Continental journal, that a set of stamps from ¼ c. to 10 pesetas is about to appear bearing the inscription, "ELOBEY, ANNOBEN Y CORISCO, 1903."

We are not surprised after the example set by New Zealand in surcharging its stamps for use in the Pacific Islands and sale to stamp collectors.

TAHITI.—The 25 c. and 40 c. stamps of the 1892 issue of French Oceania have been surcharged in three lines, in red and black, "Tahiti—10—centimes," for use here.—*Mekeel's Weekly.*

Adhesives. 10 c., on 25 c. "French Oceania."
10 c. on 40 c. ,, ,,

Philatelic Societies' Meetings.

Philatelic Society, London.

Council for the Year 1902–1903.

President—
H.R.H. THE PRINCE OF WALES, K.G., ETC.
Vice-President—THE EARL OF CRAWFORD, K.T.
Hon. Secretary—J. A. TILLEARD.
Hon. Treasurer—C. N. BIGGS.
Hon. Assistant Secretary—H. R. OLDFIELD.
Hon. Librarian—T. MAYCOCK.

W. B. AVERY.
E. D. BACON.
M. P. CASTLE, J.P.
(*Hon. Vice-President.*)
R. EHRENBACH.
T. W. HALL.
L. L. R. HAUSBURG.
C. E. MCNAUGHTAN.
FRANZ REICHENHEIM.
GORDON SMITH.

THE twelfth meeting of the season 1902–1903 was held at Effingham House, Arundel Street, Strand, on Friday the 3rd April, 1903, at 7.45 p.m.

Members present: C. Neville Biggs, Thos. Wm. Hall, Robert Ehrenbach, R. B. Yardley, C. McNaughtan, A. R. Barrett, W. Schwabacher, L. W. Fulcher, T. Maycock, J. A. Tilleard, B. D. Knox.

In the absence of the Vice-President and Hon. Vice-President, the chair was taken by Mr. C. N. Biggs, and the reading of the minutes of the last meeting was postponed until the next meeting.

The Hon. Secretary reported that he had received from the Boston (America) Philatelic Society a printed catalogue of books on Philately in the Boston Public Library, and the Hon. Librarian was directed to acknowledge the same with thanks.

The name of a candidate for membership to be submitted for ballot at this meeting was withdrawn at his own request.

In the absence of Mr. H. R. Oldfield, a paper on the first issue of the stamps of Bolivia was read by Mr. T. W. Hall, and a display of the stamps belonging to Mr. W. Moser was given.

A vote of thanks to the author of the paper, to Mr. H. R. Oldfield for having forwarded it and arranged it for reading, etc., and for showing his stamps, and also to Mr. Hall for taking Mr. H. R. Oldfield's place and reading the paper, was proposed by Mr. R. Ehrenbach, seconded by Mr. L. W. Fulcher, and duly carried.

THE thirteenth meeting of the season 1902–1903 was held at Effingham House, Arundel Street, Strand, on Friday the 24th April, 1903, at 7.45 p.m.

Members present: Gordon Smith, Robert Ehrenbach, Herbert R. Oldfield, L. L. R. Hausburg, Thos. Wm. Hall, W. Schwabacher, Vernon Roberts, R. B. Yardley,

C. McNaughtan, Edward J. Nankivell, C. Neville Biggs, J. A. Tilleard, A. R. Barrett, B. D. Knox; visitor, Fred J. Melville.

The chair was taken by Mr. Gordon Smith, and the minutes of the meetings held on the 20th March and 3rd April were read and confirmed.

The meeting then proceeded to ballot for Col. Thomas Charles Pleydell Calley, proposed by the Earl of Kintore and seconded by the Hon. Secretary, and Mr. Walter Victor Morten, proposed by Mr. L. L. R. Hausburg and seconded by Mr. M. P. Castle, J.P., and both candidates were declared duly elected members of the Society.

Mr. E. J. Nankivell then proceeded to open a discussion on a subject which he entitled "Our Society: Past, Present, and Future." He pointed out that the history of the Society dates back to 1869. He considered that it would be desirable to return to the compilation of reference lists, which, in his opinion, would add to the popularity and usefulness of the Society. He also advocated the desirability of meetings being held twice a year which would be open to all Philatelists, whether members of the Society or not, and to all dealers. He criticised, in some respects, the present management of the Society, and suggested that the election of the Council should be by voting lists issued to all the members. With regard to publications, he suggested that instead of issuing works in complete volumes, it would be desirable to bring them out in monthly parts, supplying them free of charge to members and at the rate of one shilling a number to non-members.

A long and interesting discussion then took place, in the course of which Mr. Vernon Roberts, as a country member, disagreed with most of the suggestions put forward by Mr. Nankivell, considered that the election of the Council by means of voting papers would be a great mistake, and that members who wished to vote should attend the meeting. He also did not consider the suggestions as to publications feasible, and thought the existing subscription was low enough already.

Mr. McNaughtan had been looking forward to Mr. Nankivell's paper, but thought he had heard nothing of the past, only a very mixed-up statement as to the present, and a very hazy intimation as to the future. He agreed, however, with some of the suggestions made.

Mr. Tilleard regretted the absence of the Hon. Vice-President and Mr. Bacon, who were more fully acquainted with the history of the Society than anyone then present, and could therefore throw more light on the matter. He had expected to hear a paper instead of listening to an opening speech, and commented on the fact that in the speech the past had not been gone into, bare outlines only having been given; that the present had been ignored; and that the future had been treated practically as a closed book. With reference to the suggestions made by the opener, Mr. Tilleard considered that the proposal for holding two open meetings was an exceedingly good idea, and while he could not agree with the other suggestions, he thought that the Society was indebted to Mr. Nankivell for having brought them forward, as he felt it had been done in the true interests of the Society. Mr. Tilleard dealt specifically with the various suggestions raised, and explained why the reference meetings had ceased, and at the close of his remarks moved a vote of thanks to Mr. Nankivell. Mr. Ehrenbach, in seconding the vote of thanks, pointed out that the members in general meeting had decided to discontinue the reference lists, and intimated that the elections of the Council had always been free and open, the members of the Council themselves never taking any joint action.

After some few remarks Mr. Oldfield supported the vote of thanks. Mr. Gordon Smith summed up the proceedings, and intimated that the Council would always welcome the introduction of new blood, and eventually put the resolution, which was carried unanimously. Mr. Nankivell having suitably responded, the proceedings then terminated.

Birmingham Philatelic Society.

Hon. Secretary—
Mr. G. JOHNSON, B.A., 208, Birchfield Road, Birmingham.

MARCH 19th.—Discussion, "N.S.W., 1884–1903."

Mr. H. M. Campbell was unanimously elected a member. Mr. J. H. Smyth was thanked for a contribution to the permanent collection and for some interesting particulars which he had obtained for the Society in reference to the printing and perforation of N.S.W. stamps. The ordinary unsurfaced of the 1897 issue and the two different varieties of chalk-surfaced paper have caused us some confusion, and it was to clear up this difficulty that these investigations were made.

APRIL 2nd.—Paper, "New Zealand," Mr. T. W. Peck.

Mr. A. Richter was unanimously elected a member. Messrs. L. E. Bradbury, G. Fowler, and the Boston Philatelic Society were thanked for donations to the library, and Mr. C. Wells for some stamps given to the collection.

Mr. Peck then gave an interesting paper on the early issues of New Zealand, illustrating his remarks by means of his own collection of superb used and unused, including many mint blocks of the early imperfs. and perfs.

MAY 7th.—Discussion, "Résumé of New South Wales."

Messrs. J. N. Marsden, G. Samarakoon, C. G. Fryer, T. W. Peck, J. A. Margoschis,

W. Johannidis, and H. Grindall were thanked for donations to the permanent collection. The gifts were specially interesting, and will materially assist the Society in making a sufficiently pleasing and instructive collection to help to popularise many countries that members do not now collect. It was encouraging to hear several members present express their determination to take up other countries ready for next session. Among the donations were mint copies of N.S.W. 9d., surcharged in blue and in black, N.Z. 1d., no wmk., imperf. horizontally.

The following is a corrected list of the duplicate books we have to part with for the benefit of the permanent collection :—

Ewen's W. S. N., vols. 6, 7, 8 ; *Stamp News*, vols. 7, 8 ; *Stamp News Annual*, 1891 ; *Gibbons' M. J.*, vols. 4, 10 ; *Phil. Chron. and Ad.*, vols. 2, 8 ; *Stamp Collector*, vols. 4, 5, 6 ; *Stamp Collector's Fortnightly*, vols. 3, 7 ; *P. J. of G. B.*, vol. 11 ; *Stamps*, vol. 4. An almost complete duplicate set of the auction catalogues of T. Buhl, T. Bull, T. Cheveley, J. Edwards, W. Hadlow, Martin Ray, H. W. Plumridge, Puttick and Simpson, and Ventom, Bull, and Cooper.

Offers in cash or stamps to be sent by June 30th at latest.

The following programme is proposed for next session :—

Oct. 1,	1903.	Annual Meeting for election of officers, etc.
,, 15	,,	Display. Mr. W. B. AVERY.
Nov. 5	,,	Paper, "South Australia." Mr. R. HOLLICK.
,, 19	,,	Paper, "Portugal and Colonies." Mr. G. JOHNSON.
Dec. 3	,,	Auction.
Jan. 7,	1904.	Lantern Display. Mr. J. A. MARGOSCHIS.
Feb. 4	,,	Paper, "Holland and Colonies." Mr. T. W. PECK.
,, 25 and 26.		Auction.
Mar. 4,	1904.	Paper, "Norway, Sweden, and Denmark." Mr. P. T. DEAKIN, Mr. H. GRINDALL.
Mar. 18,	1904.	Paper, "Ceylon." Mr. W. S. VAUGHTON, Mr. C. A. STEPHENSON.
April 7,	1904.	Display, "West Indies." Mr. W. PIMM.
May 5	,,	Display, "Straits Settlements."

Herts Philatelic Society.

A SPECIAL MEETING was held at Anderton's Hotel, Fleet Street, E.C., on Friday, February 27th, 1903, at 6.40 p.m.

Present: Messrs. H. R. Oldfield, L. E. Bradbury, S. Chapman, R. Frentzel, G. Haynes, J. C. Sidebotham, A. H. Giles, C. R. Sutherland, F. J. Melville, W. V. Morten, C. J. Daun, R. Meyer, K. Wiehen, J. B. Neyroud, D. Thomson, L. S. Charlick, A. Hogan, H. B. Wills, W. Schwabacher, H. A. Slade, and two visitors.

The chair was taken by the Hon. Vice-President. The minutes of the meeting held on February 10th, 1903, were read and signed as correct.

The election of Mr. G. H. Clutsam as an ordinary member was duly confirmed.

The Chairman then proceeded to open a discussion upon "An Ideal Philatelic Exhibition" by reading a carefully prepared and comprehensive paper on the subject.

A discussion subsequently ensued in which the following members and visitors took part: Messrs. Chapman, Haynes, Melville, Sutherland, Wills, Bradbury, Kuttner, and Homersham. Some valuable hints and suggestions were received, and were ably summed up by the Chairman, to whom a hearty vote of thanks was moved by Mr. Haynes, seconded by Mr. Melville, and carried with acclamation. Mr. Oldfield suitably responded, and the proceedings then terminated.

A GENERAL MEETING was held at Anderton's Hotel, Fleet Street, E.C., on Tuesday, March 10th, 1903, at 7.0 p.m.

Present: Messrs. W. G. Cool, L. E. Bradbury, J. C. Sidebotham, W. Simpson, C. R. Sutherland, C. E. Fagan, T. W. Hall, L. W. Fulcher, W. A. Boyes, J. B. Neyroud, W. Schwabacher, R. Meyer, H. Thompson, D. Thomson, K. Wiehen, and H. A. Slade.

The chair was taken by Mr. J. C. Sidebotham. The minutes of the meeting held on February 27th, 1903, were read and signed as correct.

Mr. Cool proposed, and Mr. Simpson seconded, "That an evening early next season be set apart for an exhibition of stamps of a particular country by the members." Carried.

Mr. Morley proposed, and Mr. Thompson seconded, "That fiscals be included in the exhibition." Carried.

Mr. Bradbury proposed, and Mr. Boyes seconded, "That four countries be chosen at this meeting, and that a circular be sent to every member to vote as to which country should finally be selected." Carried.

A poll was then taken, and Great Britain, France, Natal, and India were chosen as countries from which a final selection should be made. Messrs. Fulcher, Sutherland, and Slade were appointed a committee to act with Mr. Oldfield to further consider the exhibition question.

Mr. T. W. Hall then passed round his well-known collection of the stamps of Chili, and fully explained the recent discoveries in the early issues, etc. Much interest was taken by the members in the display, and at its conclusion a hearty vote of thanks was passed to Mr. Hall for his courtesy towards the Society. A suitable response was made by Mr. Hall, and a vote of thanks being passed to the Chairman, the proceedings then terminated.

A GENERAL MEETING was held at Anderton's Hotel, Fleet Street, E.C., on Tuesday, April 21st, 1903, at 7.0 p.m.

Present: Messrs. R. Frentzel, A. G. Wane, C. R. Sutherland, W. G. Cool, L. E. Bradbury, R. Blenkinsop, W. A. Bois, B. F. J.

Cooper, D. Thomson, H. Wiehen, L. Fulcher, A. H. L. Giles, W. Schwabacher, R. Ehrenbach, W. A. Boyes, L. L. R. Hausburg, E. P. Richardson, W. Fenwick Shields, S. Chapman, P. L. Pemberton, W. Jacoby, J. H. Tite, C. J. Daun, J. B. Neyroud, T. W. Hall, A. Hogan, Dr. C. Beaumont, R. B. Yardley, W. Dorning Beckton, Lieut. F. H. Napier, H. A. Slade, and three visitors.

The chair was taken by Mr. W. G. Cool.

The minutes of the meeting held on March 10th, 1903, were read and signed as correct. The election of Mrs. F. M. Bridson as a life member, and of Messrs. G. Gelli, W. Mair, J. H. Tite, Dr. C. Beaumont, R. B. Yardley, and A. B. Kay as ordinary members, was duly confirmed.

The following donations were received during the past month, and their receipt was gratefully acknowledged by the Hon. Sec., and duly recorded in the minutes: *The Postage Stamps of Switzerland*, by M. Mirabaud; Catalogues by MM. Gelli and Tani; *Forgeries*, by Miss L. M. Stewart, Lewis Marks, and Frank Neck.

The resignation of Mr. E. A. Mardon from the Society was accepted with much regret.

The poll for a country to be exhibited by members next season resulted in favour of Great Britain.

The River Party, at the invitation of Mr. George Haynes, was fixed for the second Saturday in June.

At the conclusion of formal business, the Chairman introduced Mr. Dorning Beckton, who had come specially from Manchester to exhibit his celebrated collection of the stamps of Greece before the members of the Society. The collection, which is practically complete, was fully explained as regards the different printings, etc., as the sheets were passed round.

Mr. Hall, in proposing a hearty vote of thanks to Mr. Beckton for his interesting and instructive display, expressed the great appreciation felt by the members at the courtesy Mr. Beckton had shown in putting himself to so much inconvenience on their behalf. This vote was seconded by Mr. Ehrenbach and carried with acclamation. Mr. Beckton, in response, expressed his satisfaction at the cordial reception he had met with, and expressed his views on the "limited specialism" controversy that is raging just now.

Proceedings terminated at 9.10 p.m.

H. A. SLADE, *Hon. Sec. and Treasurer.*

INGLESIDE, ST. ALBANS,
April 22nd, 1903.

Manchester Philatelic Society.

President—W. DORNING BECKTON.

THE final meeting of the session took place at the Grand Hotel on Friday evening, April 3rd.

Mr. J. H. Abbott took the chair, and there were seventeen members present.

The nomination paper for the officers for next session was laid upon the table, and arrangements were made for the Annual Meeting, the summer meetings, and the picnic.

Several of the new stamps of Cyprus and Malta and the new German officials were shown.

In the absence through illness of Mr. Beckton, his paper on Sicily was read by the Hon. Secretary. The paper dealt with the arrangements for the issue of the stamps, the well-known obliterating die, etc., and there were also shown enlarged photographs of the essays submitted to the authorities for a new issue, the appearance of which was frustrated by the landing of Garibaldi at Marsala in 1860. A fine selection of Mr. Beckton's Sicilian stamps was exhibited.

THE twelfth annual meeting was held on Friday, May 8th.

Mr. Beckton took the chair, and there were sixteen members present.

The Hon. Secretary's report showed again an increase in the number of members, which is now eighty-five, made up of sixty-two active, nineteen corresponding, and four honorary. It stated that the average attendance at the meetings has been fourteen, and dealt with various innovations which have been successfully carried out during the session, such as the setting apart of certain evenings for discussions, and the exhibition on one evening of rarities—limited to ten—by each member.

The Hon. Treasurer's report was most satisfactory, the balance in hand being considerably larger than usual.

The Hon. Librarian announced the gift of several valuable and useful books to the library, and the Comptroller reported the continued success of the Exchange Packet.

In moving the adoption of these reports, the President specially referred to the resignation by Mr. North, who is leaving the neighbourhood, of the office of Librarian, a position which he has filled to the great advantage of the Society for six years.

The following officers were then elected for the Session 1903-4: President: W. Dorning Beckton; Vice-Presidents: J. H. Abbott, W. Grunewald; Hon. Secretary: G. F. H. Gibson; Assistant Hon. Secretary: J. S. Gee; Hon. Treasurer: C. H. Coote; Hon. Librarian: G. L. Campbell, jun.; Comptroller: W. Grunewald; Committee: G. B. Duerst, W. W. Munn, Rev. L. F. Ward; Exchange Packet Committee: R. Albrecht, D. Ostara.

On the motion of the Rev. L. F. Ward, seconded by Mr. Munn, it was agreed that, commencing with January 1st next, the *Philatelic Record* should be substituted for the *London Philatelist* as the journal included in the annual subscription, and that Rule V. should be altered accordingly.

Mr. Beckton offered a silver cup for the best philatelic paper and display of stamps

by a member given during the next session, the details and conditions of the award to be arranged later.

G. FRED. H. GIBSON, *Hon. Sec.*

FAIRFIELD, CRUMPSALL, MANCHESTER.

LIST OF MEMBERS.

Abbott, J. H.
Albrecht, R.
Anyon, T.
Ayre, F. J.
Bacon, E. D.
Bazley, F. H.
Beazley, F. J.
Beckett, H.
Beckton, W. D.
Benjamin, D. (*c.*)
Bennett, A. H. A.
Bennett, H. (*c.*)
Biggs, C. N.
Bowden, W. G. (*c.*)
Brooks, J.
Brown, Rev. J. F.
Brown, W.
Burder, H. C. (*c.*)
Buxton, A.
Campbell, G. L., jun.
Castle, M. P.
Chance, R. F.
Collett, E. P.
Cooper, J.
Coote, C. H.
Corns, Dr.
Dearn, A. H.
Duerst, G. B.
Ehlinger, E.
Etherington, J. W. (*c.*)
Evans, Major.
Fildes, E.
Flohr, J.
Gee, J. S.
Gibson, G. F. H.
Gillett, O.
Giwelb, M.
Grosvenor, Dr. (*c.*)
Grunewald, W.
Harrison, R. F. V.
Harvey, S. S. (*c.*)
Hausburg, L. L. R.
Hawkins, H. W. (*c.*)
Heginbottom, J. E.
Heinaken, F.
Heywood, N.
Ingleby, J.
Isitt, Rev. L.
Jackson, E. H. (*c.*)
Jago, Dr.
Jay, B. (*c.*)
Leigh, A. D.
Lewis, S. R. (*c.*)
Levy, E.
Marimian, A. O. (*c.*)
Martin, R. B.
Massey, S. W.
Munn, W. W.
Nicholson, H. K. (*c.*)
North, J. C.
Oldfield, H. R.
Ostara, D.
Pemberton, P. L.
Philbrick, Judge.
Quarkowsky, C. (*c.*)
Roberts, F. A.
Roberts, V.
Shann, W. S.
Simpson, J.
Skipwith, T. K.
Stagg, J. H.
Steinthal, A.
Symons, E. C.
Terry, W. H.
Thackrah, J. H. (*c.*)
Turner, H. J.
Ward, Rev. L. F.
Watts, J., jun. (*c.*)
Westhorp, J. (*c.*)
Wilcox, Smith, C., (*c.*)
Winsloe, R. H. (*c.*)
Wood, H. A.
Woodroffe, J.
Wrigley, S.
Young, J. R.

(*c*) signifies Corresponding Member.

Suburban Stamp Exchange Club.

THE October packets came back from circulation in good time, and sheets were returned and balances adjusted with the least possible delay. Sales amounted to £139 4*s.* 2*d.*, a very fair average.

Four packets, consisting of 169 sheets, valued in the aggregate at £1,943 3*s.* 11*d.*, were made up and despatched on the February circuit by the 25th. Many good selections of rare and medium stamps were submitted, and as quotations were moderate, members should have no difficulty in filling up blank spaces. Colonials and Americans were specially strong, and Europeans were well represented.

Nine applications for membership were received during the past month, of which two were held over for further inquiry. Two resignations were accepted.

THE December packets came back from circulation in good time, and sheets were returned and balances adjusted with the least possible delay. Sales amounted to £119 14s. 7d., which worked out at a very fair average.

Four packets, containing 169 sheets valued at £1,818 4s. 2d. in the aggregate, were despatched on the April circuit. Many good selections were received, and a large number of medium and rare stamps, in first-class condition, were offered at reasonable quotations. An examination of the sheets showed that Great Britain and the South African Colonies were strongly represented; West Indians and Europeans were also well to the front.

Ten new members joined during the past month, and four applications were held over pending inquiries. As the packets are very valuable, and pass through many hands, it must be understood that all applications for membership be accompanied by undeniable references, to prevent delay and disappointment. Copy of rules, with full information, will gladly be supplied on demand to Philatelists of all grades, and the Club will be found an excellent medium for the disposal of duplicates and the acquisition of new varieties at much less than catalogue prices. There is no annual subscription. Packets are not kept in circulation for longer than thirteen weeks, and sheets are returned and balances are submitted without delay. The Club, which was founded in 1892, contains nearly 300 members.

H. A. SLADE, *Secretary.*

INGLESIDE, ST. ALBANS.
April 24th, 1903.

The Collectors' Club,

351, FOURTH AVENUE, NEW YORK.

THE ninety-second meeting of the Board of Governors was held at the Club House on Monday evening, April 13th, 1903. Present: Messrs. Andreini, Dewing, Luff, Rich, Scott, and Perrin. The report of the judges on the exhibition of the stamps of Russia, Finland, and Poland was approved. The Treasurer's report, showing a cash balance in bank of $417.94 exclusive of Reserve Fund, was approved as read. The report of the House Committee was read and received. The judges of the special exhibition of 100 Australian stamps reported as follows: "The Board of Governors, Collectors' Club. Gentlemen,—Your Committee appointed to examine 100 Australian stamps in competition for prizes offered by Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., beg to report that three collections were entered for competi-

tion, but that just previous to your Committee's examination of the collections one was withdrawn. Of the two collections examined, the one marked 'W. H. H.', the property of Mr. W. H. Hendrickson, has been found by us to be the most valuable, and we have therefore awarded to that collection the first prize. The second prize we have awarded to the collection of Mr. John N. Luff. There being no third collection in competition, we cannot, of course, make any award for the third prize.—We are, yours truly, J. M. Andreini, Jos. H. Rich." The above report was accepted. Moved, seconded, and carried, that the President appoint a Committee, of which he shall be president, to devise rules for the governing of future competitive exhibitions. The Committee appointed is as follows: Messrs. J. M. Andreini, John N. Luff, Albert Perrin, Jos. S. Rich, John W. Scott.

ALBERT PERRIN, *Secretary.*

The Market.

NOTE.—*Under this title will be inserted all the information that may refer in any way to the financial aspects of Philately*, e.g. *the sales or values of stamps, the state of the Market, Trade publications, etc.*

MESSRS. VENTOM, BULL, AND COOPER.

Sale of April 23rd and 24th, 1903.

* Unused.	£	s.	d.
Great Britain, 2d., blue, no lines, horizontal pair*	4	15	0
Ditto, 2½d., lilac-rose, Plate 2, "LH—FL"	3	3	0
Ditto, 10d., octagonal,* part gum	2	7	6
Monaco, 1st issue, 5 f.,* no gum	1	5	0
Moldavia, 1858, bluish paper, 40 and 80 paras	2	4	0
British East Africa, 1st issue, on English stamps, ½ and 1 anna, unused, the latter mint, and 4 annas, used	3	10	0
Ditto, on Company's stamps, 2 rs., brick-red,* mint	2	0	0
Cape of Good Hope, triangular, 1s., emerald*	2	0	0
Ditto, ditto, 1s., yellow-green*	2	10	0
Mauritius, "Post Paid," 1d., red, medium state	6	15	0
Niger Coast, provl., ½d. on half of 1d., vermilion, and ½d., in red, on half of 1d., blue	3	7	6
Ditto, ditto, ½d. on 2½d., blue, horizontal pair, used on piece	2	13	0
Ditto, 1898-1901, 10s., deep violet, unused, block of four, mint	2	12	0
Orange River Colony, 2½ on 3d., ultramarine, mint, block of nine, the centre stamp being the very rare variety with Roman "I" and antique "2" in "½."	2	0	0
British Columbia, 1865, 10 c., blue,* with gum	1	18	0
Ditto, 1867-9, 12½, 5 c.,* mint	1	4	0
New Brunswick, 6d., yellow,* with gum	4	10	0
U.S.A., 1855, 90 c., blue,* mint	1	18	0
Ditto, 1869, 90 c., carmine and black*	2	2	0
Ditto, Justice, 90 c., off centre	2	7	6
Bahamas, 4d. on 6d., pair,* mint	1	12	6
British Honduras, 1887, 1s., grey,* mint	1	14	0
Montserrat, 4d., blue, CA,* with gum	2	14	0
St. Lucia, Star, 6d., green, horizontal pair*	3	3	0
St. Vincent, 1883-4, perf. 12, 4d., ultramarine*	1	16	0
Virgin Islands, 1867-8, perf. 15, 6d., dull rose*	2	12	0
Argentine Republic, 1891, 20 pesos, horizontal pair	3	5	0
New Zealand, 1856, blue paper, 1d., 2d., and 1s.	3	5	0

Collections: 7,204, £72; and 10,292, £46.

* * *

MESSRS. VENTOM, BULL, AND COOPER.

Sale of May 7th and 8th, 1903.

* Unused.

	£	s.	d.
Great Britain, 1870, 1½d., rose-red, "OP—PC"	1	16	0
Gibraltar, first issue, 1s., bistre*	1	12	0
France, collection of 502, all*	30	0	0
Ceylon, 9d., lilac-brown, imperf.	2	17	6
Ditto, 2s., blue, ditto	3	0	0
Labuan, 1880, "6," in red, on 16 c., blue	5	0	0
Ditto, ditto, "8," in black, on 12 c., carmine	1	15	0
Shanghai, 1877, 1 cand. on 9 cands., blue-grey, used	2	0	0

	£	s.	d.
British Bechuanaland, overprinted "Protectorate" only, 1s., 2s., and 2s. 6d., all part gum*	5	15	0
Lagos, 5s., blue	4	10	0
Orange River Colony, "4" on 6d., rose, the four types	2	0	0
Ditto, "V.R.I.", 1d., purple, letter "I" omitted,* mint	2	6	0
Transvaal, 1877, 6d., blue, red surcharge	4	6	0
Ditto, 1887-90, provisional, 2½d. on 1s., green, horizontal pair,* mint, one having the error "2/1 2"	1	18	0
New Brunswick, the Connell, perf. cut right side	14	0	0
Nova Scotia, 6d., yellow-green*	2	4	0
British Honduras, 1885, 6d., yellow,* full gum	1	11	0
Dominica, the very rare "One Penny" on 6d., green, of 1886, used on piece of original, only sixty copies printed	42	0	0
Ditto, 1888, CA, 1s., lilac-rose, used	3	5	0
Nevis, 6d., green, of 1883, used	3	10	0
Ditto, 1s., lilac, 1890, used	4	0	0
St. Vincent, 1880, "One Penny" on 6d., yellow-green,* with gum	2	6	0
Virgin Islands, 4d., brown, error "FOURPENCF,"* mint, with bottom margin	5	0	0
Brazil, 600 reis, italic	2	15	0
Tonga, first issue, 1d., rose-carmine, perf. 12½,* mint	2	0	0
Western Australia, 1861, 4d., vermilion, rough perfs.*	2	15	0

Collections: 9,823, £106; 2,392 (British Colonials), £39.

* * *

MESSRS. PUTTICK AND SIMPSON.

Sale of April 21st and 22nd, 1903.

* Unused.

	£	s.	d.
Gibraltar, 1886, 1s., bistre,* no gum	1	14	0
Great Britain, 1854-7, wmk. Large Crown, perf. 14, 2d., blue, a strip of three,* mint	2	15	0
Ditto, 1855-7, wmk. Medium Garter, 4d., rose-carmine on white,* with gum	4	4	0
Ditto, "O.W. Official," 10d., Queen's Head	8	0	0
Sweden, "Tretio," vermilion,* with gum	12	10	0
Ditto, 1874, Official, 10 on 24 öre, yellow, with inverted surcharge,* with gum	5	10	0
Ceylon, 1861, wmk. Star, clean-cut perf., 1d., blue, a fine strip of three from corner of sheet with margins, slight defect in printing on one stamp,* mint	2	15	0
Ceylon, Service, set of seven*	1	16	0
India, 1854, 4 a., red and blue, a pair, 18 mm. apart, showing blue dividing line and rosette	2	0	0
British East Africa, 1891, MS. provisional, "½ anna A.B.", on 2 a., vermilion	4	0	0
Cape of Good Hope, triangular, 1s., dark green, a superb pair,* mint	5	15	0
Ditto, woodblock, 4d., dark blue, slightly cut into at bottom	4	5	0
Ditto, 1863-4, triangular, 1s., emerald, a superb pair,* mint	6	10	0
Ditto, Mafeking, 1s. on 6d., on British Bechuanaland	4	5	0
Ditto, ditto, 2s. on 1s., ditto,* mint	3	5	0
Lagos, wmk. CC, perf. 12½, 1s., orange, value 16½ mm., a very fine pair,* mint	4	17	6
Ditto, 2s. 6d., olive-black,* mint	3	5	0
Ditto, 5s., blue, used	4	10	0
Mauritius, 1848, "Post Paid," 1d., deep orange, early impression, large margins and fine colour, on piece of original, but a little heavily cancelled	4	4	0
Zululand, 5s., carmine,* mint	2	15	0
New Brunswick, 1s., mauve	10	0	0
Newfoundland, 6½d., scarlet-vermilion*	5	5	0
Ditto, 4d., orange,* with gum	4	0	0
U.S.A., 1861, 5 c., mustard,* nearly full gum	2	15	0
Ditto, 1868, 30 c., orange, with grille,* mint	1	18	0
Ditto, Justice, 90 c.,* mint	3	10	0
Bahamas, no wmk., rough perfs., 6d., grey-lilac,* mint	2	0	0
Nevis, 4d., orange, litho.,* mint	3	12	6
Ditto, 6d., grey, ditto, ditto, £3 12s. 6d. and	3	10	0
Ditto, CA, 6d., green, mint	3	15	0
St. Lucia, Star wmk., 4d., blue,* £1 12s. 0d. and	1	16	0
Ditto, ditto, 6d., green*	1	18	0
Ditto, CA, 1s., orange-brown*	1	17	0
St. Vincent, no wmk., 4d., yellow,* mint	2	2	0
Ditto, Star, 4d., dark blue,* mint	3	17	6
Ditto, ditto, 4d., ultramarine,* mint	3	3	0
Ditto, provisionals, ½d., in red, on half 6d., yellow-green, a pair,* no gum	2	4	0
Ditto, ditto, "One Penny," in black, on 6d., yellow-green,* mint	2	16	0
Ditto, ditto, 4d., in black, on 1s., vermilion, a very fine and well-centred copy, scarcely touched by postmark	9	0	0

	£	s.	d.
St. Vincent, perf. 14, 4d., bright blue,* no gum	2	6	0
New South Wales, Laureated, 3d., emerald-green, a pair,* with full original gum, cut rather close and a little marked and cracked at top	8	5	0

Collections, 2,756 (British Colonials), £50; 2,395, £13 10s. 0d.; 1,133, £10 10s. 0d.

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MESSRS. PUTTICK AND SIMPSON.

Sale of May 5th and 6th, 1903.

* Unused.

	£	s.	d.
Great Britain, 1854–7, wmk. Large Crown, perf. 14, 2d., blue, a block of six, slightly oxidised*	3	10	0
Tuscany, 60 crazie, slightly cut into	5	10	0
India, Chamba Service, 1886–98, "Chmaba," 1 a., plum	4	0	0
Ditto, ditto, ditto, 2 a., blue	5	15	0
Ditto, Gwalior, ditto, "Gwalicr," 1 rupee, carmine and green,* small tear	3	10	0
Labuan, 1880, 8 on 12 c., carmine, with value pen-cancelled in red, and inverted figure "8,"* mint	2	18	0
Ditto, ditto, 8 on 12 c., carmine, with value cancelled by numeral, also with inverted figure "8,"* mint	3	3	0
Ditto, 1881, "Eight Cents" on 12 c., carmine, a pair,* mint	2	6	0
Ditto, 1883, 1 dollar, in MS., on 16 c., blue,* with gum, but very small defect at top	5	2	6
Sungei Ujong, 1878, 2 c., brown,* mint	3	0	0
British Bechuanaland, ½d., black, with double overprint in red and in black,* mint	3	3	0
Ditto, ½d., black, the error with "B" of "British" omitted, ditto	6	5	0
British Central Africa, £2, rose-red,* mint	4	2	6
Cape of Good Hope, triangular, 1s., dark green, pair,* mint	5	12	6
Ditto, ditto, 1s., emerald-green,* mint . £5 5s. and	3	12	6
Mauritius, 2d., blue, medium early impression, good margins and colour, very small defect in centre	5	5	0
Ditto, ditto, ditto, the error "Penoe," good margins and colour, a little repaired in centre	5	15	0
Ditto, 1859, large fillet, 2d., dark blue, a nice copy, but has two or three small tears	6	6	0
Ditto, another, ditto, ditto	6	6	0
Mauritius, 1891, "Two Cents" on 38 cents on 9d., violet, with surcharge inverted,* mint	2	14	0
Ditto, same stamp with double surcharge, one inverted, ditto	2	18	0
Natal, 1862, no wmk., imperf., 1d., rose,* no gum	2	0	0
Ditto, 1891, the error "Half-penn," ditto	2	2	0
Orange Free State, 1877, 4 on 6d., rose-carmine, Type C, inverted	2	12	6
Ditto, Type D, ditto	2	10	0
Ditto, "V.R.I.", 6d., carmine, the very rare error with figure of value omitted, used on entire original, with the normal type *se tenant*	21	0	0
Transvaal, 1877, 6d., blue, with inverted surcharge	4	17	6
Ditto, 3d., mauve on buff, wide roulette, lightly cancelled	3	7	6
Ditto, 6d., blue on blue, ditto, ditto, small tear	2	4	0
Ditto, 1887–90, 2½d. on 1/–, green, the error "2/$^1_2$,"* mint	2	0	0
Ditto, "V.R.I.", 4d., sage-green, pair, with inverted surcharge,* mint	5	15	0
Uganda, 1895, 30 cowries, violet, used	3	0	0
Ditto, ditto, 50 cowries, ditto*	3	10	0
Ditto, ditto, 40 cowries, black, used	4	0	0
Ditto, ditto, 60 cowries, ditto, ditto	5	0	0
Ditto, 1896, 100 cowries, violet, used	16	0	0
Ditto, 1902, ½ a., green, a vertical pair, lower stamp being the error without overprint,* mint	6	17	6
U.S.A., 1851, 24 c., grey-lilac*	6	0	0
Ditto, Newspaper, 2 c. to $60, unused but two	9	10	0
Ditto, Justice, 90 c., block of four,* mint	12	0	0
St. Vincent, Star, 5s., rose-red,* no gum	7	10	0
Virgin Islands, 4d. on 1s., block of ten,* mint	6	15	0
British Guiana, 1853, 1 c., vermilion,* part gum	7	0	0
Ditto, 1888–9, $1, green,* mint	3	0	0
Buenos Ayres, 4 pesos, scarlet, heavily cancelled	6	0	0
New South Wales, Sydney, 2d., lilac-blue, Plate 3,* no gum	5	0	0
Ditto, ditto, 3d., green,* cut close	3	17	6
Ditto, Laureated, no wmk., 2d., blue, re-engraved,* with gum	4	4	0
Ditto, 3d., green, the rare error with wmk. "2," slightly repaired in two corners	7	10	0

Collections: 4,009, £43; 3,085, £25; and 5,070, £22 10s.

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MESSRS. PLUMRIDGE AND CO.

Sale of April 16th and 17th, 1903.

* Unused.

	£	s.	d.
British Bechuanaland, 1889, overprint ½d. in green,* mint pair, double surcharge	2	15	0
British Central Africa, 1895, no wmk., 2s. 6d., 3s., and 5s.,* mint	1	16	0
Cape of Good Hope, 1863, De la Rue 6d., mauve,* mint	1	14	0
Ditto, 1880, CC, 3d., lilac-rose*	1	8	0
Ditto, Mafeking, 1s. on 4d. (S. G. No. 11),* mint	2	2	0
Ditto, Vryburg, "VR Special Post" on ½d., green, Transvaal	1	12	0
Great Britain, 1d., intense black, horizontal pair,* mint	1	12	0
Ditto, 2½d., rose, "LH—FL"	2	2	0
Orange River Colony, 1st print, 6d., blue, with figure "6" omitted*	1	9	0
Ditto, ditto, ditto, pane of sixty, including the above variety*	3	10	0
Straits Settlements, Perak, 1890, Service, "P. G. S.," 12 c., purple,* mint	1	3	0
Transvaal, 1883, 1s., pale green, block of six, one stamp being *tête-bêche*	2	0	0

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MESSRS. PLUMRIDGE AND CO.

Sale of April 28th and 29th, 1903.

* Unused.

	£	s.	d.
Bahamas, 1863, CC, 12½, 1s., green, with gum*	3	3	0
British Guiana, 96 c., drab, block of four,* mint	10	10	0
Canada, 10d., blue*	4	4	0
Ceylon, 10d., red, imperf.	1	3	0
Great Britain, 1d., black, block of four,* mint	4	8	0
Ditto, 1841, 1d., red, Dickinson paper, pair*	4	10	0
Ditto, 2s., brown	2	2	0
Ditto, 10s., grey-green, Maltese Cross	1	3	0
Ditto, £1, brown-lilac	1	6	0
Grenada, 1s., "Shillins"	1	3	0
Ditto, 1881, 4d., blue, Broad-pointed Star	1	1	0
Nevis, 1867, 1s., blue-green*	2	10	0
New South Wales, Sydney, 2d., blue (S. G. No. 22)	2	0	0
Ditto, 1862, surfaced paper, 2d., horizontal pair,* mint	3	0	0
St. Lucia, the "Shilding" error*	5	7	6
St. Vincent, 1871, perf. 11 to 12, 1s., rose-red,* part gum	2	12	0
Ditto, 1880, perf. 11 to 12, 1s., vermilion,* with gum	1	16	0
Ditto, 1881, 1d. on 6d., yellow-green, fine	2	2	0
Sierra Leone, 1872, no wmk., on white, perf. 12½, 6d., dull lilac*	2	15	0
Spain, 1853, 2 reales, red	4	0	0
Tasmania, 1853, 1d., blue	2	4	0
Ditto, 1864, 6d., grey-lilac, rouletted	2	0	0
Tobago, 1896, ½d. on 4d., lilac, a block of twelve, showing the three varieties of spacing, mint	1	14	0
Trinidad, 1882, wmk. CA, perf. 14, 4d., grey, block of four*	2	10	0

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MESSRS. PLUMRIDGE AND CO.

Sale of May 12th and 13th, 1903.

* Unused.

	£	s.	d.
Barbados, 1873, Large Star, clean-cut, ½d., blue-green*	2	2	0
Ditto, 5s., rose,* mint	2	12	6
British Central Africa, 1897, £10, orange	2	4	0
British South Africa, 1896, "One Penny" on 3d., mint	2	12	6
Ditto, ditto, a fine used copy	2	6	0
Ditto, ditto, "One Penny" on 4s., a mint vertical pair	3	3	0
Ditto, ditto, ditto, a fine used copy	1	15	0
Ceylon, 1s. 9d., yellow-green, imperf.,* with gum	4	0	0
Great Britain, 1840, no lines, 2d., blue, pair*	6	0	0
Ditto, "O.W. Official," Queen's Head, ½d., green,* mint	1	2	0
Ditto, ditto, ditto, 5d.,* mint	4	0	0
Ditto, ditto, ditto, 10d.,* mint	6	0	0
Seychelles, 1893, 12 c. on 16 c., surcharge inverted,* mint	2	2	0
Ditto, 15 c. on 16 c., surcharge inverted,* mint	1	14	0

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THE

London Philatelist:

THE MONTHLY JOURNAL OF

THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY, LONDON.

VOL. XII. JUNE, 1903. No. 138.

With all Reserves.

WE adopt the heading above for these remarks in the dual sense. It is not generally considered to be within the special province of a journal devoted to Philately and owned by a philatelic society, to give particular prominence to the financial side of stamp collecting; but the subject that we propose is one of such far-reaching consequence to the prosperity and future of Philately, that we feel no compunction in enlarging upon it.

In common with the vast majority of collectors, the *London Philatelist* has always been a strenuous supporter of the stamp auctions. We believe that within certain limits they are most excellent things—they afford a quick and convenient method both of acquiring and disposing of a collector's stamps, and as such they make healthy competition with the members of the stamp trade. The same arguments apply also to the dealers, and all classes are fairly agreed that the auctions are almost vitally connected with the well-being and flourishing of Philately.

An evil has, however, gradually crept into prominence in connection herewith that seriously calls for amendment. The Hon. Secretary of the London Philatelic Society, in his able *résumé* of the events of the year, published in this issue, calls attention to the rapidly growing practice of stamps being actually or presumably sold with reserves, and of the owner, either by himself or agent, bidding for the same against the would-be purchaser. We believe we are correct in stating that such bidding on the part of the owner is entirely illegal, and that in such case the last bidder has the right to claim the lot. Whether this be so or not, it is manifestly unfair on the part of the vendor. The purchaser has no chance of getting the lot, although unknown to him, below what the vendor considers its value, and he has every chance of paying any price beyond that. If the vendor is sufficiently aware of the value to him of a certain stamp, it is certainly easier and far

more honest to boldly declare that he will not sell below that price. This in common parlance means declaring the reserve price. It is a practice that has found in stamp circles but a limited following in this country, but we think that abroad it is not so unusual. It seems, however, to us the more straightforward and consistent course, and one well worthy of adoption by our leading auctioneers.

Taking one consideration with another, the auctioneer's life is not always a happy one, and there are many difficulties, especially as to supply, to be contended with. One year there may be numerous good private collections to be dispersed at the rostrum—this was notably the case a few years back, and partially so in the season before the present one—while in another year there may be an absolute scarcity of good stamps for disposal, and the auctioneer be compelled to turn elsewhere. He practically has but one resource in such case—to go to the dealers, and this is doubtless the cause of the grievance to which we are calling attention. It is natural that the dealer, in offering to sell things out of his usual course of business, would require to protect his goods; nor could the auctioneer well refuse to allow this under the circumstances, but nevertheless it is hardly just to the purchaser. For example, a rare stamp might be left on sale until it fetched a certain price, and may have been put up and apparently sold half a dozen times before its owner's limit was reached. It is obvious that in such a case very false impressions both as to value and number of copies might be created. It is easier in all these cases to call attention to a defect than to cite a remedy, but we are confident that the former exists and that there is a crying need for the latter. The only suggestion we can make is the publication of reserves in all cases where such exist. Needless to say, we are making these remarks in no spirit of antagonism to the auctioneers; we recognise unreservedly that they have been of incalculable value in building up the *stability* of stamp collecting. It is rather on this ground, and because we believe they are so essential to the future of Philately, that we would see them purged of any feature that militates against their holding the entire confidence of the world of stamp collectors.

The Adhesive Stamps of Portugal.

By J. N. MARSDEN.

A Paper read before the Philatelic Society, London, on December 19, 1902.

(*Continued from page* 104.)

Issue II. 1855. Don Pedro V.



DONNA MARIA died on the 15th November, 1853, but the new stamps with the King's head, probably on account of the quantities of the Queen's head stamps remaining on hand, were not issued till 1855. The new issue comprised the same values, printed in the same colours, as the previous one. Mons. Moens gives the date of issue of all the values as the 1st February, 1855, but I have a specimen of the 5 reis on original

cover bearing the Lisbon datemark of January, 1855. The day of the month is not very distinct, but it appears to be either "15" or "18." Although the issue may have been fixed for the 1st February, 1855, it is quite possible that, owing to the stock of the previous 5 reis having been used up sooner than was anticipated, this value was issued in Lisbon a few days earlier. In those days such a deviation from official decree would be of little consequence.

It appears to be still an open question whether there exist five or six types of the 5 reis. I have no doubt that there are six, and I distinguish them as follows:—

Type 1. 75 pearls in the circle surrounding the head.
„ 2. 76 „ „ „ and small "R"s in the word "CORREIO."
„ 3. 76 pearls in the circle surrounding the head, and large "R"s in the word "CORREIO."
„ 4. 81 pearls in the circle surrounding the head.
„ 5. 89 „ „ „ the small loop to the left of the second "O" of "CORREIO" is vertical.
„ 6. 89 pearls as before, but the small loop slants outwards and downwards at an angle of about 45°.

There are other differences in the types, which are very difficult to describe, but in addition to the above distinctions, the six types may be differentiated by examining the small ornaments to the left of the "C" and the right of the second "O" of "CORREIO," which respectively look like a note of interrogation and the same reversed.

The order I have given to the types is quite arbitrary, as, with the exception of Type 1, I have not come come across any dated specimens; but that Type 1 was the first issued I have no doubt, as to it belongs the specimen I have before referred to as having been used in January, 1855.

As in the case of *all* the old Portuguese stamps with embossed head, these stamps were printed one at a time, and it is therefore impossible that more than one variety should appear on the same sheet.

The colour of the 5 reis is very uniform throughout all the types, though some bear rather more to the reddish side than others. There is, however, one printing of Type 2 which is very marked, and easily distinguishable from any of the others. In this printing the embossing is very slight, and the ink employed thin and badly mixed, the consequence being that the finer details are blurred, and blotches of a darker colour occur in various parts of the stamp. The colour is in a more reddish shade of brown than usual, and the paper is invariably thin. The 5 reis with straight hair has always been a very difficult stamp to meet with unused. About thirty unused specimens were discovered two or three years ago, all of Type 4; the other types are all of the greatest rarity unused.

There are two types of the 25 reis which I feel inclined to look upon rather as two distinct issues. They were very fully described in Mr. Castle's article in the *London Philatelist* of July, 1901, and the remaining interest which attaches to these two stamps is to find out their order of issue. This I think I have discovered.

By dint of perseverance I have collected a large number of these stamps on the original envelopes, and an examination of the postmarks gives the following result:—

Mr. Castle's No. 1 (*i.e.* the type with large "R"s), earliest date 23rd February, 1855, latest 12th September, 1855. Mr. Castle's No. 2, earliest date 6th September, 1855, latest 1st December, 1855. I think there is thus no doubt that Mr. Castle's order is the correct one, and we may put down No. 2 as having been issued in September, 1855.

The 50 reis and 100 reis do not call for any special mention, and I have not succeeded in discovering any types in either.

As in the previous issue, the paper employed for this issue varies in thickness, but the distinction is not very marked, and it is only by taking the two extremes that really distinctive sets may be formed.

Reprints.

These occur only on the thick "reprint" paper, and, with the exception of the 5 reis, are from the original dies. For the 5 reis a new die was prepared, which differs essentially from the original. For the 25 reis only Type 1 was reprinted.

SYNOPSIS.

Issue II. 1855. Don Pedro V.

On thick and thin paper.

5 reis,	six types;	reddish brown shades (January).
25 „	Type 1;	blue, slight shades (February).
25 „	Type 2;	pale blue to dark blue (September).
50 „		yellow-green shades, blue-green (February).
100 „		dull lilac, lilac, bright lilac (February).

Reprints.

On reprint paper.

5 reis,	new type;	black-brown, two shades.
25 „	Type 1;	blue.
50 „		yellow-green.
100 „		pale lilac.

Issue III. May, 1856. Don Pedro V.

I take Mr. Castle's authority as the date of this issue, although I am inclined to think that the 25 reis, at any rate, appeared rather earlier. My reason is that, as I have already mentioned, my latest date for the employment of Type 2 of the 25 reis of the previous issue was the 1st December, 1855, and the number of specimens I have examined on the original covers has not been small. It is true I have not seen many dated covers bearing the 25 r. of the issue under consideration, but the gap between 1st December, 1855, and May, 1856, is considerable, and seeing that the 25 reis of the next issue came out early in August, 1856, at the latest, one would think the stamp should be much rarer than it is. If the stamp were issued in May, it would give an existence of only three months.

The 5 reis exists in a great variety of shades. The earliest was the rich red-brown, identical in colour with the 5 reis of the preceding issue; the colour gradually assumed a yellower hue, and through yellow-brown passed to a yellow-bistre, eventually finishing up in a deep bistre-brown.

As before, these stamps may be found on both thick and thin paper, but the difference is very slight, and in unused specimens with gum it is sometimes almost impossible to classify them.

Reprints occur of both values printed from the original dies.

SYNOPSIS.

Issue III. May, 1856. Don Pedro V.

On thick and thin paper.

5 reis, red-brown, yellow-brown, yellow-bistre, bistre-brown, with intermediate shades.
25 „ blue, slight shades.

Reprints.

On reprint paper.

5 reis, bistre-brown.
25 „ blue.

Issue IV. August, 1856. Don Pedro V.

I have thought it better to make two separate issues of the next two 25 reis stamps (one blue and the other rose), the type being so interesting a one in itself, and also because it is so very different in all respects from its predecessor, more so than the Types 1 and 2 of Issue II.

Some years ago I had noticed that there were apparent differences in the printings of various specimens, but until I read Mr. Castle's article I had never been able, to my own satisfaction, to accept them as collectible varieties. After reading his article I came to look upon them in quite a new light, and commenced to study all the specimens that came in my way. I was especially anxious to discover used specimens of his Type 3, and also if possible to decide the order of issue of the other types.

In the course of my labours I luckily unearthed a batch of old correspondence which contained a very large number of the stamps of this and succeeding issues.

I discovered no used specimen of Type 3, nor could I find any new types, but I was able to settle the question of their order of issue, which I venture to think gives most interesting results.

The following list gives the earliest and latest dates I came across of the various types:—

Mr. Castle's Type 4—earliest date, 7th Aug., 1856; latest, 16th Dec., 1857.
„ „ 1 „ 26th Sept., 1857 „ 15th Jan., 1858.
„ „ 2 „ 27th Jan., 1858 „ 16th Mar., 1858.

Thus I think we have solved the order of issue. As I have said, I discovered no used specimen of Type 3, neither have I ever seen one; but with this type I will deal more fully in the next issue.

The types occur on paper varying slightly in thickness.

SYNOPSIS.

Issue IV. August, 1856. Don Pedro V.

On thick and thin paper.

25 reis, Type 1 (4) (August), blue to pale blue.
25 „ „ 2 (1) (September) „
25 „ „ 3 (3) (January, 1858) „

The figures in parenthesis refer to Mr. Castle's enumeration.

Issue V. April, 1858. Don Pedro V.

Mons. Moens gives the date of issue of the 25 reis, rose, as January, 1857, but it is possible that although the change of colour may have been decided on at so early a date, the actual issue did not take place till much later, more or less, as above stated in April, 1858.

Mr. Castle gives four varieties in rose, and with this my investigations agree.

I will give the result of my examinations of the original covers bearing the stamps, with a view to fixing the dates of issue, or, to be more correct, sequence of issue.

Mr. Castle's Type	6	—earliest date,	9th April, 1858	; latest,	21st May, 1859.
„	„ 2	„	31st Jan., 1859	„	24th Dec., 1859.
„	„ 5	„	12th Jan., 1860	„	28th July, 1861.
„	„ 3	„	17th Jan., 1861	„	24th Aug., 1862.

One curious feature in these figures presents itself. When the change of colour was decided upon, the first rose stamp used was in a type that did not previously exist in blue, and then this was followed by an issue in rose of the last-used type in blue. I think that this anomaly can be reconciled by supposing that before the stock of blue stamps was exhausted a printing was made of the same type in rose, but as it was seen that the die was worn, a new die was prepared and printed from, also in rose. Thus before the stock of the blue stamp was exhausted, a stock was ready of the rose stamp in two types. Mere chance might cause one to be distributed or issued before the other. This, however, is a minor consideration. The real interest centres in type No. 3, *i.e.* the last type issued.

I always looked at this type in blue with a certain amount of suspicion. The specimens I met with were always beautifully clean, with wide margins and full gum. Were they reprints? Now when and immediately after Type 3 in rose was in use, that is, during the years 1861 and 1862, stamp collecting was becoming more popular, and there must have been many applications for sets of Portuguese stamps which the Mint could not supply. I have the copy of a letter dated the 10th November, 1859, written to a firm in Frankfort-on-Main, stating, in reply to a request for a set of Donna Maria stamps, that the writer of the letter had endeavoured to procure them at the Mint, and had been told that all the old stamps had been destroyed. There were thus no Donna Maria stamps. The 5 reis of 1856 then in use would perfectly well substitute the 5 reis with straight hair, and in those days the difference would be hardly noticed. The 25 reis, rose, 50 reis and 100 reis,

lilac, were still in use, or obtainable, but there was no 25 reis, blue. What more natural, then, than that the type then in use, or only just out of use, should be employed to reprint a 25 reis blue? This, I believe, is what really happened, though, unfortunately, no records are now to be found, either of this, or for the matter of that of any other reprints, and there is no one alive now who was employed at the Mint in those days who could have remembered such an event.

I may here mention that none of the dies of the older Portuguese stamps now exist. Some years ago some of them, after having been damaged to prevent further use, were being used in the establishment as letter-weights, but now all trace of them is lost.

I believe that of the issue under consideration and the previous one only one die was engraved in "cameo," and that, as it met with some damage, every reproduction would show the damage, which was remedied by hand. This would explain the new variety whenever a new reduplication was necessary. I do not consider this to have been the case with the 5 reis Donna Maria and the 5 reis Don Pedro V., with straight hair, the types of which were all due to freshly made dies.

SYNOPSIS.

Issue V. April, 1858. Don Pedro V.

On thick and thin paper.

25 reis, Type 3 (6), deep to pale rose.
25 „ „ 4 (2) „ „
25 „ „ 5 (5) „ „
25 „ „ 6 (3) „ „

Reprint.

On the same paper as the originals (thick).

25 reis, Type 6 (3), blue.

The figures in parenthesis refer to Mr. Castle's enumeration.

(*To be continued.*)

Report read at the Annual General Meeting of the Philatelic Society, London,

FOR THE SEASON 1902-1903.

By J. A. TILLEARD, Honorary Secretary.



N my last report I announced an event of rare occurrence in the annals of the Society, viz. an impending change in the office of Vice-President. Mr. M. P. Castle, who had so long and so ably presided over our councils, had decided to resign his position, and at the Annual General Meeting held in June last his place was filled by the appointment of the Earl of Crawford by the unanimous vote of the members present.

The first meeting of the season took place at the town residence of the new Vice-President. A large number of members were able to avail themselves of Lord Crawford's invitation, and thoroughly appreciated the opportunity of inspecting the collections which he kindly placed at their disposal.

Sixteen meetings in all have been held, at which the average number of members attending has been seventeen, a reduction as compared with the average of the previous year.

The Committee responsible for providing for the business of the meetings was able, early in the season, to publish particulars of the work proposed to be done, and the programme has, except in one or two instances of papers held over for another season, been adhered to and carried out in its entirety.

Papers have been read by Mr. E. J. Nankivell on "The Means of Identification of the Early Printings of the Transvaal"; by Mr. W. Dorning Beckton, "Notes on the Stamps of Roumania"; by Mr. C. F. Dendy Marshall, "A New Collection, or the Evils of Immersion" and "Notes on the So-called Retouch of the 1d. Great Britain"; by Mr. Moser on "The First Issue of Bolivia"; by Mr. J. N. Marsden on "The First Issue of Portugal"; by Mr. W. Schwabacher, "A Bird's-eye View of Fiscal Philately"; by Mr. R. B. Yardley, "Notes on the Stamps of St. Vincent"; and by Messrs. T. W. Hall and E. D. Bacon, "The 1861 and 1863 Issues of Colombia." In all cases in which the stamps of any country were dealt with the papers were accompanied by a display of the issues under consideration.

In addition to the general display given by the Vice-President at the first meeting, evenings have been devoted to special displays of the stamps of Seychelles, with a reference list and notes on the two dies, by Mr. R. Ehrenbach; the stamps of Belgium, Holland, and Luxemburg, kindly lent by Mr. Mann, and shown by Mr. M. P. Castle; the stamps of New South Wales, by Mr. Harvey G. Clarke; and the collections of Mr. E. J. Crocker, of San Francisco, of the stamps of Hawaii and Japan.

At two of the meetings the business consisted of discussions on subjects entitled "The New Collector, and what we can do for him," introduced by Mr. C. E. McNaughtan; and "Our Society: Past, Present, and Future," introduced by Mr. E. J. Nankivell.

The papers and displays have been fully up to the standard of previous years, and I am pleased to be able to record an increase of interest in the work of the Society shown by the younger members, who have taken a large share in the business of the season. I trust that their example will be followed by others when we resume our meetings in the autumn.

I regret to report that during the past year three of our members have died, viz. Miss Feyl de Pfeil, Mr. J. Wray Mercer, and the Rev. W. Bell. The last-named had been a member for many years, and the tragic circumstances under which he met his death were such as to enlist the greatest sympathy of his fellow-members with his widow and family.

In the same period there have been fifteen resignations, the retiring members being Messrs. G. Alston, R. H. Beamish, T. H. R. Crowle, E. P. Airley Dry, G. L. Edwards, E. A. Foster, A. G. Griffith, J. H. Hallett, W. Harrison, G. B. Petrie, G. D. Wheeler, Dr. A. Boswell, Dr. S. G. Stein, Lieutenant A. R. Raby, and Lieutenant-Colonel Chichester.

On the other hand, eleven new members have been elected, viz. Captain G. S. F. Napier, Baron R. Lehmann, the Rev. F. J. Williams, the Rev. Dr. C. Atkinson, Colonel T. C. P. Calley, and Messrs. H. Bennett, H. R. Watkins, J. C. Sidebotham, W. A. R. Jex-Long, W. Martello Gray, and W. V. Morten.

Two other candidates for membership were also elected, but their names have not been added to the list. In one case the election was due to a misunderstanding in the absence of the Honorary Secretaries from the meeting at which the ballot was taken, and on the matter being explained, the candidate decided not to take up his membership. In the other case the candidate being ordered abroad immediately after election, applied for permission to withdraw his name from the list of members.

The net result on the roll of membership of the Society is that the total number of members has during the year been reduced by seven.

In December last an exhibition of the stamps of the South African Colonies not immediately affected by the war was given by the Society, and proved in every respect a great success. The exhibition was confined to members, and the exhibits were much admired, the chief attraction being perhaps the collections of Mauritius, in which no less than five out of the few known copies of the "Post Office" stamps were shown.

The annual dinner of the Society was also held in the same month, and was well attended by members and friends.

During the past season regular meetings of the Council have been held in each month, with several extra meetings for special business. The Expert Committee has been strengthened by the addition of Mr. R. Ehrenbach and Mr. L. L. R. Hausburg; and the work which it has had to do tells of the confidence shown by Philatelists in the decisions of the Committee on the difficult points submitted to it for consideration.

A special Publication Committee, consisting of Messrs. M. P. Castle,

E. D. Bacon, L. L. R. Hausburg, and Gordon Smith, has been appointed for dealing with the work by Mr. Basset Hull on the stamps of the Australian Commonwealth, now in preparation for publication by the Society.

The accounts for the financial year ending on the 31st of March last have been presented by the Honorary Treasurer, and have been again referred for audit to Messrs. A. W. Chambers and T. Maycock, whose report we shall have the opportunity of considering this evening.

The question of the finances of the Society has seriously occupied the attention of the Council throughout the season, and the subject is one which undoubtedly calls for careful consideration. It has been for some time obvious that in view of the very narrow margin existing between the income and expenditure of the Society, a time might arrive when the balance would be on the wrong side, especially as there has in recent years been a slight diminution in the number of members, involving a corresponding decrease in subscriptions received.

I do not wish to suggest that there is at present any cause for alarm, but it has been considered desirable by the Council, as prudent men of business, to look ahead and to guard against eventualities in good time. A careful estimate has accordingly been made of the expenditure, which is unavoidable under existing circumstances, and of the income which, without any increase of membership, may be absolutely relied upon as available for the purposes of the Society. It has been found that unless receipts from the sale of works—an item which ought not to be relied upon as income—can be maintained at their present average, we might sooner or later be face to face with an actual deficit. Your present officers are determined that so far as in them lies every means shall be taken to prevent the possibility of such a position being arrived at in the affairs of the Society, and active steps are being taken to find a remedy.

In considering whether there are any items of expenditure which can be reduced, attention has naturally been called to the heavy office expenses incurred by the Society. One of the chief reasons for taking the rooms which we occupy was the encouragement of what has been called "the social side of Philately." The expectations entertained in this respect have never been fulfilled. The rooms are practically unused by members, except on the few occasions of our fortnightly meetings during each season, so that, after making a reasonable allowance for expense of an office, each meeting actually costs the Society between £5 and £6. It is felt that this is an unnecessary extravagance, and that arrangements could easily be made for effecting a very substantial saving in this item alone. Suggestions have also been made for a further reduction in expenses in other minor respects, and the whole matter is being fully inquired into, and will be the subject of a report to the new Council at an early date, after which the views of the Society can be taken at a general meeting to be called for the purpose.

There can be no doubt that progress—especially in so far as the publication of works is concerned—is much retarded for want of resources, and it is hoped that the changes to be proposed may be effectual in providing a surplus, not only sufficient to remove any possible anxiety as to our financial position, but to afford means of improvement in the work of the Society.

At the time when I prepared my last report we were all looking forward to the Coronation festivities. The postponement of that important ceremony is now a matter of history, and we shall long remember the anxiety which we shared with all loyal subjects of the realm in the illness of the King. The cloud which suddenly overshadowed the nation, almost at the hour of its greatest rejoicing, happily passed away, and in no classes of society were the feelings of relief and heartfelt thanksgiving for the mercy bestowed upon us in the restoration to health of our beloved Sovereign more hearty and sincere than amongst the Philatelists of this country.

The past year has, I understand, seen the completion of the issues of all descriptions of postage stamps of the mother country, as originally contemplated by the authorities.

There appears still to be an increasing dislike to the general issue, and for some time past rumours of impending changes have been current. It is to be hoped that if the stamps are changed they will bear a more faithful representation of our Sovereign than that which is now in use.

The closing season has seen a large number of additions to the stamps of the Empire, most of our colonies having adopted the "King's Head" stamps. The principal exceptions are Australia and Canada, where very few changes in design have yet been introduced. In the last-named case it is possible that a new issue will shortly be forthcoming. Members of the Society are aware of the great interest taken by our President in the choice of an appropriate stamp for the Dominion. There have been some difficulties in the way of producing the new stamps since their approval by the Canadian authorities, but it is hoped that the introduction of the handsome design prepared by His Royal Highness, bearing as it does a perfect likeness of the King, may not long be delayed.

In referring to the fact of the retirement of Mr. Cleaver from the position of Controller of Stamps, it is right to acknowledge the indebtedness of the Society and of Philatelists in general for the great interest shown by him in our pursuit, and for the assistance which he was always ready during his term of office to afford to this Society in giving information on subjects connected with his department.

Any reference to the events of the year would not be complete without recording the death of Mr. H. Stafford Smith, a loss which is deplored by Philatelists of all classes, by whom he was universally esteemed.

A subject which has created considerable interest in the philatelic world is the appearance of reproductions of the first two issues of Moldavia. Their true character is apparently shrouded in mystery, and although several so-called "authentic" statements have been made as to the nature and origin of the specimens seen, involving a plentiful supply of mutual recrimination in the quarters from which the labels in question seem to have emanated, the best authorities appear to be undecided as to whether some, at any rate, of these specimens are to be classified as reprints or forgeries.

A somewhat belated statement has just been published, containing what is said to be the true history of the production of the reprints of some of the laureated issues of New South Wales, an event which caused so much stir in philatelic circles some years ago. It cannot be said that the disclosures

now made do more than add to the unsavoury character of a subject which after so many years would be better buried in oblivion.

In the philatelic market the sale of a well-known specialised collection of Transvaal stamps, and the discovery and sale of three more "Post Office" Mauritius stamps, and of an unused block of four 1d. woodblock Cape stamps containing the 4d. error, are all deserving of remark.

The change which appears to have come over the auction sales is worthy of notice. Although these are more numerous than ever, and are apparently well supported, collectors cannot fail to have observed that sales by auction are no longer so reliable a means either of acquiring or disposing of good stamps as heretofore. Rightly or wrongly, an impression is abroad that most of the lots offered for sale in this way are protected by undeclared reserves, owing to a large proportion of the stamps included in the sales being the property of dealers, and if confidence is to be restored some authoritative statement on the subject should be forthcoming by the auctioneers engaged in the trade.

The last, although by no means the least in importance, of the philatelic subjects to which I have thought fit to refer is the completion of the arrangements for rendering the Tapling Collection available for general inspection. The authorities of the British Museum are to be congratulated on the perfection with which this object has been attained, and our thanks are due to them for now giving full effect to the late Mr. T. K. Tapling's munificent bequest for the benefit of the philatelic world.

Abstract of Accounts for the year ending 31st March, 1905.

RECEIPTS.	£	s.	d.
To Balance April 1st, 1902:—			
Current a/c £42 15 3			
Deposit a/c 104 2 0	146	17	3
Subscriptions . . .	221	9	0
Entrance Fees . . .	18	18	0
Sale of Society's Works .	26	17	9
Sundry Receipts . .	23	5	4
Loan	50	0	0
	£487	7	4

EXPENDITURE.	£	s.	d.
By Rent, one year . .	112	10	0
Office and House Expenses	86	18	0
Printing, Stationery, Postage, &c.	37	17	3
Paid for *London Philatelist* .	60	0	0
Sundry Payments . .	24	11	1
Balance at Bank:—			
Current a/c £42 11 0			
Deposit a/c 123 0 0	165	11	0
	£487	7	4

LIABILITIES.	£	s.	d.
Loans	100	0	0
Sundry Creditors . .	10	4	7
Balance, being Surplus of Assets over Liabilities .	514	16	8
	£625	1	3

ASSETS.	£	s.	d.
Cash at Bank . . .	165	11	0
Subscriptions Due but not yet paid	77	16	0
Furniture, Fixtures, Pictures, Library, &c. . . .	201	6	0
Stock of Society's Works .	170	5	8
Sundry Debtors . .	10	2	7
	£625	1	3

List of Members of the Philatelic Society, London.

Council for the Year 1903-4.

President—H.R.H. The Prince of Wales, K.G., etc.

Vice-President—The Earl of Crawford, K.T.

Hon. Secretary—J. A. Tilleard
Hon. Treasurer—C. N. Biggs

Hon. Assistant Secretary—H. R. Oldfield
Hon. Librarian—L. W. Fulcher

E. D. Bacon
M. P. Castle, J.P.
(Hon. Vice-President.)
C. J. Daun

R. Ehrenbach
T. W. Hall
L. L. R. Hausburg

C. E. McNaughtan
Franz Reichenheim
Gordon Smith

J. H. Abbott
E. R. Ackerman
Lieut.-Col. J. G. Adamson
Frank Allen
P. J. Anderson
J. M. Andreini
W. Armistead
Rev. C. Atkinson, D.D.
W. B. Avery
E. D. Bacon
H. Barber
W. Barnard
A. R. Barrett
G. B. Barrington
A. T. Bate
W. D. Beckton
W. Beckwith
David Benjamin
Humphry Bennett
F. G. Bepler
E. Beveridge
C. N. Biggs
W. W. Blest
Louis E. Bradbury
F. Breitfuss
P. F. Bruner
Dr. T. J. W. Burgess
M. Burnett
Lieut.-Col. St. L. Burrowes
Col. T. C. P. Calley
M. P. Castle, J.P.
A. W. Chambers
J. H. Chapman
W. L. Chew
G. Churcher
Sir Jas. R. Andrew Clark, Bart.
H. R. G. Clarke
H. Clotz
F. O. Conant
Capt. M. W. K. Connolly
M. S. Cooke
Surgeon E. Cooper, R.N.
F. de Coppet
W. W. Corfield
C. B. Corwin
W. Cowland
The Earl of Crawford, K.T.
A. B. Creeke, jun.
C. J. Daun
E. S. Davidson
H. F. Deane
H. E. Deats
Dr. E. Diena
T. P. Dorman
A. G. E. Driver
H. J. Duveen
R. Ehrenbach

E. A. Elliott
D. Ellis
A. C. Emerson
J. D. Enys
Major Evans
T. D. F. Evans
P. Fabri
H. Ferrier-Kerr
O. Firth
Rev. T. S. Fleming
C. E. Fox
H. Fraenkel
R. Frentzel
L. W. Fulcher
W. Gaddum
L. Gibb
E. S. Gibbons
G. F. H. Gibson
Lieut. H. J. Gillespie
J. W. Gillespie
O. Gillett
A. A. Good
W. M. Gray
J. T. Green
E. B. Greenshields
H. Grey
Miss Grommé
T. W. Hall
Major C. F. Harrison
J. J. Haupt
L. L. R. Hausburg
E. Hawkins
Mrs. M. M. Haydon
J. E. Heginbottom, B.A.
Dr. H. Hetley
David H. Hill
F. C. Hill
J. O. Hobby
A. Holland
Rev. W. H. Holman
M. H. Horsley
F. E. Horton
A. F. Basset Hull
Capt L. T. R. Hutchinson
W. E. Image
G. F. Jackson
D. M. Jacobs
T. Wickham Jones
J. E. Joselin
W. R. Joynt
Dr. F. Kalckhoff
Dr. J. N. Keynes
J. L. Kilbon
D. A. King
The Earl of Kintore, G.C.M.G., etc.
T. W. Kitt

B. D. Knox
J. G. Langton
Philipp La Renotiére
C. F. Larmour
F. A. Larmour
Baron R. Lehmann
E. Lentz
E. Levy
C. Lindenberg
P. J. Lloyd
B. Loewy
M. H. Lombard
W. A. R. Jex Long
H. F. Lowe
C. J. Lucas
A. A. Lyall
H. H. Lyman
D. J. Macfie
J. N. Marsden
C. F. D. Marshall, B.A.
D. P. Masson
T. Maycock
C. E. McNaughtan
Mortimer Menpes
R. Meyer
Dr. G. Michelsen
J. B. Moens
W. V. Morten
Major C. J. Everitt Mumby
E. J. Nankivell
Capt. Geo. S. F. Napier
B. W. Neave
Surgeon-Major A. G. E. Newland
G. B. T. Nicholl
J. A. Nix
H. R. Oldfield
J. S. O'Meara
Wm. Moser
Capt. St. G. Ord
Lieut. B. Oxehfvud
J. V. Painter
H. G. Palliser
W. R. Palmer
Prince Doria Pamphilj
A. D. Park
A. Passer
Dr. A. G. Paterson
W. Patterson
W. E. Peebles
Capt. C. Pereira
G. E. Petty
O. Pfenninger.
Judge Philbrick, K.C.
W. Pimm
H. Quare
The Earl of Ranfurly

F. Ransom
A. W. Rawcliffe
Rev. G. H. Raynor
Rev. P. E. Raynor
Wm. Hy. Renwick
Baron A. de Reuterskiöld
Franz Reichenheim
Vernon Roberts
A. Rosenberg
G. B. Routledge
E. T. Sandars
F. N. Schiller
W. Schwabacher
Lieut. L. Schwarz
W. Scott
E. H. Selby
J. C. Sidebotham
W. Silk, jun.
Gordon Smith
J. E. Sparrow
A. H. Stamford
A. Stendell
W. M. Steuart
R. T. Stevens
C. Stewart-Wilson
W. C. Stone
Lieut.-Col. H. A. Tapp
Dr. R. S. Taylor
A. J. Taylor
W. Thorne
J. A. Tilleard
Dr. W. J. Tivy
J. G. Tolhurst
G. L. Toppan
R. J. Torrie
C. J. Tyas
Rev. W. N. Usher
Dr. C. W. Viner
J. Walker
Oscar Wassermann
Howard R. Watkin
T. Martin Wears
Consul E. F. Weber
L. S. Wells
F. West
A. E. L Westaway
H. J. White
W. E. Williams
Rev. F. J. Williams
A. H. Wilson
W. T. Wilson
H. Winckmann
N. H. Withee
Baron A. de Worms
Baron P. de Worms
G. H. Worthington
R. B. Yardley

The Laureated Reprints of New South Wales.

By M. P. CASTLE.

THE reappearance of Mr. Albert Van Dyck's name in philatelic circles a few months since has apparently led to a further episode in the history of this great swindle—the greatest that has ever been attempted as regards reprints. The consequences and importance of the first issue of Cashmere and the Austrian Mercuries might have been equally as far-reaching, but they were produced by a "bogus" issue in one case and by imitations in the other. Time will show if the Moldavian reprint case will be of equal magnitude; but I am inclined to believe that whatever these stamps are, the quantity is limited, and in any case collectors have been well and early forewarned.

The affair of the reprinted Laureates of New South Wales took place as far back as 1887, and it is perhaps unsavoury work to disinter a body so long dead and buried. It appears, however, that Mr. Dawson A. Vindin, who was so prominently associated with the venture, has recently appeared in London, and has published in the *Monthly Journal*, under the title of "A Philatelic Mystery," an account of his connection with these reprints. I think I will therefore borrow from the *Monthly Journal* some paragraphs of Mr. Vindin's "narrative," especially as it purports to give an account of the destruction of the plates (not the first destruction I have heard of as regards these!). Mr. Vindin further mentions my name, and as he was good enough at one time to "impute" to me "other than pure motives," I think I am entitled to show that he was hardly the guileless person in this series of nefarious transactions that he seems now to make out.

After describing the nature of the stamps and stating that "the extremely modest price of £200" was demanded for each set of three sheets (there being hundreds of sheets and the plates in reserve!), he goes on to say:—

"When I offered the stamps for sale I was under the firm impression that they were *originals*. As to their undoubted genuineness there has never been a doubt. I was led to believe that the stamps had been discovered between the covers of an old account-book in the Colonial Secretary's Office in Sydney. I knew the principal officials in the Colonial Secretary's, the Colonial Treasurer's, Government Printing Office, and the General Post Office (Sydney), and was quite satisfied that no official knowledge of the existence of any of these stamps could be ascertained. Moreover, official records and receipts stated that the plates of the 'Sydney Views' and 'Laureated' had first been defaced and then broken up in the presence of 'So-and-so.' In the face of after knowledge, I now mistrust even official documents; but I was certainly not justified in doubting the strict authenticity of the stamps at the time I arranged to purchase them and afterwards offered them for sale."

After a vivid description of Mr. Albert Van Dyck's personality and

habits, Mr. Vindin states that after one of the former's quiet trips to Europe he began to unburden his loaded bosom on the Laureate question to his friend, and after various copious libations of "Heidsic, '84" (*sic*) Mr. Vindin's scruples utterly vanished, and he was prepared to absolutely accept the Van Dyck doctrine of originality even down to the gum. This, by the way, was a luxury that was denied to us poor collectors at home, as all our sheets had no gum, original or otherwise. Mr. Vindin, however, swallowed all his suspicions, and agreeing as he says "to go halves," launched out on the joint enterprise that had such sad results. He then goes on as follows:—

"There were, I think (anyway there were not more), eight sheets of each value, that is, four hundred each of the 2d., 'stars in corners,' and 8d., yellow, and two hundred of the 6d., brown. They all looked nice and clean. Van Dyck told me that the sheets were stuck together; so he had washed the gum off the stamps, and 'ironed' them out in mint condition. I thought he had done a silly thing. As may be imagined, I was much excited over this transaction, which I regarded as one of the greatest value in every way. It was agreed to fix the price low in order to get a quick return, and so the minimum was placed at £200 the one hundred and twenty-five stamps. As I agreed to personally guarantee the stamps, I did not expect to have any trouble in selling the lot, and so clearing £550 as my share. I sent away four sets of sheets on approval to Europe. One of these sets I sent to Mr. M. P. Castle, at that time the leading collector of Australians. The stamps created some excitement, particularly when exhibited at the meeting of the London Philatelic Society. There was a distinct feeling of distrust and suspicion created, and although the critics could not say positively what was wrong, they did not like the look of the things, and so placed them on the doubtful list, and deferred judgment.

"The result of this was the return of the four sets to me, to my great disappointment and loss financially. I was, at the time, very wroth with Mr. M. P. Castle, whom I blamed for having spoiled my sales, and to whom I imputed any other than pure motives. I believe Mr. Castle *did* spoil the sale, but I have ofttimes since called a sincere blessing on his head for saving me *unknowingly* from ruin."

Finally I would like to quote here Vindin's dramatic account of the "final" destruction of these plates. It reads very like Sherlock Holmes's "final" watery grave, but I fancy that acute gentleman somehow escaped his apparent fate.

"Van Dyck's story to me was that on calling on a dealer in second-hand furniture and rubbish generally he was told that something very fine in his line had turned up. To Van Dyck's intense surprise the dealer produced for his inspection the original copper plates of the 2d., 'Star,' 6d. and 8d., 'Laureated,' and of several unadopted designs for New South Wales stamps. These, the dealer said, were found in an old desk he had bought at a sale. The dealer had no idea what the things were, and so sold them to Van Dyck for a few shillings. He then commenced to evolve a scheme to make money rapidly, and in that scheme I was destined to take a part.

"Van Dyck proceeded to Europe with the plates, had the paper especially

made, and a number of the stamps printed off. He then returned to Sydney and made his 'great find,' as previously explained. If I had sold my lot he would then have placed another lot in Europe, and I should have been ruined by making good the money under the terms of my guarantee.

"After listening to this yarn, I asked Van Dyck if he had the plates in his possession. On his replying in the affirmative, I advised him to bring them to my office that night, which he did. In the presence of a leading Sydney collector and myself the plates were completely destroyed with chisels, files, and a small plane. The remains were dropped over South Head, Sydney, into the Pacific Ocean, after which Van Dyck and I had a nice supper and *another* bottle of Heidsic. I can safely affirm that my action in this matter effectually prevents there being any second edition of New South Wales 'Laureated Reprints,' and so I have done *something* to earn the gratitude of Philatelists."

I have no wish to re-exhume all the voluminous correspondence from all sources I possess with regard to these Reprints, but I think it may be of interest if I quote certain portions of some of Mr. Vindin's letters, which will assuredly show, at least, that if he was innocent, he was a remarkably willing dupe, and that he hesitated at nothing in the way of statements in order to induce the sale of Van Dyck's rubbish to European collectors. As long as there was a chance of selling them he hesitated at nothing, and his latter-day repentance is, as usual in such cases, simply a facing of the inevitable. The excerpts following are all from letters written to me personally by Mr. Vindin at the time:—

"*24th November*, 1887.

"We have on hand three complete plates of unused original 1851–5 issue 2d., star in corners, 6d., brown, and 8d., orange, for which we require the sum of £200 cash (100 stamps). These stamps have been in the hands of a Government official for many years, and as the plates are not in existence (as you can ascertain by making inquiries), they are well worth the price we ask. They are under offer to several collectors in pairs, so should you care for them you might cable to 'Vindin, Sydney,' the one word 'accepted,' and we will reserve them for you."

"*7th December*, 1887.

"Enclosed I beg to hand you on approval three entire sheets of the following New South Wales stamps of the issue 1851–5—warranted original.

1 of 50, 2d., blue with stars.
1 of 25, 6d., brown.
1 of 50, 8d., orange.

125 stamps in all—price £200, *nett cash*, the set. These are part of a lot of eight sets of sheets (twenty-four in all) recently discovered in an office here where they have been since the date of issue. They are unique and exceedingly cheap. Three sets have been disposed of in Sydney for cash down, and I am to-day sending away three sets on approval—to yourself, E. Shorthouse, and Dorsan Astruc—all at the same price. If you care to keep them, please remit the amount by bank draft on Sydney by return of mail. Should you have no use for them at the price, you would greatly oblige by

returning them at once, as I feel sure of selling them in Australia, should they come back."

"*29th February*, 1888.

"As previously stated, there are (with the exception of a proof sheet of 8d., blue, *all sold*) only eight sets of sheets known by me to be in existence. Of these you now have four (4), one (1) set of sheets I have cut up, and of the other three two (2) are in the possession of Messrs. Van Dyck and Dr. Houison, of Sydney, and the remaining set I have sold to Mrs. Rodd, of Sydney, acting for Mr. B. Plashett Rodd, of Hamburg (Germany).

"At the time of the purchase of these stamps I fully ascertained the fact that they were genuine originals, and that the original holder had not another copy in his possession. I may tell you that they were offered to me *first* some years ago, but I had not the cash to purchase them."

"6*th March*, 1888.

"The only plates of New South Wales stamps existing are in the Government Printing Office, Sydney. They consist of the 'Crown' series, the 'Registered' stamps, and the die of the 1838 envelope; *not one* of the 'View' or 'Laureated' plates exist, they having been years ago destroyed, *not by fire*, but with *chisels* and *planes*. You may depend that I inquired fully into the matter before paying for the stamps.

"I assert *positively* that the sheets sold by me are *originals* purchased *years since* from the post office, and that there is *no difference whatever* either in *colour or paper* from *used copies* to be found in *any large collection*. The *gum* having been carefully removed would slightly alter the *feel* (only) of the paper. *You* are aware of the extraordinary variety in shade, etc., to be found in the 'View' and 'Laureated' issues, and one must handle *thousands of copies* before becoming thoroughly accustomed to the various varieties—the knowledge of both Shorthouse and Astruc is mostly *second-hand* and *superficial*. Mr. Shorthouse or anyone else can place away gummed stamps for thirty or forty years, providing they are between other papers, and when brought to light, *steamed*, and *ironed* carefully, will be found quite as clean and fresh as my copies."

"2*nd April*, 1888.

"Regarding the stamps, I have had to sacrifice property of mine in order to repay Mr. Van Dyck the amount kindly lent me in order to purchase these things, and therefore I am now prepared to *keep them*, and unless I can obtain the full price of £200 each set I will not sell, but will pass them on to my family. The stamps *are originals*, *are not reprints*, *and will never be reprinted*—this I repeat, despite the resolution of the Philatelic Society of London. The paper is *not different*, the plates *were* destroyed directly after the stamps were withdrawn from circulation, and I have never had more than eight sets—twenty-four sheets—and I am *quite confident* that these are the only *unused*, *unsevered* copies existent."

(1) It will be seen from the foregoing letters that Mr. Vindin, on the 24th November, 1887, offered "three complete plates," and asked me to wire (which I did on January 3rd, 1888, accepting them at £200), on the ground that "they were on offer to several collectors in Paris." It is clear that this was a false statement to induce a quick sale, and that Mr. Vindin knew there were more than one set of sheets.

(2) Without waiting my reply, and within a fortnight from the date of his first letter, on December 7th he sends the three sheets on approval, and then says "they are part of a lot of eight sheets (twenty-four in all)," which he proceeds to account for. It is equally clear that this was also false, as I had by then received letters, which I still possess, showing that numerous offers had been made of these stamps beyond the eight sets of sheets. We had full cognisance as to where all these eight sets had been sent or offered, and the knowledge that other sheets were being cut up and offered in detail was the final death-blow to the fraud.

(3) On February 29th, 1888, he again says there are "only eight sheets in existence," and on April 2nd he further says "the stamps *are original, are not reprinted, and will never be reprinted.*" From the foregoing it is equally clear that Mr. Vindin must have been stating what he knew to be false in asserting the originality of the stamps.

I have no wish to be vindictive to Mr. Vindin, with whom personally I always got on very well, and indeed had many transactions with him, but it is absurd for him nowadays to pose as an innocent victim. No doubt Van Dyck was the prime mover in the affair; but Mr. Vindin, as he himself states, was fully aware of "the nature of the animal," and, no doubt tempted by the chance of making a large sum of money, wilfully shut his eyes to all the inherent probabilities of fraud, and plunged blindly into the venture by "going halves" with the astute Van Dyck. Once having taken the fateful step, he was, as is invariably the case, compelled to stoop to further deceptions and misrepresentations, as it is so well written—

> "Oh, what a tangled web we weave,
> When once we venture others to deceive!"

In my humble judgment Mr. Vindin would have been better advised to leave "well" alone; he got out of the scrape "on all-fours," and his partner had disappeared. The whole thing had far better have been consigned into the limbo of oblivion. The French, moreover, have it that "it is the absent who are always wrong," a saying that contains a remarkably large percentage of human nature, and in this present case, as Van Dyck is not absent—further than Paris—he might descend into the arena and retaliate on Mr. Vindin with some nasty knocks.

I should not personally have raised this ghost of a departed fraud in this journal had not Mr. Vindin mentioned my name in a somewhat prominent manner, and I therefore thought it right that the unvarnished truth should be placed on record. I was certainly to blame at the outset for believing in these reprints, but I erred in very good company. We had been brought up in the philatelic faith of the long-ago destruction of these plates, and though we all clearly recognised the differences between these "reprints" and the originals, many of us believed that they were a later printing that had never been issued. I well remember that I had all but sent the draft for four complete sets (twelve sheets), having drawn the money from the bank, but by a kindly interposition of Providence I was fortunately saved from making the worst philatelic bargain of my life!

Philatelic Notes.

THE BAVARIAN REPRINTS.

It appears that this vexed question has now reached a solution, and that in view of the authoritative *dictum* of the Bavarian officials the Munich Philatelic Society has abandoned its contention and accepted these stamps as originals. At the meeting of the Berlin Philatelic Club on March 16th, Mr. O. Wassermann made an interesting explanation of the whole affair, a digest of which we are enabled to give through the courtesy of the President, Dr. F. Kalckhoff: (1) The 1 kr., black, on paper with silk threads, is considered probably to be an error caused by the use of sheets of the paper intended primarily for the 3 and 6 kreuzers. These values were all issued at the same time, and, as freely admitted by the Postal Administration, such a mistake might well have occurred. It is, however, possible that these were trial sheets. (2) The third issue, consisting of the five values, 1, 3, 6 (brown), 7, and 12 kreuzers, were reprinted for the Vienna Exhibition of 1873, but have no silk thread, although an appearance similar thereto is created by a vertical line of red ink on the reverse of the stamp. These reprints were only printed to a limited extent and are now scarce. (3) In 1896 a second reprint of the 1 and 7 kreuzers of the foregoing was made by the Postal Administration. (4) A set of all the fore-named varieties perforated was also printed for the Vienna Exhibition of 1873 in exceptionally sharp and clear relief. This series, which is well known to collectors, stands out quite distinct from the normal issues, as does a proof from an ordinary engraved stamp. It includes the 12 kr. in a bright lilac shade, but as this value had been withdrawn from circulation in December, 1872, and this set was only printed in 1873, this stamp, though still available for franking purposes, must be regarded as a reprint. (5) The 25 pf., light brown (1875), and the 50 pf., dark brown (1879), on paper with wavy lines, were reprinted by the Administration in 1896 for the exhibition at Nuremberg. It would appear from the minutes that the remarks we made in our March number as to the acceptance of these stamps by the Berlin Philatelic Club were a little premature, although nearly all the leading members of that body already held that view.

In any case the discovery of such a quantity of remainders is a disturbing element, and it had been much better for Philately, and especially for the collecting of the issues of the German States had the whole lot been consigned to an official fiery fate. The stamps of Bavaria form a very beautiful and interesting series; they are voluminous without being wearisome, and in used condition embrace but very few rarities. They are hence within the scope of almost every collector, and it is therefore regrettable that a feeling of instability should have been engendered by the sudden appearance of quantities of the old issues that had hitherto been regarded as amongst the most valued stamps of the country.

THE LITHOGRAPHED 5 CENTAVOS OF CHILI.

WE are enabled to further supplement the very interesting discoveries announced by Mr. E. D. Bacon in his able paper hereon read before the Philatelic Society of London on May 30th, 1902, and published in this journal in the same year, pp. 132, 160, and 187. It is to Baron A. de Reuterskiöld that we are indebted for the information, who writes as follows, while forwarding photographs of the several varieties. These will be readily distinguished by comparing his description with the accompanying illustrations. Writing under date of May 23rd, M. de Reuterskiöld informs us that,





"I have had the good fortune in looking over a small lot of 5 c. Chili to find nine or ten lithographed specimens, amongst which are three or four which have not been noted as varieties in the *London Philatelist* or the *Philatelic Journal of India.* I enclose a photo of a pair and two single specimens, and you will notice that these all show folds in the transfer paper, *e.g.*:—

"No. 1. The whole of the lower left corner is rucked up, the 'CEN' of 'CENTAVOS' being reduced in height and the 'L' of 'COLON' is bent in the back.

"No. 2. The whole of the lower half of the letters 'CHI' has disappeared and the 'O' of 'CENTAVOS' is a wreck.

"No. 3. The fold goes through 'RREO' of 'CORREOS' and 'FR' of 'FRANCO.'

"No. 4. In this specimen, which is in light red and not red-brown as the others, the 'C' of 'CENTAVOS' seems to me to be misshapen; it is not much, but it is not quite like the others."

We may add that Mr. E. D. Bacon has seen these varieties, and pronounces them as quite novel and of much interest. It is hardly likely that the field of discovery herein is exhausted, and to those fortunate collectors of the stamps of this country lies open a permanent source of collectors' delight. These variations caused by defects in the transfer and in the rucking of the paper are fully esteemed by collectors in this country, whether in the case of Chili, the first issue of Victoria, or the 4d. octagonal of West Australia, while in Germany, where exactly the same thing occurs in the third issue of Oldenburg, Philatelists ignore them in favour of varieties of postmark or perforation. Truly hath a prophet no honour in his own country!

Occasional Notes.

THE EXPERT COMMITTEE OF THE LONDON PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

WE are desired to inform our readers that all stamps to be examined by the Expert Committee should be sent in to Effingham House *before* the 3rd July, after which date the Committee will not meet again until about October 23rd.

It will be seen from Mr. Tilleard's report of the proceedings of the London Philatelic Society that the Committee has been very materially strengthened by the addition of the names of Mr. Robert Ehrenbach and Mr. L. L. R. Hausburg, it having been found that with a Committee of three the quorum could not always be maintained.

THE GERMAN PHILATELISTS' DAY, 1903.

WE are informed that this day, so well known as the *Philatelisten Tag*, will this year be celebrated at Pforzheim. As this is a charming spot in the picturesque duchy of Baden and the centre of a well-known philatelic circle, there seems every reason to anticipate a very successful *réunion*. The dates fixed for the festivities are between the 27th and the 31st August, the big annual dinner being fixed for the 30th; and we learn that the civic authorities have placed very commodious premises at the disposal of the Committee.

THE SALE OF OFFICIAL BRITISH STAMPS.

ALTHOUGH these stamps surcharged for official use in the various Government departments are not allowed to be sold to the public on any pretext whatever, they have somehow managed to get on the market in no inconsiderable quantities. This has apparently not escaped the notice of the authorities, and proceedings have been instituted against certain persons who have been dealing in them. As the case is still *sub judice* we refrain for the present from any further comment beyond the remark that the authorities seem to take a far more serious view of the case than probably did the unfortunate individuals who have been dabbling in these stamps.

THE COMMON WEALTH OF NEW AUSTRALIAN ISSUES.

EVERY lover of Australian stamps has been disgusted by the flood of new and hideous stamps issued in Australia during the past two or three years. It is to be hoped, therefore, that there is some truth in the rumour that, in view of an Order in Council from the Home authorities, the King's head and a uniform design with the name of each State is to be the adopted standard for all the Australian Colonies until the close of "the book-keeping period," *i.e.* the final federation of the postal systems of the Commonwealth. The *Australian Philatelist*, which gives voice to this rumour, states that the work is to be entrusted to Messrs. De la Rue and Co.

While descanting upon the redundancy of the Australian issues, there is a somewhat amusing contradiction to be noted in the same issue of that journal. Mr. C. H. Gilles gives an interesting and succinct account of the many paper and perforation vagaries of the now current ½d. and 1d. of New Zealand, in which he explains that so many papers were brought into use within this short period on account of the endeavours of the Government to procure a really suitable one, and he generally exonerates the Department from any desire to ring the changes as regards paper, perforations, or other varieties. It seems to us, however, that these difficulties have hitherto been successfully overcome, and there must in any case have been great laxity in selecting the materials for the new issues.

A paragraph in another part of the same journal, however, relates that a visitor recently arrived from Niué Island states that the white residents there do not number more than ten, that the stamps are not required, and that the local correspondence is virtually nil, there being no use for the 3d., 6d., and 1s. values! He significantly adds: "Evidently the New Zealand Government want to raise as great a revenue as possible, and to that end are, apparently, descending to the level of such places as Borneo, Liberia, and the South American States." These various surcharges for practically uninhabited islets seem to us utterly indefensible and unworthy of the Government of a responsible Colony. It is impossible to regard the recent issues of New Zealand with any other feeling but aversion and contempt.

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.

AUSTRALIAN COMMONWEALTH. — The *Australian Philatelist* states that there is a rumour afloat that the various States will be supplied with one uniform design of the De la Rue type with King's Head, with the name of each State inserted in the name label at top, and that these stamps shall continue in use until the expiration of the book-keeping period.

We are not surprised to hear of this, and only hope that a good portrait of the King will be produced.

BARBADOS. — The new 2s. 6d. stamp of the 1892 design reaches us from Messrs. Whitfield King and Co., and we find the colours to be purple and green and not as previously announced.

Adhesive.

2s. 6d., purple and green; wmk. C A; perf. 14.

BERMUDA.—Messrs. P. L. Pemberton and Co. have kindly shown us a mint block of six of the 6d., mauve, C C, Queen's Head stamps, perf. 14 top and bottom and 12½ at sides.

The 3d. and 1s. values alone have hitherto been known with this compound perforation.

Adhesive. 6d., mauve; wmk. C C; perf. 14 × 12½.

BRITISH SOMALILAND.—So these stamps have, it is reported, arrived in London at last.

The list of the stamps given in *Ewen's Weekly* agrees with the one we issued on page 175, vol. xi.

The usual varieties in the overprint may be found.

CEYLON.—Another value, the 6 cents, has to be added to the King's Head set, so *Ewen's Weekly* informs us.

Adhesive. 6 c., carmine; C A; perf. 14.

CYPRUS.—An addition is made by *Ewen's Weekly* to the set of King's Head stamps in the form of a 45 piastre value.

Adhesive.

45 piastre, lilac and ultramarine; C A; perf. 14.

INDIA. — *Chamba.* — The ½ a. and 1 a., King's Head issue, are coming surcharged Chamba State, in black, for use here, and Messrs. Whitfield King and Co. send specimens.

Adhesives. ½ anna, green.
1 „ carmine.

Deccan.—A new value, ¼ anna, colour blue, reaches us from Messrs. Whitfield King and Co.

The design is that of the 1871–1900 set, but is larger in size. No wmk. and perf. 12½.

Adhesive. ¼ anna, blue; no wmk.; perf. 12½.

Gwalior.—Messrs. Bright and Son have shown us several used copies of the 3 pies, *carmine, Queen's Head*, bearing the *Service* overprint.

This stamp we cannot find catalogued, and it would be interesting to hear of the date of issue.

Official. 3 pies, carmine; *Queen's Head.*

Patiala.—The *P. J. I.* informs us that about the middle of March post cards, single and reply, ½ anna envelopes, and Service post cards, in addition to the adhesives already chronicled, were supplied.

MAURITIUS.—Last year it was announced that specimen copies of the 6 cents of the Arms type had been seen; colour, black on orange-red.

This stamp now reaches us from Messrs. P. L. Pemberton and Co., and the colour appears to us to be purple, or perhaps lilac, on red; wmk. C A; perf. 14.

Adhesive.

6 cents, lilac on red; value in carmine; C A; perf. 14.

MOROCCO AGENCIES.—We have seen a "specimen" set of the King Edward series. The Gibraltar head plates are used, together with probably the old duty plates (the values requiring to be in centimos and pesetas). "Morocco — Agencies" is overprinted as usual, the old plate being no doubt employed.—*Ewen's Weekly.*

Adhesives. King Edward type of Gibraltar overprinted as above, in black. CA 14.

5 c., grey-green and green.
10 c., lilac on red.
20 c., green and carmine.
25 c., lilac and black on blue.
50 c., lilac and violet.
1 p., black and carmine.
2 p., black and ultramarine.

NEW ZEALAND. — Information reaches *Ewen's Weekly* that the 8d., London print, may be added to the list of "O.P.S.O." stamps.

The other known stamps with this overprint, we are told, are the ½d., 1d., 2d., and 2½d., Queen's Head, and the 5d., Pictorial; no wmk.; perf. 11.

Niué.—The 1s. New Zealand stamps, *bright red*, of the current watermark, surcharged "TAHA E SILENI" instead of "TAHAE SILENI," are in the hands of Ewen's Colonial Stamp Market.

We are further told that "owing, presumably, to different mixings of the blue ink for the surcharge, specimens exist with quite a light blue overprint, while others are dark enough to be classed as indigo."

QUEENSLAND.—The *M. J.* chronicles the current 6d. in *deep full green;* perf. 13 × 12.

Adhesive. 6d., deep full green; perf. 13 × 12.

TRINIDAD.—The ½d., green, according to *Ewen's Weekly*, has been re-engraved.

Plate 2 shows the lines of shading in the sky fainter as they near the horizon.

This plate has a series of broken lines round the panes.

VICTORIA.—Specimens of the current 1s. from a re-engraved die have reached the *Australian Philatelist.*

We are told by our contemporary that "the main difference to the previous issue is that the new stamps are much whiter looking, owing to the engine-turning at the sides being in broader white lines. The words 'POSTAGE' at sides are also in larger type. This is noticeable by looking at the position of the first and final letters of the words; in the present case they point more towards the top and bottom of the stamp respectively than the preceding issue."

Adhesive.

1s., orange and yellow; wmk. V and Crown; perf. 12½.

EUROPE.

AUSTRIA.—The *M. C.* tells us that although the only Austrian envelope sold at the post offices is the 10 heller, carmine, yet other values (as in this country) are impressed to order. The full list is given as follows:—

Envelopes. 3 heller, pale brown.
5 ,, blue-green.
6 ,, orange.
10 ,, carmine.
20 ,, brown.
25 ,, blue.

FRANCE.—Both the 10 c., carmine, and the 15 c., pale red, of the fancy shield type, are reported as surcharged "F.M." for use in the army. *Military Frank Stamps.*

10 c., carmine, fancy shield type.
15 c., pale red ,, ,,

HUNGARY.—Messrs. Bright and Son have called our attention to some varieties in perforations. *Adhesives.*

5 kr., rose, 1874-76; no wmk.; perf. 12½ × 11½.
10 kr., blue ,, ,, ,, ,,
2 kr., slate, 1881; watermarked ,, ,,

ICELAND.—We have received from Messrs. P. L. Pemberton and Co. a specimen of the 100 aur, lilac and brown, perf. 14 × 13½, with the $\frac{\text{i gildi}}{\text{'02 '03}}$ surcharge inverted.

These friends also inform us that they have had the 16 aur, brown, with the "i" missing in the i gildi overprint.

Adhesives.

16 aur, brown, "i" missing in $\frac{\text{i gildi}}{\text{'02 '03}}$
100 aur, lilac and brown ,, inv. surch.

ROUMANIA.—The current 10 b. post card and 15 b. letter card are now printed on *white* card instead of yellowish.—*M. C.*

Post Card. 10 bani, red on white.
Letter Card. 15 ,, grey ,,

RUSSIA.—The 3 kop stamp is added to the set on *vertically laid* paper by the *A. J. P.*

Adhesive. 3 k., carmine, on *vertically laid* paper.

SAN MARINO.—*Ewen's Weekly* includes in its list of the new issue for this country an Express Letter stamp of the value of 25 c., colour red-brown, of oblong shape, but nothing is stated about the design.

Express Letter. 25 c., red-brown; oblong.

AMERICA.

ARGENTINE REPUBLIC.—*Ewen's Weekly* reports a new 5 cents. post card. It is stated that there are no fewer than twenty-six varieties of this card, each bearing a different portrait on the back, of, as we understand, members of Congress.

Post Card. 5 c., brown ; twenty-six varieties.

CHILI.—A 5 c., bright blue, embossed envelope has reached *Ewen's Weekly* which is believed to be something new. Further particulars are desired.

GUATEMALA. — There are some provisionals to note for this country.

The *Metropolitan Philatelist* states that the 1 c., 2 c., 6 c., and 10 c. of the 1900 1903 series have each been surcharged 25 centavos in black and the *A. J. P.* includes three higher values in its list.

We read in *Mekeel's Weekly* that these provisionals were required because there is not a 25 c. stamp in the new series, whereas the inland rate for letters is 25 c. We therefore suppose the inland rate has been altered, and since the order for the new issue was given out.

Mekeel's is also informed that in the official set listed on page 66 the 20 c. altered to 25 c. does not exist, but that there is a regular 25 c. issued in blue.

Provisionals.

25 centavos on 1 c., dark green of 1900.
25 ,, 2 c., carmine ,,
25 ,, 6 c., light green ,,
25 ,, 10 c., bistre-brown ,,
* 25 ,, 75 c., rose, of 1886.
25 ,, 150 c., dark blue of 1886.
25 ,, 200 c., yellow ,,

Officials. Type-set.
25 centavos, blue.

SALVADOR. — Additions to the list of official stamps are made by the *M. C.*, and the *M. J.*, on the authority of a Continental journal, lists a 3 c. stamp of a design with a ship in the centre.

Adhesive.
3 c., olive-green, design a ship.

Officials.
10 c., dark lilac, latest design.
15 c. (13 c. ?), dark brown, latest design.

UNITED STATES.—The colour of the new 5 c. envelope is given by the *A. J. P.* as dark blue on white, and we are told through the same journal that there is a wrapper with stamp of the 2 c. envelope design.

Wrapper. 2 c., red on manilla.

* *Mekeel's* gives the surcharge on this stamp as in carmine.

VENEZUELA.—Another set of provisionals is described in the *M. J.* as follows :—

"Made at Carupano, and of even more primitive appearance than those of last year; they franked a letter to New York, however, so we suppose they are to be considered postage stamps. The design consists solely of an inscription in two lines 'Correos—Vale B 0.05' (or other value), with ornaments at the ends of the lines. They appear to have been set up with rubber type, and are hand-stamped upon paper of various colours."

Provisionals.

5 c., carmine on *yellow.*
10 c., green ,,
25 c., black on *orange.*
50 c., blue on *rose.*
1 b., violet on *grey.*
2 b., carmine on *green.*
5 b., violet on *blue.*

OTHER COUNTRIES.

DANISH WEST INDIES.—We understand from the *Metropolitan Philatelist* that 2 c. and 8 c. stamps of the 1900 design have reached the Colony.

The 2 cents appears to have been issued, but the 8 c. (colour not given) is held over until the stock of provisionals is exhausted.

Adhesive. 2 cents, rose ; perf. (?)

ERITREA.—Dr. Emilio Diena has written to *Ewen's Weekly* as follows :—

"You chronicle the 1, 2, and 5 lire Unpaid Letter stamps of Erythrea as 'blue and *brown.*' These three values, as well as the 10 lire, bear the figures in *carmine-rose* (or magenta, as stated by you for the lower values). In this connection, it will be useful to note that the 2 and 5 lire with figures in carmine-rose are not yet in circulation in the kingdom, no doubt because a good lot of those with figures in brown are still on hand."

From Messrs. Bright and Son we have received the Italian 5 and 20 c. letter cards and the 10 c. post card, surcharged "COLONIA ERITREA," in black, for use here.

Letter Cards. 5 c., green on grey card.
20 c., orange on yellow card.
Post Card. 10 c., lake on cream.

FRENCH POST OFFICES ABROAD.—*French Levant.*—The 30 c., lilac, has to be added to the list.

Adhesive. 30 c., lilac.

LEVANT (*Russian*).—We understand that the stamp chronicled on page 122 should have been described as 1 piastre, in red, on 10 kop., blue, with *vertically* laid lines in the watermark.

Philatelic Societies' Meetings.

Philatelic Society, London.

Council for the Year 1903-1904.

President—
H.R.H. The Prince of Wales, K.G., etc.
Vice-President—The Earl of Crawford, K.T.
Hon. Secretary—J. A. Tilleard.
Hon. Treasurer—C. N. Biggs.
Hon. Assistant Secretary—H. R. Oldfield.
Hon. Librarian—L. W. Fulcher.

E. D. Bacon.
M. P. Castle, J.P. (*Hon. Vice-President.*)
C. J. Daun.
R. Ehrenbach.
T. W. Hall.
L. L. R. Hausburg.
C. E. McNaughtan.
Franz Reichenheim.
Gordon Smith.

The fourteenth meeting of the season 1902-1903 was held at Effingham House, Arundel Street, Strand, on Friday the 8th May, 1903, at 7.45 p.m.

Members present: M. P. Castle, Harvey R. G. Clarke, C. J. Daun, Rudolph Meyer, E. D. Bacon, R. B. Yardley, C. McNaughtan, William Silk, jun., T. Maycock, W. Schwabacher, L. W. Fulcher, Thos. Wm. Hall, J. A. Tilleard, B. D. Knox, F. Schiller, Robert Ehrenbach, G. F. Napier, L. L. R. Hausburg, A. B. Creeke, jun.; and one visitor, E. W. Wetherell.

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

The Treasurer presented his balance-sheet and accounts for the financial year ending 31st March last, and on the motion of Mr. Meyer, seconded by Mr. T. W. Hall, Mr. A. W. Chambers and Mr. T. Maycock were appointed to audit the accounts, and report thereon at the Annual General Meeting of the Society.

The business of the meeting consisted of a display by Mr. Harvey R. G. Clarke of the stamps of New South Wales. The collection shown consisted of three volumes of unused and two of used stamps, the latter containing most of the great rarities, and comprising reconstructed plates of the early issues in the various printings and papers.

The volumes of unused stamps were remarkable alike for the completeness of the collection and for the perfect condition of the specimens shown.

The many pages of unused "Sydney Views" and "Laureated" stamps, in which most of the varieties were represented, were greatly admired, and the privilege of inspecting so beautiful a collection was much appreciated by the members present.

In moving a very cordial vote of thanks to Mr. Harvey Clarke for his display, Mr. Bacon described the collection as the best in England, and expressed the hope that the owner would permit the Publication Committee to have the use of it for comparison in the preparation of the lists for the new work on the stamps of the Australian Commonwealth.

The resolution moved by Mr. Bacon was seconded by Mr. Hausburg and carried unanimously, and the proceedings then terminated.

The fifteenth meeting of the season 1902-1903 was held at Effingham House, Arundel Street, Strand, on Friday the 22nd May, 1903, at 7.45 p.m.

Members present: E. D. Bacon, Thos. Wm. Hall, Franz Reichenheim, Rudolph Meyer, Rudolph Frentzel, J. C. Sidebotham, William Silk, jun., C. McNaughtan, L. L. R. Hausburg, C. Neville Biggs, Stanley Gibbons, W. V. Morten, W. Schwabacher, L. W. Fulcher, A. R. Barrett, R. B. Yardley, J. A. Tilleard, Gordon Smith, R. Ehrenbach, B. D. Knox.

Visitors: Chas. J. Phillips, Wm. A. Bicker.

The chair was taken by Mr. E. D. Bacon, and the minutes of the meeting held on the 8th May, 1903, were read and signed as correct.

The business consisted of a display of the stamps of Hawaii and Japan, being a portion of the collection of Mr. Henry J. Crocker, of San Francisco, which were kindly brought to the meeting by Mr. Charles J. Phillips. Both collections were very complete, and were inspected with considerable interest.

The Hawaiian collection was very strong in the figure issues, reconstructed plates being shown of all the ten types. It also included ten of the missionary stamps, four of the 5 cent value and six of the 13 cent value, showing both types.

The Japanese collection comprised numerous sheets and unused plate numbers, and was practically complete, the only ones which appeared to be missing being Plate 1 of the 20 sen, Plates 15 and 16 of the 6 sen, orange, and the 6 sen of 1888, perforated 13½.

Mr. Stanley Gibbons proposed a hearty vote of thanks to Mr. Crocker for sending his stamps and to Mr. Charles J. Phillips for bringing same to the meeting.

The resolution was seconded by Mr. Fulcher, and after a few remarks in support by the Chairman, Mr. E. D. Bacon, the resolution was carried unanimously, and the proceedings then terminated.

The sixteenth meeting of the season 1902-1903, being the Annual General Meeting, was held at Effingham House, Arundel Street, Strand, on Friday the 5th June, 1903, at 7.45 p.m.

Members present: M. P. Castle, Herbert R. Oldfield, Franz Reichenheim, Rudolph Meyer, Rudolph Frentzel, Thos. Wm. Hall, B. D. Knox, C. Neville Biggs, T. Maycock, L. L. R. Hausburg, C. J. Daun, W. V. Morten, W. Schwabacher, Arthur W. Chambers, Edward J. Nankivell, C. McNaughtan, Gordon Smith, F. Ransom, Robert Ehrenbach, J. A. Tilleard.

The chair was taken by the Hon. Vice-President, and the minutes of the meeting held on the 22nd May were read and signed as correct.

The Hon. Secretary then presented his report on the work of the Society for the past year, which was listened to with considerable interest, and upon the motion of Mr. T. W. Hall, seconded by Mr. F. Reichenheim, it was unanimously resolved that the report as read be received and published in due course. The Treasurer's accounts and the balance-sheet for the financial year were placed on the table, and Mr. Maycock read the abstract of the receipts and expenditure and of the liabilities and assets.

Mr. McNaughtan then moved, and Mr. J. A. Tilleard seconded, the following resolution, which was duly carried:—

"That the Hon. Treasurer be instructed to take the amount of £123 off deposit account, and to pay outstanding loans; that the sum of £123 be carried to debit of publication account, the same to be liquidated by such sums as the Council may direct from time to time to be credited to such account from a sale of the Society's publications."

Mr. Gordon Smith then moved, and Mr. Castle seconded, the following resolution, which was also carried:—

"That, in addition to the statement of receipts and expenditure now furnished, a supplemental statement should be annually presented, excluding the receipts accruing from, and expenditure incurred through, the sale and circulation of publications."

The members then proceeded with the election of officers for the ensuing year, when the following were duly appointed:—President: H.R.H. The Prince of Wales, K.G., etc.; Vice-President: The Earl of Crawford, K.T.; Hon. Secretary: J. A. Tilleard; Hon. Treasurer: C. N. Biggs; Hon. Assistant Secretary: H. R. Oldfield; Hon. Librarian: L. W. Fulcher; Members of Council: E. D. Bacon, R. Ehrenbach, C. E. McNaughtan, M. P. Castle, J.P. (Hon. Vice-President), T. W. Hall, F. Reichenheim, C. J. Daun, L. L. R. Hausburg, Gordon Smith.

The proceedings shortly afterwards terminated.

Herts Philatelic Society.

FIFTY-ONE members and visitors, under the chairmanship of Mr. Herbert R. Oldfield, the Hon. Vice-President, celebrated the fifth Annual Dinner of the Society at Anderton's Hotel, on Tuesday, May 19th, 1903. The toast of the evening, "The Herts Philatelic Society," enabled the Chairman to dwell favourably on the prosperity of the Society, both as regards its enlarged scope of work and its increasing membership. He looked forward to the time when it would be the first among its contemporaries to inaugurate the ideal Philatelic Exhibition, and when every one of its members would blossom into a limited specialist. Mr. C. R. Sutherland proposed the health of "The Visitors," and Mr. E. Wetherell, of the Philatelic Society of India, in response, gave some amusing details of the minute salaries of the native Indian officials, and of the vagaries of the correspondence entrusted to their charge. Baron Percy de Worms introduced the toast of "The Officers" in flattering terms, to which the Hon. Librarian returned a reply, coupled with an invitation to members to a river party on June 13th. A special toast to the Hon. Secretary was given with musical honours, with an extra round for the Hon. Treasurer. A varied and excellent musical programme had been arranged, which greatly added to the evening's enjoyment. Mr. George Gaffe, F.C.O., kindly acted as accompanist. Songs were rendered by Messrs. Airlie Dry, W. A. Bois, Howard Goodman, Hollick Nash, and Hargrave Harvey; recitations by Messrs. John K. Boddy and Walter Moir, and a violin solo by Mr. W. J. Barron. The toast of "The Chairman," ably proposed by Mr. J. C. Sidebotham, and enthusiastically received by the members, suitably brought the proceedings to a termination.

As a fitting wind-up of the season 1902–3 the Hon. Librarian (Mr. George Haynes) issued invitations for a river party for Saturday, June 13th. Through his liberality a spacious steam launch, well provided with creature comforts, was engaged to start from Molesey Lock for an afternoon's cruise on the bosom of Father Thames. Nothing but fine weather was needed to ensure a pleasant outing, but June was in a wayward mood and frowned on the H. P. S. On arrival at Hampton Court Station Jupiter Pluvius was found to be in full possession of the stage, from which he never made his exit. Between twenty and thirty moist but cheerful members had assembled, and in spite of the inclement weather a very enjoyable time was spent. Mr. Reichenheim, in the course of the only speech of the day, voiced the opinion of the members when he stated how much he regretted that the kindly efforts of the host had been handicapped by circumstances over which he had no control. He thanked him very heartily, on behalf of the members, for his hospitality, and wished him better luck if he were bold enough to tempt Fortune next year for the third time. This Mr. Haynes promised to do, after which his health was drunk with the usual honours.

H. A. SLADE, *Hon. Sec. and Treasurer.*

INGLESIDE, ST. ALBANS,
June 16th, 1903.

The Collectors' Club.

351, Fourth Avenue, New York.

The ninety-third meeting of the Board of Governors was held at the Club House on Monday evening, May 11th, 1903. Present: Messrs. Andreini, Dewing, Luff, Rich, Scott, and Perrin. The Secretary read a number of communications. The Treasurer's report, showing a cash balance in bank of $331.88 exclusive of reserve fund, was approved as read. A vote of thanks was tendered Mr. Charles Gregory for his kind donation to the Club of two N.Y. Stock Exchange medals (one of silver and one of bronze), suitably framed. Adjourned 9.30 p.m.

Albert Perrin, *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. A. Churchill Emerson (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. A. Churchill Emerson, Effingham House, Arundel Street, Strand, London, W.C.

GREAT BRITAIN 2d., PLATE 8.

To the Editor of the "London Philatelist."

Sir,—In spite of Mr. Ewen's denial of the existence of a stamp he has never seen, I still maintain that I possess a copy of the Great Britain 2d., Plate 8, with watermark Large Crown, Type 2.

Yours faithfully,

S. C. Skipton.

78, Castle Street, Salisbury,
May 20th, 1903.

"BRITISH SOMALILAND" STAMPS.

To the Editor of the "London Philatelist."

Sir,—I notice on page 116 of the May number of the *London Philatelist* that you insert a paragraph from the *Globe*, in which it is implied that certain stamps for "British Somaliland" which have been seen are forgeries. It is quite true that some of the values of the stamps of India, including those issued for official use, overprinted with the words "British Somaliland," have found their way into the hands of dealers and collectors, but they are quite genuine. These stamps have been prepared under proper authority as a proposed issue, and, according to the prevailing rule, a certain number of sets have been distributed, either through the Central Bureau of the Universal Postal Union at Berne or direct to the Post Offices of different stamp-issuing countries, and it is some of these sets which have leaked out from official hands. Many collectors must have noticed in recent years that new sets of stamps are chronicled in philatelic periodicals in many cases long before dealers or collectors have been able to obtain them from the country of origin. Certain Continental journals which do not come very much into the hands of English-speaking Philatelists are the chief sinners in this respect, and there seems every probability that subordinate clerks in the Bureau at Berne must give very early information, *accompanied with the stamps*, to the editors and proprietors of these periodicals. This is a question which ought to be very severely dealt with.

I am, Sir,
Yours faithfully,

Gordon Smith.

June 13th, 1903.

The Market.

NOTE.—*Under this title will be inserted all the information that may refer in any way to the financial aspects of Philately*, e.g. *the sales or values of stamps, the state of the Market, Trade publications, etc.*

THE *M. P.* announces that the great collection of the late William Alexander Smith, jun., is now being catalogued for sale by auction early in October. The collection is contained in nearly one hundred volumes and valued by catalogue at $75,000. The sale will occupy about eight days. Owing to the great expense of the catalogue, the sellers have decided to form a new list of buyers. Every buyer can have his name included by sending a post card to the J. W. Scott Company, Limited, who will send out the catalogues in ample time for all to participate.

* * *

MESSRS. PUTTICK AND SIMPSON.

Sale of May 19th and 20th, 1903.

* Unused.

	£	s.	d.
Great Britain, 1840, 2d., pale blue,* part gum	3	15	0
Ceylon, set of Service, 1d. to 2s.,* no gum	2	17	6
India, Service, 8 a., purple and green,* creased, with gum	3	12	6
Ditto, Gwalior, 1885, short inscription, 8 a., mauve,* mint	2	10	0
Ditto, ditto, ditto, ditto, 1 r., grey, ditto	2	12	0
British Central Africa, 1895, £10, vermilion,* part gum	10	0	0
Ditto, ditto, £25, blue-green,* ditto	24	0	0
British East Africa, 1890, ½, 1, and 4 a.,* mint	4	7	6
Cape of Good Hope, woodblock, 1d., blue, error, badly cut into at left and slightly so at right, nice colour	21	0	0
Ditto, Mafeking, on British Bechuanaland, 1s. on 6d., purple on red, on small piece of original	4	0	0
Mauritius, 1848, "Post Paid," 1d., orange, a pair, early impressions and deep colour, a little heavily cancelled, but with nice margins and fine	14	0	0
Ditto, ditto, 2d., blue, early medium	3	10	0
Niger Coast, "One Shilling" in vermilion, on 2d.,* mint	3	3	0
Transvaal, 1877, "V.R. Transvaal," red surcharge, 6d., blue, a little thinned	3	0	0
Ditto, 1878, ditto, 1d., red on blue, with inverted surcharge	5	10	0
Ditto, 1882, "Een Penny" on 4d., green,* with inverted surcharge, mint	2	0	0
Newfoundland, 6½d., scarlet-vermilion, used, fair	4	4	0
St. Vincent, 4d. on 1s., vermilion	9	9	0
Trinidad, CA, 10s., green and blue,* mint	1	10	0
British Guiana, 1850, 8 c., green, cut round	16	0	0
Ditto, 1856, 4 c., magenta, corners cut	3	5	0
Pacific Steam Navigation Co., 1857, 1 real, blue on *bleuté*, block of 4,* mint	4	4	0
New Zealand, half 1s., green, blue paper, used as 6d. on entire	4	5	0
Ditto, pelure, perf., 1d., vermilion, damaged	4	7	6
Victoria, 1850, 3d., blue, Type B, a pair, slightly creased*	5	5	0
Ditto, 1857-63, Star, imperf., 4d., vermilion,* nearly full gum	2	10	0
Ditto, 1862, 3d., marone,* part gum	1	13	0
Ditto, Registered, rouletted, 1s.	3	17	6
Collections: 5,250, £37; 4,158, £30; and 726 (old collection in plain book), £18 10s. od.			

* * *

MESSRS. VENTOM, BULL, AND COOPER.

Sale of May 21st and 22nd, 1903.

* Unused.

	£	s.	d.
Great Britain, 1870, 1½d., rose-red, "OP—PC"	1	8	0
Ceylon, 4d., rose, imperf., thinned at back	5	10	0
Ditto, 2s., blue, ditto, slightly defective	2	10	0
Ditto, ditto, perf.,* mint	1	14	0
India, 1856-64, 2 a., yellow-green	2	12	0
British East Africa, surcharged with a hand-stamp "½ anna A.D." on 2 a., vermilion	3	10	0
Ditto, "1 anna A.B." on 4 a., brown	5	5	0
Ditto, 2 rupees, brick-red,* mint	2	10	0
Mauritius, Britannia, green, strip of 3 and a single, on entire	2	6	0
Natal, 1875, "Postage" on 1s., green, twice surcharged	2	4	0
New Brunswick, 6d., yellow	2	4	0
Newfoundland, 1s., orange-vermilion, no margins	6	0	0
British Guiana, 1860, perf. 12, 1 c., brown, thin paper*	2	10	0
New South Wales, Sydney, 1d., red, Plate 1, on entire	2	12	6
Ditto, ditto, ditto, horizontal pair, with dated postmarks	3	5	0
Ditto, 1d., carmine, Plate 1, a horizontal pair with Butterfly postmarks, a little defective, splendid colour	3	10	0

	£	s.	d.
New South Wales, Sydney Views, 1d., red, Plate 2, a fine horizontal pair on laid paper	3	5	0
Ditto, ditto, 2d., blue, Plate 1, fine early	1	12	0
Ditto, ditto, ditto, variety Fan with six segments	2	16	0
Ditto, Laureated, 1d., red varieties, "WALE" in a pair, no leaves right of "SOUTH" in a pair and two leaves right of "SOUTH"	2	4	0
Ditto, ditto, 2d., blue, Stars in corners, pair	1	12	0
Ditto, ditto, error "WAEES"	2	8	0
Ditto, ditto, 6d., brown, error "WALLS" cut into one side	2	0	0
Collection: 3,700 and two books of duplicates, etc.	21	0	0

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MESSRS. PLUMRIDGE AND CO.

Sale of May 26th and 27th, 1903.

* Unused.

Barbados, 1d. on half 5s.	2	8	0
British Columbia, perf. 12½, $1, green £2 and	2	2	0
British East Africa, 1895, 5 a., black on grey-blue,* mint	2	12	6
British Guiana, 1852, 1 c., black on magenta	6	15	0
Ditto, ditto, 4 c., on blue	5	15	0
Ditto, 1853, 1 c., vermilion	2	4	0
Ditto, ditto, 1 c., red-brown*	3	0	0
Ditto, 1876, 96 c., drab,* no gum	1	14	0
Canada, 7½d., green*	4	7	6
Ditto, 10d., blue,* slight defect	1	7	0
Ditto, ½d., rose, perf.*	1	6	0
Ceylon, 9d., lilac-brown, imperf., very fine	3	5	0
Gambia, 4d., pale brown, 1869, no wmk., horizontal pair,* mint	3	5	0
Ditto, ditto, 1874, CC, ditto	4	0	0
Ditto, ditto, ditto, vertical strip of three, ditto	4	7	6
Ditto, ditto, ditto, horizontal pair, used	3	10	0
Ditto, 6d., deep blue, ditto,* mint	3	5	0
Ditto, 1s., deep green, 1880,* mint	2	0	0
Gibraltar, first issue, 1s., horizontal pair*	3	5	0
Great Britain, 1840, 1d., intense black, block of four,* full gum	3	3	0
Ditto, 2d., deep blue, horizontal pair*	5	0	0
Ditto, 2s., brown	2	0	0
Ditto, "O.W. Official," 5d., Queen's Head	2	8	0
Ditto, ditto, 10d., ditto	6	0	0
Nevis, 6d., litho,* mint	4	12	6
New Brunswick, 3d.,* with gum	2	6	0
New South Wales, Sydney, 2d., deep blue, Plate 2, variety without outer frame to band	3	3	0
Ditto, 1851, 1d., carmine on bluish*	3	0	0
Ditto, 1854, 1d., orange, no leaves right of "South"*	3	0	0
New Zealand, 1856, 1d., red on blue	2	14	0
Ditto, ditto, ditto, pair, one clipped	2	0	0
Ditto, 1862, Star, imperf., 6d., red-brown, pair,* mint	3	10	0
Ditto, 1864, NZ, 2d., blue, full roulettes three sides	2	15	0
Ditto, wmk. Lozenges, 2d., red	4	2	0
Nova Scotia, 1d., brown,* mint	2	0	0
Ditto, ditto, vertical strip of 3	6	0	0
Philippine Islands, 1854, 5 c., orange-red, Type A	2	14	0
Ditto, ditto, Type B	1	10	0
Queensland, 1866, Script, 1d., vermilion, horizontal pair,* mint	5	0	0
St. Lucia, 1860, 6d., green, horizontal pair,* mint	3	15	0
Ditto, 1883, lilac,* mint	1	17	0
Ditto, ditto, 1s., red-brown, mint*	2	10	0
St. Vincent, "One Penny" on 6d., yellow-green*	4	5	0
Shanghai, 1876, 1 cand., *rose*,* with gum	2	0	0
Sierra Leone, CC, 3d., saffron-yellow*	2	0	0
Straits Settlements, 12½, 96 c., grey,* part gum	2	0	0
Ditto, 8 c., in black on 12 c., purple-brown, horizontal pair*	4	0	0
Transvaal, 1879, 1d., in red, on 6d., S.G. and Co. 168	2	12	0
Victoria, "Too Late,"* with gum, creased	3	0	0
Western Australia, 1861, clean-cut, 1s., green*	1	12	0
Ditto, 12 × 14, 1d., yellow-ochre* £4 and	5	10	0
Ditto, the error 2d., mauve*	13	0	0

* * *

MESSRS. J. M. BARTELS AND CO.

Sale of May 21st and 22nd, 1903.

* Unused.

We note the following prices of some of the better U.S.A. stamps.

1847, 5 c., orange-brown*	1	9	2
Ditto, 10 c., horizontal pair, red cancellation	1	10	2
1851, 5 c.,* full gum	10	14	6
Ditto, 10 c., yellow-green,* full gum	2	11	0
Ditto, 10 c., ditto, pair,* ditto	5	5	10
1857–60, 5 c., brick-red, light shade,* mint	16	17	6
Ditto, 5 c., brown, Type 1,* mint	4	7	6
1861–66, 3 c., scarlet, cancelled with four pen-lines	6	11	3
Ditto, 5 c., olive-yellow,* with gum	10	10	6
Ditto, 90 c., blue,* fine condition	2	3	8
1867, 1 c., grilled, 11 × 13,* mint	1	8	0
Ditto, grilled, 24 c.,* ditto	2	11	0
Ditto, ditto, 30 c.,* ditto	2	11	0
Ditto, ditto, 90 c.,* ditto	6	9	2
1869, 90 c., deep shade,* ditto	4	13	9
State, $2, yellow-green,* ditto	3	13	0
Ditto, $5, ditto,* ditto	17	18	4
Ditto, $10, ditto,* ditto	10	2	0
Ditto, $20, ditto,* ditto	6	9	2

THE

London Philatelist:

THE MONTHLY JOURNAL OF

THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY, LONDON.

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Official Stamps.

WE have received a letter from a correspondent with regard to this class of stamps which we are unable to publish, as it contains allusions to the case that is still *sub judice*, although we must confess to sharing our friend's view as to the apparently needlessly severe view of the case taken by the authorities. Our correspondent, however, goes on to point out the probable consequences of this trial, and urges that Official stamps in unused condition will be practically unattainable. This he regards as a serious matter, and one that will exercise a very deterrent influence upon the future collection of Official stamps; a view that we share to a considerable extent.

We note, moreover, that Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Limited, have published the following, and doubtless their example will be followed by other dealers:—

"We have to give notice that we have withdrawn from sale *all* kinds of *unused* English Official stamps, including *O. W. Official*, *Army Official*, *R. H. Official*, etc., etc., and in future we do not propose to buy or sell any of these stamps in an unused condition *unless* the authorities decide to sell such stamps at their nominal value."

This, however, applies to unused stamps only, and there can be no doubt that used specimens will be procurable. Collectors of this class, therefore, will have to do as do those of the old issues, *i.e.* take them unused when they can get them and fill up with used. They will be no worse off than the specialist in Mauritius or New South Wales, who seldom lives to be complete in all shades unused!

The question, however, of the survival of the fittest is again raised by these difficulties in the case of the Official stamps, and it is unquestionably an attack upon one of the weaker columns of the temple philatelic.

The imposition of letters over the stamp has really no postal significance, and there have been many specialists in British stamps who have declined to collect the Officials. These stamps in all countries may be broadly classed into four divisions:—

1. Surcharged "O.S." or "OFFICIAL."
2. Surcharged with initials or name of a department.
3. Perforated with the words "O.S." or "OFFICIAL."
4. Surcharged with the name of a private firm.

No. 1 is, of course, the largest class by far; No. 2 includes only two or three countries, as South Australia and Great Britain; No. 3 is a class that is an innovation, but which may have a lasting and deleterious effect upon the collection of Official stamps; No. 4 has only had a limited use, as in the case of Copestake, Moore, and Co., and a few other firms in olden days. The sceptic, however, may ask what is the difference in philatelic or postal value between the last-named stamp and one surcharged with the initial of a Government department or office, as say, B.M., *i.e.* Board of Magistrates, among the South Australians. Is the stamp better *as a stamp* by having been earmarked either by the Board of Magistrates or by Messrs. Copestake and Co.? Does it confer any increase of franking power, and has it any significance except an actuarial one in allocating the expenses of a particular department? Can an answer be given showing why from a philatelic or scientific point of view it is necessary to collect a stamp both as issued and with a subsequent surcharge limiting its use, but of no possible *postal* significance?

There are those who may have a ready answer to the sceptic, but it seems to us that the collection of Official stamps does not stand on the same basis as that of unsurcharged stamps. Catholicity of taste is fortunately a prevailing feature in stamps as in other walks of life, and had the Officials a far less solid claim they would still find plenty of admirers. None the less, if the new issues are not to be had unused, and the authorities take to perforating them with the departmental initials, as in Australia, the collection of Official stamps, in vulgar parlance, seems likely to receive a nasty knock.

The Issue of King Edward's Stamps for Canada.



ALTHOUGH for a long time past we have been aware of the circumstances attending the preparation of the new postage stamps for Canada, and in a position to illustrate the approved design, we have refrained from publishing the facts in compliance with the desire of the authorities that no details should be made public until the stamps had been completed and were ready to be put into circulation.

We believe that the delay which has taken place in bringing out the new issue has been due to questions arising out of the existing contract under

which the postage stamps of the Dominion are produced, and that even after the approval of the design and the receipt of the die some difficulties were experienced in connection with the preparation of the plates by the contractors.

These have happily been surmounted, and now that the issue is an accomplished fact it is with much gratification that we illustrate the design of the new stamp, our illustration, prepared some time back, being taken from a proof from the steel die engraved by Messrs. Perkins Bacon and Co., of London, and used in the manufacture of the plates of the several values issued by the Canadian postal authorities on the 1st instant. By comparing our illustration with the stamp as issued it will be seen that the contractors or the postal authorities have made some alterations in the design, which, in our judgment, are by no means improvements. The leaves in the lower corners have been redrawn on a smaller scale, and hardly impinge upon the frame; their drawing is vastly inferior, and the graceful effect of the broken circle is lost. The numerals of value are in colour on a white ground, reversing the original design, the labels being larger and the figures taller and thinner; this also detracting materially from the charming homogeneity of the stamp as first proposed. The greatest alteration, and the worst, is the substitution of heavy diagonal lines for horizontal ones in the background. The latter were finely drawn and delicately shaded, leaving the King's Head in clear outline, and *framed* by the dark oval band containing the inscriptions. The background and frame no longer present this artistic effect, and the whole design materially suffers thereby.



The circumstances connected with the inception of the issue are as gratifying as they are novel, and will be hailed with acclamation by the Philatelists of the British Empire.

The Postmaster of Canada, Sir William Muloch, being one of the many distinguished visitors to this country during the Coronation festivities, took the opportunity afforded by his visit of approaching the Prince of Wales, and of meeting His Royal Highness's suggestions and advice in the preparation of a new die for the Canadian stamps. The Prince, with his characteristic energy and courtesy, cheerfully undertook the task, and it will be seen from our illustration with absolute and conspicuous success. H.R.H. wisely decided, in the first instance, that it is advisable to have some continuity of design in succeeding issues, and therefore adopted the frame and ground-work of the then current stamps as his basis. In selecting a portrait of His Majesty the Prince decided to rely upon a photograph giving a true likeness of the King as we know him, in lieu of an idealised representation by an artist. The photograph eventually chosen, with the full approval of His Majesty, was one taken shortly before the Coronation.

The likeness is undoubtedly what is termed a speaking one, and with the addition of the Coronation robes represents as faithful and as pleasing a picture of the King, at the time of his accession to the throne, as it is possible to find. The introduction of the Tudor crowns in the upper angles, which was another of the Prince's innovations, obviates the difficulty that has

so often made "the head that wears a crown" lie "uneasy" on a postage stamp. These emblems of sovereignty, taken in conjunction with the Canadian maple leaves in the lower angles, complete a design that for harmony, boldness, and simplicity has assuredly not been excelled by any hitherto issued stamps of the British Empire. It is palpable, on analysing the stamp, (1) that the attractiveness of the design has in no way been allowed to militate against its utility, for its country of origin and denomination are clearly expressed; (2) that the boldness of the design has not been detracted from (as is so often the case) by superfluous ornamentation, and that the design has been artistically balanced by the introduction of the *right-sized portrait* and the proper treatment of light and shade.

The members of the London Philatelic Society most heartily tender their congratulations to their Royal President upon his very successful initial effort as a designer of postage stamps, and they cannot but regard it as a very happy vindication of the useful side of Philately. The Prince of Wales has once more shown that he is no *roi fainéant* in Philately, and the whole collecting world will hope that this happy initiative may be followed by the co-operation of H.R.H. in the production of new stamps for the mother country, an event which, if we are correctly informed, is now engaging the attention of the home authorities.

The Stamps of New South Wales, issued between 1871 and 1884, Watermarked NSW over Crown.

By L. L. R. HAUSBURG.



THERE are, as is well known, two types of watermark, in which the crowns and letters "N S W" differ materially in size and shape. The small crown watermark was the first in use, and will be described hereafter as Type I. The large crown came into use in the year 1881, and will be known as Type II.

In the *Australian Philatelist*, vol. ii., a list is given of the perforations in which the stamps of this period are found, divided according to the two types of watermark.

The following table contains only stamps that I possess myself, or that have been sent to me for inspection, and does not include a good many varieties that are given in the *Australian Philatelist;* but there are in the latter a few whose existence is rather doubtful, and the list is still further lengthened by the inclusion of varieties perforated $11\frac{1}{2}$ and 12, which are, I believe, made by the same machine. In the case of compound perforations, of say A and B, I have not distinguished between A × B and B × A.

In most catalogues, where the two varieties of watermark are not separated, it is usual to place first in the list the stamps perforated $11\frac{1}{2}$–12, but it

will be seen that I have not found any with watermark Type I. in this perforation, except the 9d. on 10d.

The machines perforating 11½–12 and 12½–13 are, I think, the same machines that were used for perforating the "diadem" series, but the use of the former was discontinued when the 12½–13 machine arrived until some time after the arrival of the paper watermarked Type II.

The demand for the 9d. on 10d. value must have been very much smaller than was anticipated. The sheets were only perforated as required, and there is no reason why it should not exist in all the varieties of perforation. I do not think that this value with long surcharge was ever printed on the paper watermarked Type II.

The supply of the 3d. and 5d. values also lasted after the introduction of the new machine perforating 11, and the revival of the old 11½–12, but with these exceptions, unless other discoveries are made, it may be said that the stamps on paper watermarked Type I. were only perforated 12½–13, 10, and their compounds.

In the case of the stamps on paper watermarked Type II., there is a possibility of finding almost any variety not included in this list, although I do not expect to find the 3d. and 5d. perforated 12½–13, or 12½–13 compound with 10.

The 3d., 5d., and 8d., owing to their shape, and the 6d., owing to the spacing of the stamps, cannot exist perforated 11 × 12 by the comb machine, although the 6d. is sometimes catalogued in this perforation.

I should be glad to see any other varieties that may be found, and early dated copies of all the perforations, so that as good a list as possible may be prepared for the Society's work on "Australia."

Stamps should be sent to me at "Rothsay," Weybridge, and every possible care will be taken of them.

Wmk. Type I.

	12½, 13	11½, 12	11	10	12½, 13 compd. with 10	11½, 12 compd. with 10	11½, 12 compd. with 11	11 compd. with 10	Comb mach. 11×12
1d., pale red	1d.	—	—	1d.	1d.	—	—	—	—
1d., red	1d.	—	—	—	1d.	—	—	—	—
2d., blue	2d.	—	—	2d.	2d.	—	—	—	—
2d., deep blue	2d.	—	—	2d.	2d.	—	—	—	—
3d., yellow-green	3d.	—	—	3d.	3d.	3d.	3d.	—	—
3d., green	3d.	—	—	—	—	3d.	3d.	—	—
4d., brown	4d.	—	—	4d.	4d.	—	—	—	—
5d., yellow-green	—	—	—	5d.	—	5d.	—	—	—
5d., green	—	—	—	—	—	5d.	—	—	—
6d., pale lilac	6d.	—	—	6d.	6d.	—	—	—	—
6d., mauve	6d.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
8d., yellow	8d.	—	—	8d.	8d.	—	—	—	—
9/10d., pale brown	9/10d.	—	9/10d.	9/10d.	—	—	—	—	—
9/10d., brown	9/10d.	9/10d.	9/10d.	9/10d.	—	—	9/10d.	9/10d.	9/10d.
9/10d., in blk. & in blue	—	—	9/10d.	—	—	—	—	—	—
1s., black	1s.	—	—	1s.	1s.	—	—	—	—

Wmk. Type II.

	12½, 13	11½, 12	11	10	12½, 13 compd. with 10	11½, 12 compd. with 10	11½, 12 compd. with 11	11 compd. with 10	Comb mach. 11×12
1d., pale red	—	—	—	1d.	1d.	—	—	—	1d.
1d., bright red	—	—	1d.	1d.	1d.	1d.	1d.	1d.	1d.
2d., blue	2d.	2d.	2d.	2d.	2d.	—	2d.	—	2d.
2d., deep blue	—	—	—	2d.	2d	2d.	—	2d.	2d.
3d., yellow-green	—	3d.	3d.	3d.	—	3d.	3d.	—	—
3d., green	—	3d.	3d.	3d.	—	3d.	3d.	3d.	—
3d., blue-green	—	—	3d.	3d.	—	3d.	3d.	3d.	—
4d., pale brown	—	—	—	4d.	—	4d.	—	—	4d.
4d., deep brown	—	4d.	—	4d.	—	—	—	—	4d.
5d., yellow-green	—	5d.	5d.	—	—	5d.	—	5d.	—
5d., deep green	—	5d.	—	5d.	—	5d.	5d.	5d.	—
5d., myrtle-green	—	5d.	5d.	5d.	—	5d.	5d.	5d.	—
6d., lilac	—	6d.	6d.	6d.	6d.	6d.	6d.	6d.	—
8d., yellow	8d.	8d.	8d.	8d.	—	8d.	—	—	—
1s., black	—	—	1s.	1s.	1s.	—	—	—	1s.

The Adhesive Stamps of Portugal.

By J. N. MARSDEN.

A Paper read before the Philatelic Society, London, on December 19th, 1902.

(*Continued from page* 137.)

Issue VI. 1st July, 1862. D. Luiz.



ON PEDRO V. died on the 11th November, 1861, and was succeeded by his brother, D. Luiz, who was proclaimed King on the 14th November, 1861. A set of stamps bearing the profile of the new King was authorised, but according to the rules which generally govern such matters, turned to the left instead of to the right, as had been the case in the previous issue. The stamps were to be of the same values as had previously been employed, with the addition of a stamp of 10 reis. To Señor Friere, as before, was entrusted the manufacture of the dies.

Mons. Moens assigns a later date for the 5 reis than for the other values, but I think it probable they were all prepared for issue at the same time. The stocks still existing of the 5 reis of the previous reign prevented the issue of the D. Luiz 5 reis until September, 1862.

There were two dies of the 5 reis, differing in the greater or lesser distance of the figure of value from the ornament to the left. The die with the figure of value further away was the first to be used and issued. When the stamps printed from the second die were issued I have been unable to discover; at any rate, it was during or before May, 1865, as I possess a specimen dated the 25th May, 1865.

Of the second die there are two minor varieties, which are easily distinguishable. The first shows a dot between the figure "5" and the "R," and the second a vertical line through the "S," giving the letter the appearance of the sign for dollar.

Mons. Moens separates the 10 reis into golden yellow and orange-yellow, assigning to each shade a different date. I do not think we can separate them in this way, as I have seen many specimens of the orange shade bearing much later dates than March, 1863, which is the date he gives for the orange-yellow. In my humble opinion there was no deliberate altering of the shade, but the various printings leaned to the golden or orange shade quite indiscriminately. These remarks apply equally well to the yellow-green and blue-green shades of the 50 reis.

The 25 reis, as in some former issues, again presents many varieties which are most tantalising. I have spent many hours closely scrutinising many hundreds of specimens, and I am afraid without improving my eyesight. To Mr. Castle belongs the honour in the *London Philatelist*, for August, 1901, of having discovered four varieties. I believe I have succeeded in identifying eight, and I doubt if further investigation might not bring to light even more.

It is a matter of extreme difficulty to describe the minute differences; and even photographic reproductions, unless very much enlarged, are not satisfactory. Had I the appliances for enlargement on a screen, it is quite possible that some of the differences might vanish. I may say, however, that Mr. Castle has very kindly looked over all my varieties, and he agrees with me that they *are* varieties, with perhaps the exception of No. 4, of which I sent him a rather indistinct specimen for examination.

The following are the varieties. I am aware that my description of them is very unsatisfactory, but many minor differences absolutely defy description.

When I refer to "E" I mean the "E" in "REIS," and "R" refers to the first "R" in the word "CORREIO."

Type 1. The "R" has the tail straight down, and the curve under "E" is formed of two dots and a small curve.

Type 2. The "R" has the tail straight down; there is a single isolated dot under the centre of "E," and a short, thick, and almost straight line (really an oblong) running obliquely downwards to the left under "5."

Type 3. The "R" has the tail thicker at the foot and turned out; under the right-hand end of "E" there is a mark like the sign for division (÷), with the stroke *almost* horizontal; the top of the oblique line under "5" curves slightly to the right.

Type 4. Similar to No. 1, but the tail of "R" is turned out.

Type 5. Division sign under the right-hand end of "E" and a mere dot under "5."

Type 6. Similar to No. 3, but the stroke of the division sign under "E" starts downwards to the right.

Type 7. Under "E" there is a kind of eye (⌒) formed by a curve broken in the centre, with a dot under the break.

Type 8. Dot under "5" like No. 5, and under "E" a curve of four separate dots, each one being smaller than its neighbour on the right.

As in previous cases, I have examined a large number of these stamps

on the original covers, and the above enumeration represents the order in which the various types appeared.

The following is the result of my investigations :—

Type 1.	Earliest date,	17th	July,	1862 ;	latest date,	11th	April,	1863.
„ 2 (1)	„	„	3rd Oct.,	1862	„	„	27th July,	1863.
„ 3 (3)	„	„	12th Nov.,	1863	„	„	17th Dec.,	1863.
„ 4	„	„	10th Jan.,	1865	„	„	17th Feb.,	1865.
„ 5 (4)	„	„	1st May,	1865	„	„	18th Dec.,	1865.
„ 6	„	„	30th Dec.,	1855	„	„	2nd June,	1866.
„ 7 (2)	„	„	17th March,	1866	„	„	9th Aug.,	1866.
„ 8	„	„	12th Dec.,	1866	„	„	27th Jan.,	1867.

The figures in parentheses refer to Mr. Castle's enumeration.

I had no covers of the year 1864, but an examination of some hundreds of loose stamps did not lead to the discovery of any more types. It is therefore possible that Type No. 3 ran into 1864, and that No. 4 began to appear in the same year.

Neither the 50 reis nor the 100 reis call for any special comment, and I believe that there are no varieties except of shade.

Sets of all this issue, including types, can be made on thick and on thin paper.

The gum is generally yellowish, but many specimens occur with almost white gum.

Reprints.

The reprints exist only on the thick reprint paper, and are ungummed.

As was to be expected, the 5 reis was reprinted from the die last in use, that is the one with the figure of value nearer to the ornamentation on the left. The 25 reis appears to be a new type in itself, though it most nearly approaches No. 4. Were it not a new type, one would expect it to be the same as No. 8—the last type in use for issue.

SYNOPSIS.

Issue VI. 1st July, 1862. D. Luiz.

On thick and on thin paper.

5 reis, Die 1 ; brown, black-brown, purple-brown.
5 „ Die 2 ; brown and black-brown, in many shades.
Variety 1, with dot after "5," brown in many shades.
„ 2, with stroke through "s," brown „
10 reis bright orange to lemon-yellow.
25 „ (8 types), many shades from rose to carmine.
50 „ green, blue-green, yellow-green.
100 „ lilac, pale to dark.
Variety : 5 reis, Die 1 ; double impression, purple-brown.

Reprints.

On thick reprint paper.

5 reis, Die 2 ; black-brown.
10 „ orange-yellow.
25 „ (new type), rose.
50 „ yellow-green.
100 „ pale lilac.

(*To be continued.*)

Philatelic Notes.

THE REMAINDERS OF THE OLD GERMAN STATES.

THE firm of Moens, of Brussels, after a prolonged and successful career, has now, as is well known, ceased to exist, though happily both the members of it are deservedly enjoying the rest to which they are so well entitled. The bedstone of M. Moens's success was his acquisition of old remainders and his purchases of new issues, and collectors are indebted to his prescience for the possession of very many stamps which would otherwise have been impossible to obtain in unused condition. M. Moens always conducted his business on old-fashioned and conservative lines; he did not advertise (beyond in his excellent journal *Le Timbre-Poste*), nor did he keep a shop. His customers were almost invariably supplied through the medium of the post, and though an old client would be cordially welcomed at the Rue de Florence, the visit was looked upon more as a social amenity than as a matter of business. It follows, therefore, that the secrets and systems of the house of Moens remained a sealed book to the philatelic world, and it is therefore with peculiar interest that we read an article written by M. L. Hanciau (who for so many years practically carried on the entire business) in the last issue of the *Monthly Journal*. This article will be found to contain not only dry statistics and official documents, but some of those flashes of humour with which M. Hanciau was always wont to enliven his writings. It appears therein that M. Moens, amongst other things acquired by tender from the Berlin Post Office, obtained sixteen of the 5, 6, and 7 silbergroschen envelopes of Prussia at 5 francs each, and M. Hanciau gravely observes that "he does not think the purchaser had too bad a bargain in the case of these sixteen envelopes"—nor will anyone dispute the fact!

We have no wish, however, to borrow from the article, which we would cordially recommend all our friends to read; but we venture, however, to give the tables following of the various remainders acquired by M. Moens. This is information of lasting value to all collectors, and as such, with due acknowledgments to our contemporary, we reproduce them for the benefit of the future race of collectors.

BERGEDORF.

	Printed in 1861.		Sold for use in six years.		Remaining in 1868.
½ sch.	200,000	.....	161,000	.....	39,000
1 „	90,000	.....	64,000	.....	26,000
1½ „	100,000	.....	32,000	.....	68,000
3 „	80,000	.....	37,000	.....	43,000
4 „	80,000	.....	30,000	.....	50,000

PRUSSIA.

1850.	6 pf.	270 copies.	
	1 sgr.	19 „	
	2 „	13 „	
	3 „	38 „	
1856.	4 pf.	85 „	
?	4 „	21 „	(unwmkd. paper).
1857.	6 „	80 „	
	1 sgr.	10 „	
	2 „	6 „	
	3 „	30 „	
1858.	4 pf.	88 „	
	1 sgr.	79 „	
1858	2 sgr.	64 copies.	
	3 „	61 „	
1861.	4 pf.	30,000 (200 sheets).	
	6 „	30,000 „	
	1 sgr.	30,000 „	
	2 „	30,000 „	
	3 „	30,000 „	
1865.	3 pf.	30,000 „	
1867.	1 kr.	30,000 „	
	2 „	30,000 „	
	3 „	30,000 „	
	6 „	30,000 „	
	9 „	30,000 „	

ENVELOPES.

1851.	1 sgr.	80	
	2 „	600*	
	3 „	350	
1853.	1 „	600	With various flap ornaments.
	2 „	1,000	
	3 „	1,000	
1861.	1 „	1,000	
	2 „	1,000	
	3 „	1,000	
1863.	1 „	600	
1863.	2 sgr.	370	
	3 „	339	
1867.	3 pf.	400	
	6 „	327	
	1 kr.	448	
	2 „	700	
	3 „	543	
	6 „	564	
	9 „	461	

SCHLESWIG.

1864.	4 schilling	21,000 (210 sheets).	
	1¼ „	173	
1865.	½ „	20,000 (210 sheets).	
	1¼ „	20,000 „	
1865.	1⅓ schilling	20,000 (200 sheets).	
	2 „	20,000 „	
	4 „	20,000 „	

HOLSTEIN.

1865.	½ schilling	1,000 (10 sheets).	
	1¼ „	none.	
	1⅓ „	7,000 (70 sheets.)	
1865.	2 schilling	13,000 (130 sheets).	
	4 „	20,000 (200 „	

SCHLESWIG-HOLSTEIN.

1865.	½ schilling	20,000 (200 sheets).	
	1¼ „	20,000 „	
	1⅓ „	20,000 „	
1865.	2 schilling	20,000 (200 sheets).	
	4 „	20,000 „	

MECKLENBURG-SCHWERIN.

Stamps.	2 sch.,	lilac	15,000	Envelopes. 1 sch., red	26,400
	3 „	yellow	18,800	2 „ lilac	25,000
	5 „	brown	3,000	3 „ yellow	18,700
	¼ „	red	36,500	5 „ brown	2,400

* It may be noted that the offer made in 1862 mentioned only 100 copies of the 2 sgr.

LUBECK.

Stamps of 1859.	½ sch.	72,500		
	1 „	29,500		
	2 „	79,500		
	2½ „	26,500		
	4 „	107,500		
		315,500	price 60 thalers.	
1862.	1¼ sch.	30,652	„ 10 „	
1863.	½ „	23,968		
	1 „	7,228		
	1½ „	97,071		
	2 „	50,828		
	2½ „	28,951		
	4 „	17,851		
		225,897	„ 54.15	
Envelopes.	½ sch.	6,176		
	1 „	6,332		
	1½ „	14,118		
	2 „	8,313		
	2½ „	9,350		
	4 „	5,423		
		49,712	„ 142	
Total estimate		Thalers, 266.15		

The Department had not taken the trouble to destroy the envelopes of the first and second issues. According to M. Pelletreau there were, of the first issue :—

Large size	150 sets of	1, 2, 2½ schilling.
Small „	700 copies of	1 schilling.
	900 „	2 „
	650 „	2½ „

HAMBURG.

Envelopes.	½ schilling.	41,095 (2 issues)	Envelopes.	3 schilling.	916 (2 issues)
	1½ „	6,200		4 „	4,209 („)
	2 „	8,134 (2 issues)		7 „	3,321

BADEN.

Postage Stamps.

1851.	1 kreuzer	4,457	1860.	6 kreuzer	5,907
	3 „	2,260		9 „	2,955
	6 „	1,660	1862.	9 „	2,955
	9 „	2,952		18 „	2,955
1853.	1 „	2,461		30 „	114,400
	3 „	1,622	1864.	1 „	3,372,700
	6 „	2,763		3 „	880,200
1857.	3 „	1,859		6 „	1,328,380
1860.	1 „	1,747		7 „	1,057,100
	3 „	2,961		9 „	672,800

BADEN—*continued.*

Unpaid Letter Stamps.

1862.	1 kreuzer	. .	322,800	1862.	12 kreuzer	. .	160,000
	3 „	. .	445,400				

Envelopes.

1858.	3 kreuzer	. .	36	1858.	18 kreuzer	. .	519
	6 „	. .	38	1862.	3 „	. .	439,500
	9 „	. .	265		6 „	. .	229,800
	12 „	. .	529		9 „	. .	162,800

OLDENBURG.

There were about 215,000 of the 1 and 2 groschen stamps of the issue of 1862, and nearly as many of the $\frac{1}{3}$, $\frac{1}{2}$, and 3 groschen; there were also some 5,000 envelopes, a portion of which had received the stamp of the North German Confederation, which had been removed before the envelopes were sold. These were purchased by Mr. A. Beddig, of Hanover.

BAVARIA.

DESCRIPTION OF THE QUANTITIES OFFERED FOR SALE OF THE POSTAGE STAMPS ON THE 1ST JANUARY, 1876 (PURCHASED BY MR. G. ZECHMEYER, OF NUREMBERG).

Nature.	Value.	Colour.	Number in Stock.	Nominal Value.				Packages.
				Florins.	Kr.	Mark.	Pf.	
Unpaid . .	1 kr.	black .	162,000	2,700	—	4,628	57	parcels of 3,000
„ . .	3 „	„ .	126,000	6,300	—	10,800	—	„
Postage . .	1 „	green .	942,000	15,700	—	26,914	28	„
„ . .	3 „	carmine .	1,470,000	73,500	—	126,000	—	„
„ . .	6 „	brown .	171,600	1,716	—	2,941	71	„
„ . .	7 „	blue .	321,000	37,450	—	64,200	—	„
„ . .	9 „	red-brown	174,000	26,100	—	44,742	89	„
„ . .	10 „	orange .	120,000	20,000	—	34,285	71	„
„ . .	12 „	lilac .	3,000	600	—	1,028	57	„
„ . .	18 „	vermilion	99,000	29,700	—	50,914	28	„
Envelopes . .	3 „	carmine .	111,500	5,575	—	9,557	14	packets of 100
Wrappers . .	1 „	green .	24,405	406	45	697	28	„
Cards . .	1 „	„ .	33,840	564	—	966	85	packets of 120
„ . .	1 „	„ .	12,240	204	—	349	71	„
„ . .	2 „	dark green	77,760	2,592	—	4,443	42	„
„ . .	2 „	„	17,398	579	56	994	17	„
Reply Cards .	2 „	„	37,680	1,256	—	2,153	14	pks. of 60 double
„ .	2 „	„	11,730	391	—	670	28	„
Telegraph Stamps	10 pf.	—	190,744	—	—	—	—	—
„ „	20 „	—	253,081	—	—	—	—	—
„ „	25 „	—	190,043	—	—	—	—	—
„ „	40 „	—	208,912	—	—	—	—	—
„ „	80 „	—	184,639	—	—	—	—	—
„ „	1 mk.	—	93,655	—	—	—	—	—
„ „	2 „	—	43,109	—	—	—	—	—
„ „	4 „	—	17,328	—	—	—	—	—
„ „	10 „	—	3,135	—	—	—	—	—
„ „	20 „	—	5,113	—	—	—	—	—

There was also a small remainder of Bremen not acquired by M. Moens, and a large quantity of Thurn and Taxis adhesives and envelopes, which were gradually sold, but it appears that there were no remainders either of Hanover or Wurtemberg. M. Moens must have bought largely from the post offices in these countries, of which he formerly held superb stocks, and without which the specialist's collection would to-day be poor indeed!

Occasional Notes.

NOTICE 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 1st to August 23rd inclusive. Communications by letter may, however, be made as usual.

THE PERMANENT(?) COMMONWEALTH STAMPS.

MESSRS. J. H. SMYTH AND CO., of Sydney, have kindly sent us a copy of the *Morning Herald* of that city for June 8th, which contains the following announcement relating to the "permanent" issue of stamps for Australia. We do not know if this statement is authorised, and it is to be hoped that these proposals may never attain fruition, as the outlook is ominous from a philatelic standpoint. Local productions, separate sets for each State, and a short existence presage another sad chapter in the annals of Australia.

"The Postmaster-General has in contemplation the issue of federal stamps in each State, but, as he has already stated, they will bear a distinguishing mark for each State, and this will continue till the end of the bookkeeping period. A design has already been submitted to the Postmaster-General by an Australian artist, but Mr. Drake says that finer drawings might be obtained by going outside. He, however, prefers an Australian production. The particulars of the design have not been made public, but it is understood that it will be emblematic of the Commonwealth, and the name of the State will be printed under the central figure. It is also understood that the Minister has it in contemplation that no more of the present stamps shall be printed, but when the present stocks are exhausted a new issue will be made. Mr. Drake is also considering the question of the issuing of pictorial post cards, and several sketches have already been submitted to him."

THE PARIS PHILATELIC "BOURSE."

THIS pleasant *rendezvous* for the purposes of stamp exchanging—or rather sale and purchase—is well known to most collectors on this side of the Channel, and it now appears, according to the *Standard*, that there is to be a change of *locale*. Our contemporary states:—

"For many years past Philatelists have gathered in the open air in the Square de Marigny, in the Champs Elysées, for the sale and purchase of stamps. The transactions have of late years so increased in importance that a Stamp Collectors' Club has been formed, sufficiently prosperous to take handsome premises formerly occupied by the Grand Cercle Républicain, at the corner of the Rue de Grammont. The President is Lieut.-Colonel De Launay, whilst M. Boisselle is Vice-President. Both are owners of stamp albums which have a world-wide reputation. Last year, it is estimated,

collectors spent 30,000,000 fr. in purchasing rare stamps. The Fédération Philatélique de France proposes to hold exhibitions, and an annual Philatelic Salon, at which some of the owners of the most valuable known collections have promised to show their rarest stamps."

RESERVES AT AUCTIONS.

THE question of selling stamps at auction with an undeclared reserve was the subject of some remarks in this journal last month, the practice being held to be one that was detrimental to the true interests of stamp collecting. Mr. Tilleard, in his report of the London Philatelic Society's work for the year, also mentioned the subject, and expressed the hope that some pronouncement hereon would be made by the auctioneers engaged in the trade. It is with pleasure, therefore, that we have received the letter following from Messrs. Puttick and Simpson :—

"47, LEICESTER SQUARE, LONDON, W.C.,
"11*th July*, 1903.

"SIR,—In your leading article in the June number of the *London Philatelist* (page 132), referring to auction sales, you write: 'One year there may be numerous good private collections to be dispersed . . . while in another year there may be an absolute scarcity of good stamps for disposal, and the auctioneer be compelled to turn elsewhere. He practically has but one resource in such case—to go to the dealers.' In the same number, in the annual report of the London Philatelic Society (page 142), Mr. Tilleard states: 'Rightly or wrongly, an impression is abroad that most of the lots offered for sale in this way are protected by undeclared reserves, owing to the large proportion of the stamps included in the sales being the property of dealers, and if confidence is to be restored some authoritative statement on the subject should be forthcoming by the auctioneers engaged in the trade.'

"In reply to these strictures, we can only say that as far as our firm is concerned the impression is entirely erroneous. During the season just concluded we have only sold for the trade stamps to the value of £468 3s. 6d., the major portion of which was entirely without reserve. Of this amount only £87 6s. 6d. came from English dealers, and all was entirely unsolicited by ourselves.

"The average amount of our sales is upwards of £20,000 per annum, and they have even totalled to as much as £25,000 in one season, but by far the larger portion of this amount consists of private collections, which are mostly disposed of without reserve.

"We have always done our utmost to discourage reserves; indeed, we have even gone so far as to refuse to offer property which we have found the owner intended reserving too highly.

"We have the honour to remain,
"Your obedient Servants,
"PUTTICK AND SIMPSON.

"To the Editor, the *London Philatelist*."

This letter is both satisfactory and straightforward, and we are much indebted to Messrs. Puttick and Simpson for their frank declaration, which is only in accord with the high reputation possessed by that firm. Our remarks were of course general in their application, and did not apply specifically to them or to any other firm, but none the less we welcome such a disclaimer coming from auctioneers so well known as our correspondents. It is evident by the figures quoted that Messrs. Puttick and Simpson are not among the class who have to tout to the dealers in order to make up their sales, and it is further patent that a firm who sell twenty to twenty-five thousand pounds' worth of stamps in a season can afford to be particular as to the class of goods they sell, and their conditions of sale. The concluding paragraph of the letter bears out this contention, and we trust that so excellent a line of action will be always adhered to. We do not consider that much, if any, harm is done where the reserve is declared, and that was our principal suggestion. Our hearty sympathies are with the auctioneers, as we consider the sales to be the greatest safeguard and support to Philately, and in any comment we have made we have simply had the view of strengthening the auctions, and giving them increased vitality and undiminished confidence at the hands of collectors and dealers alike.

Reviews.

THE "PREMIER" COLLECTING ALBUM.*



THE difficulties of providing a permanent, *i.e.* movable leaf, album at an inexpensive figure have hitherto been practically insuperable. If well made the expense becomes at once prohibitive to the general body of collectors, and if produced with an eye to cheapness there has been always some fatal defect in the book when opened. Messrs. Bright and Son have, during the past few years, devoted much time and expense in evolving collecting books that, avoiding the forenamed difficulties, shall be both cheap and efficacious. The books denoted by the above title are the outcome of many issues and attempts, and they may now fairly be deemed in the present edition to have overcome all obstacles, and to have produced an album that, if not yet absolutely perfect, is well on the high-road towards perfection. The "Premier" consists of about fifty leaves (which can be increased), linen-hinged and *quadrillé* paper, held within a cover by a metal bar pierced with two holes corresponding with those in the hinges, through which pass two copper holdfasts. These holdfasts need only to be bent back to release the leaves, and nothing could be simpler. The difficulty has always been to make the leaves lie flat in the book, but Messrs. Bright and Son seem to have quite surmounted this trouble, and the outcome, in the present instance, is a collecting album that has very strong claims to recognition

* *The "Premier" Movable Leaf Collecting Album.* Bright and Son, 164, Strand, London, W.C.

by the multitude. To those who do not wish to lavish large amounts on their books, or, indeed, to every collector who wants a portable and convenient book, these "Premiers" are assuredly to be recommended.

The "Premiers" are published in three sizes—octavo, quarto, and folio—and in six different colours of binding, which, for the collecting books, is stout card. The prices of these books are very moderate, and are thus available for the million. For permanent purposes Messrs. Bright have now brought out an edition, well bound in leather, with an expanding back, which is admirably adapted for collectors who do not wish to incur heavy expense. With an expenditure of £2 8s. for a dozen books a collection of 20,000 stamps could be easily mounted—on the only really permanent system, *i.e.* movable leaves.

Leaving out the large and expensive albums, we have seen no movable leaf system that will compare with these, and, in our opinion, as collecting books they are the best on the market at the present time. We are sure that there is a large field open to these albums, as practically every collector will want them for some purpose or another, and we trust that a very extended sale may reward their enterprising publishers. We should add that any number of leaves as required can be supplied.

RAILWAY LETTER STAMPS.*

IT will come as a surprise to many that there have been issued no less than 570 varieties of these labels. Mr. H. L'Estrange Ewen, who is the apostle of this cult, has just issued a priced catalogue of these stamps, and it is somewhat startling to find on the first page a Barry Dock and Railways quoted at £75. On the other hand, it appears that sixpence is the minimum price for any copy ever used; if these figures are a true reflex of the market—and of this Mr. Ewen should assuredly be a competent judge—it seems as if the Railway Letter Stamps had obtained a sound footing and a considerable number of adherents. To all such Mr. Ewen's catalogue will be welcome. It is clear, concise, and well printed—it gives prices for almost every specimen used and unused, it is excellently illustrated, and embraces many notes of interest to the collector.

* *Priced Catalogue of the Railway Letter Stamps of the United Kingdom*, 1891–1903. H. L. Ewen, 32, Palace Square, Norwood, S.E.

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.

GREAT BRITAIN.—Several journals announce the 1s. of the King's Head set, surcharged with the Board of Education overprint.

Official.

1s., scarlet and green; King's Head; surcharged BOARD OF EDUCATION in black.

AUSTRALIAN COMMONWEALTH. — The *Australian Philatelist* gives a list of the Postage Due stamps issued of both Types 1 and 2, but we think it is hardly up to date, as the 3d., Type 2, has been chronicled.

Postage Due.

Type 1, *with white space at foot.*
½d., 1d., 2d., 3d., 4d., 6d., 8d., 5s.
Type 2, *with completed design.*
1d., 2d., 4d., 5d., 10d., 1s., 2s., 5s.

BRITISH CENTRAL AFRICA.—We read in the *Metropolitan Philatelist* that the Bureau of Foreign Mails at Washington has received from Berne specimens of the new set with the King's Head, but no further description of the design is given. The following are the values and colours:—

Adhesives.

1d., carmine and drab;	ordinary size.
2d., purple and greyish mauve;	
4d., dark grey and green;	
6d., chocolate and dark grey;	
2s. 6d., green;	very large size.
4s., purple and dark mauve;	
10s, dark grey and green;	
£1, carmine and dark grey;	
£10, ultramarine and dark grey;	

CANADA.—Mr. J. S. O'Meara and Messrs. P. L. Pemberton and Co. have kindly sent us early specimens of the new stamps with King's Head.

The illustration given elsewhere in this journal was taken from the die before being sent out to Canada, and there may therefore be found some slight variations in the new issue, notably in the size of the figure of value and the maple leaves.

Five values only are known to us at present.

Adhesives.

1 cent, green; no wmk.; perf. 12.
2 cents, rose-carmine; no wmk.; perf. 12.
5 ,, deep blue ,, ,,
7 ,, greenish yellow ,, ,,
10 ,, brown-purple ,, ,,

CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.—Information is to hand that another value of the King's Head set may be expected shortly.

Adhesive. 3d., aniline red; King's Head.

GIBRALTAR.—Additions to the King's Head stationery have to be made.

Post Cards. ½d., green on cream.
1d., carmine ,,

GOLD COAST.—Some post cards bearing the King's Head are reported.

Post Cards. ½d., green on cream.
1d., carmine ,,

INDIA.—*Gwalior.*—We have received the ½ anna, pea-green, *Queen's Head* stamp, overprinted "GWALIOR" and native inscription in black, from Messrs. Whitfield King and Co.

This stamp has already been chronicled with the "Service" overprint.

Adhesive. ½ anna, pea-green; Queen's Head.

Jhind.—Here again the ½ anna, pea-green, with *Queen's Head*, with the ordinary "JHIND STATE" overprint is chronicled after the

"Official" stamp. Our information is taken from the *M. J.*

Adhesive. ½ anna, pea-green; Queen's Head.

Nabha.—It is reported in several quarters that the new King's Head issue of India, overprinted in the usual manner for use here, has been supplied.

Adhesives. ¼ anna, grey.
½ ,, pea-green.
1 ,, carmine.
2 annas, violet.
3 ,, buff.

MOROCCO AGENCIES.—The *M. C.* informs us that the 2d. Registration envelope of Gibraltar has been overprinted "20 Centimos," in black, for use here.

Registration Envelope.

20 centimos, in black, on 2d., red on white.

NEW ZEALAND.—From the *Australian Philatelist* and *Ewen's Weekly* we learn that the 2½d., 5d., 9d., and 2s. have all appeared on the new watermarked paper, perf. 11, and that there is a ½d. wrapper bearing the King's Head We are told that the head is contained in a small oval within an elongated oval, in solid colour, with the words "NEW ZEALAND POSTAGE" in white letters in the smaller oval. The figures "½d." in a shield with scrolls on each side occupy the bottom space of the larger oval. A crown joins the two ovals at top.

Adhesives.

2½d., blue; wmk. single-lined NZ and Star; perf. 11.
5d., brown; wmk. single-lined NZ and Star; perf. 11.
9d., purple; wmk. single-lined NZ and Star; perf. 11.
2s., blue-green; wmk. single-lined NZ and Star; perf. 11.

Wrapper. ½d., green; King's Head.

NORTH BORNEO.—It is reported that the 2 c. and 5 c., surcharged "BRITISH PROTECTORATE," have had added a second overprint, "POSTAGE DUE."

Postage Due.

2 c., green and black; surcharged in red and black.
5 c., orange and black ,, green and black.

QUEENSLAND.—We find that we made a mistake last month in our description of the 6d. stamp that had been discovered with a compound perforation. It is not the current 6d., but that of the issue of 1868-79, perf. 13 × 12 like No. 82*a*.—*M. J.*

ST. HELENA.—A very handsome set of stamps has come to hand from Messrs. Whitfield King and Co.

In size the stamps remind us of the Hong Kong $2 and $3 postal fiscals.

There are two designs, the ½d., 2d., and 1s. bearing a view of Government House, with head of King in oval above; and the 1d., 8d., and 2s. give a picture of the Wharf, St. Helena, the head of King Edward also appearing in an oval above.

"POSTAGE" appears at each side of the centre design, and "ST. HELENA" at foot; the value is stated both in words and figures.

The watermark is Crown CC, and the perforation 14.

Adhesives.

(The centre is in the second colour given.)

½d., green and brown.
1d., carmine and black.
2d., sage-green and black.
8d., brown and black.
1s., brown-orange and brown.
2s., violet and black.

ST. KITTS-NEVIS.—Messrs. Whitfield King and Co. and P. L. Pemberton and Co. have sent us part sets of the new stamps with compound title.

The ½d., 2d., 2½d., 6d., 1s., 2s. 6d. bear a picture which we understand represents Columbus discovering St. Kitts through a telescope, but *Ewen's Weekly* reminds us that the telescope was not invented until after Columbus's time.

The 1d., 3d., 2s., and 5s. bear the well-known device of Nevis in a frame.

All have the inscriptions, "ST. KITTS-NEVIS," "POSTAGE," "REVENUE," are watermarked CA, and perf. 14.

A poor set, in our opinion.

Adhesives.

(The centre is in the second colour given.)

½d., dark green and lilac.
1d., carmine and grey-black.
2d., brown and lilac.
2½d., ultramarine and grey-black.
3d., orange and green.
6d., purple and grey-black.
1s., orange and green.
2s., grey-black and green.
2s. 6d., mauve and grey-black.
5s., sage-green and grey-lilac.

SUDAN.—The *M. J.* states that the only 1 piastre stamp they have seen bearing the "O. S. G. S." surcharge was in the old colours, blue and brown, but with the new watermark.

The list in the *M. C.*, however, gives this stamp in the colours black and red.

ZULULAND.—We attach little importance to lately issued stamps with *inverted* sur-

charges, etc., the printers having, it would seem, grown so careless over their work.

But in 1888 things were different, and the *M. J.* writes :—

"We are shown a copy of the 2d. of 1888 with the surcharge inverted, and although we are, as a rule, sceptical on the subject of abnormal varieties of comparatively simple overprints, we believe this to be perfectly genuine. The stamp is on the entire original envelope, which it seems to have helped to frank from Rorke's Drift to London, E.C., in November, 1888. The envelope bears a 4d. stamp of the same issue, with surcharge normal, by the side of the 2d. ; both stamps are postmarked 'RORKES DRIFT—NATAL—6. 11. 88.', and the postmarks overlap, so that portions of each appear upon each stamp. There is also the postmark of the 'G. P. O.—NATAL—E NO 9 88' on the envelope, and there are two London postmarks dated 'NO 30 88.' There seems to be no room for doubt as to the genuine nature of the surcharge, which has been very carefully measured and examined, though it is curious that such a variety should have remained so long unknown to collectors."

EUROPE.

FRANCE.—Mr. Franz Reichenheim has kindly sent us the 20 c. and 30 c. of the Sower type.

Adhesives.

20 c., brown-purple ; no wmk. ; perf. 14 × 13½.
30 c., lilac „ „ „

ICELAND.—Another value has been found with the $\frac{\text{j gildi}}{'02\ '03}$ surcharge inverted.

Adhesive.

3 aur, yellow (Type 1), perf. 12½, with inverted surcharge.

ITALY.—Dr. E. Diena sends the *M. J.* copy of an ordinance relating to the issue of an Express Delivery stamp.

In Article 2 we read that the said postage stamp will be printed upon a little rectangular piece of paper, measuring 23 mm. in height and 38 mm. in width ; it will be *scarlet* in colour and will bear our Royal Effigy, surrounded by various ornamentation, and the inscriptions "*Poste Italiane — Expresso — Cent.* 25."

A new post card is chronicled in *Ewen's Weekly*.

Post Card. 7½ + 7½ c., rose on rose card.

LEVANT.—*Austrian Post Offices.*—The stamps listed on pages 41 and 90, under the heading "Crete," are, we are told, for use in all the Austrian post offices in the Levant, and that they were overprinted in centimes to sell at the same prices as the French stamps used in those parts.

SAN MARINO.—There seems to be a mistake in announcing an Express Letter stamp for this country.

Possibly there has been confusion between this and the Italian stamp referred to above.

SERVIA.—The new Servian stamps have reached us from Messrs. P. L. Pemberton and Co.

A new set bearing the portrait of King Alexander appears to have been prepared for use before the King's untimely death, and has now been issued with an ugly surcharge, in various colours, of the national coat-of-arms.

The stamps without the surcharge have the late King's portrait in black in the centre, looking to the left, with branches of bay and oak leaves at sides, and the heads only of the double eagle below.

The name of the country appears above, and value in words and figures below.

The surcharge varies in size, and the date of issue is given as July 8th.

Adhesives.

With Arms in blue.

1 para, reddish mauve and black ; no wmk. ; perf. 13½.
5 paras, yellow-green and black ; no wmk. ; perf. 13½.

With Arms in black.

10 paras, rose and black ; no wmk. ; perf. 13½.
15 „ pale olive-green and black ; no wmk. ; perf. 13½.
20 „ orange and black ; no wmk. ; perf. 13½.
25 „ ultramarine „ „ „
1 dinar, green „ „ „

With Arms in vermilion.

50 paras, grey and black ; no wmk. ; perf. 13½.

With Arms in magenta.

3 dinars, violet and black ; no wmk. ; perf. 11½.

We believe there is also a 5 dinars value, but have not seen a copy.

AMERICA.

ARGENTINE REPUBLIC.—On page 121 we reported, on the authority of the *M. J.*, that the 5 c. Commemorative stamp would be surcharged for inland postage.

Our contemporary now states that the report was merely an idle rumour from Buenos Ayres, and we hope it may turn out to be correct.

COLOMBIAN REPUBLIC.—*Antioquia.*—It is reported that the 5 cents. "A R" stamp has changed its colour to slate.

Return Receipt Stamp.

5 centavos, slate ; perf. 12.

Bogota.—A new local stamp of similar design to Type 91, but with the value "DIEZ CENTAVOS" at foot, is listed by the *M. J.*

Adhesive.

10 c., black on pale rose; imperf.

GUATEMALA.—The colour of the new 25 c. type-set Official stamp turns out to be orange-vermilion according to the *M. J.*, and not *blue* as previously reported by a contemporary.

PERU.—*Mekeel's Weekly* has been informed that the 3 c. post card, black on white, with picture of the Lima Post Office, has been surcharged 1 c. in blue.

Post Card. 1 c. on 3 c.; blue surcharge.

SALVADOR.—To the list of Official stamps given on pages 121 and 155 we have to add five values, thus completing the set.

Officials. 3 c., orange.
12 c., slate.
26 c., yellow-brown.
50 c., yellow.
100 c., light blue.

UNITED STATES.—Some additions to the list of new stationery are made by the *A. J. P.*, and we are told that the portrait on the 4 c. stamp is a caricature of Lincoln, a worthy companion for the others of the series.

Envelopes. 1 c., green on amber.
1 c. ,, oriental buff.
1 c. ,, manilla.
4 c., chocolate on white.
4 c. ,, amber.
5 c., blue on amber.

Wrappers. 1 c., green on manilla.
4 c., chocolate on manilla.

OTHER COUNTRIES.

ABYSSINIA.—The stamps of this country are now overprinted with "Ethiopia" in Amharic characters. The surcharge is at the top of the stamp, like its predecessor.—*M. C.*

CHINA.—*French Post Offices.—Hoi-Hao.*—We have received a set of the Indo-China stamps overprinted "HOI-HAO" and Chinese characters, in *black*, from Messrs. Whitfield King and Co.

Adhesives.

1 c., black on azure.
2 c., brown on buff.
4 c., purple-brown on grey.
5 c., yellow-green.
10 c., carmine.
20 c., red on green.
25 c., blue.
30 c., brown.
40 c., red on yellow.
50 c., carmine on rose.
1 f., bronze-green.

CURAÇAO.—The *Metropolitan Philatelist*, under "Washington Notes," informs us of a new stamp, value 12½ c., colour steel-blue. The design is stated to be similar to the early Prince Edward Island, and very striking in appearance.

Adhesive. 12½ c., steel-blue.

DANISH WEST INDIES.—The colour of the new 8 cent stamp is brown, and there are some new post cards, *Ewen's Weekly* informs us.

Adhesive.

8 c., brown, 1900 design; perf. 13.

Post Cards.

1 c., green on white.
1 c. + 1 c. ,, ,,
2 c., carmine on white.
2 c. + 2 c. ,, ,,

ERITREA.—The Italian 7½+7½ post card has been surcharged "COLONIA ERITREA" for use here.—*S. C. F.*

Post Card.

7½+7½ c., rose on rose; black surcharge.

FERNANDO POO.—The *S. C. F.* informs us that the stamps for 1903 are of exactly the same design as those of 1902, but the inscriptions at the top and right sides have been altered, that across the top reading "FERNANDO POO," and at the right "PARA 1903," the word "TELEGRAFOS" being omitted.

Adhesives.

¼ c., violet.
½ c., black.
1 c., red.
2 c., green.
3 c., blue-green.
4 c., lilac.
5 c., lake.
10 c., yellow.
15 c., blue-green.
25 c., red-brown.
50 c., olive-brown.
75 c., carmine.
1 p., purple-brown.
2 p., bronze-green.
3 p., claret.
4 p., dark blue.
5 p. ,,
10 p., orange.

FRENCH POST OFFICES ABROAD.—*Packhoi.*—We have been shown the current set of Indo-China overprinted "PACKHOI," with Chinese characters beneath. Most of the values only have two characters, but the 4 c. has six, the 1 c. and 2 c. four each, and the 30 c. and 40 c. three.—*Ewen's Weekly.*

Adhesives.

Overprinted in black.

1 c., black on azure.
2 c., brown on buff.
4 c., purple-brown on grey.
5 c., yellow-green.
10 c., rose-red.
15 c., grey.
20 c., red on green.
25 c., blue.
30 c., cinnamon on drab.
40 c., red on yellow.
50 c., carmine on rose.
75 c., brown on orange.
1 fr., olive-green on toned.

French Levant.—The *M. C.* notes the issue of a post card.

Post Card.

20 paras on 10 c., black on greenish ; red surcharge.

Zanzibar.—The 30 c., lilac, has received the 3 annas overprint, in black.

Adhesive. 3 a., in black, on 30 c., lilac.

LIBERIA.—The 16 c. Official stamp of 1894, surcharged "O. S.", in blue, has been further overprinted "ORDINARY" for ordinary postal use. The *M. J.* makes the announcement on the authority of a Continental journal.

Adhesive.

16 c., lilac, surcharged in blue and in black.

SURINAM.—Another value, the 5 c., red, of the type of the mother country, is reported issued.

Adhesive. 5 c., red, new design.

TUNIS.—*Mekeel's Weekly* calls attention to two items of stationery which are new to us.

Envelope. 15 c., grey on blue.

Post Card. 5+5 c., green on blue-green.

Correspondence.

COMMUNICATIONS.—*All communications of Philatelic matters and Publications for Review should be addressed to the Editor of* THE LONDON PHILATELIST, Aylesbury, Furze Hill, Brighton.

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"PLATE NUMBERS" IN THE LAW COURTS.

To the Editor of the "London Philatelist."

DEAR SIR,—I have only just seen the May number of *L. P.* (the first this year), and venture to send a few remarks on the Occasional Note on Plate Numbers, with special reference to the case Mr. Marshall Hall referred to as to fraudulent receipts.

The legal case mentioned is most probably one that occurred early in 1898, a brief summary of which in the *S. C. F.*? (or a local paper of Yorkshire) caused me to write to the man who had lost his case in the Courts. The report stated that, in a claim for an old debt, certain receipts put in as payments on account early in 1883 were stamped with postage stamps that had not been issued till June, 1883, as confirmed by a local "Philatelist." The stamps so used being the 16 *dots* issue, I saw there was a gross mistake or miscarriage of justice; the inference being that the receipts were forgeries, the defendant lost his case. I at once wrote to him (Henry Berry) and told him that the stamps in question appeared in December, 1881, and I could send postmarked and dated specimens from January to June, 1882.

He (or a T. Priestly for him) wrote thanking me, and adding that his solicitor (on receipt of my letter) "had got the same information from the Stamp Society at London," by which I suppose he meant the Philatelic Society of London. The case, however, was to be reopened, and in July I sent the used stamps, and on August 8th received them back with the report that in consequence the "case was settled out of Court," renewing thanks, etc., for assistance.

Yours truly,

B. W. WARHURST.

The Market.

NOTE.—*Under this title will be inserted all the information that may refer in any way to the financial aspects of Philately*, e.g. *the sales or values of stamps, the state of the Market, Trade publications, etc.*

MESSRS. PLUMRIDGE AND CO.

Sale of June 15th–17th, 1903.

* Unused.	£	s.	d.
Bahamas, 1861, rough perf., 4d., rose, horizontal pair,* mint	4	10	0
British Bechuanaland Protectorate, 2s. 6d., green,* mint	2	18	0
British East Africa, 1895, 5 as., black on blue,* mint	2	6	0
British South Africa,, 1891, ½d., 2d., 4d., and 8d.,* part gum	3	15	0
Ditto, 1896, one penny on 3d.,* mint	2	18	0
Ditto, ditto, ditto, pair,* mint	5	5	0
Ditto, ditto, ditto, on 4s., mint*	1	16	0
Ditto, ditto, ditto, pair,* mint	3	2	6
Cape of Good Hope (Mafeking), set of nineteen	10	10	0
France, 1853, 20 c., pale blue, pair, one *tête-bêche*	2	2	0
Great Britain, 1840, 2d., blue,* no gum	2	4	0
Mauritius, 1859, 1s., yellow-green, horizontal pair,* mint	1	18	0
Ditto, 1899, 6 c. on 18 c., inverted surcharge,* mint	2	10	0
St. Lucia, 1883–84, 4d., black on yellow, horizontal pair,* mint	2	0	0
Trinidad, 1859, 4d., brown-lilac,* mint, horizontal pair	2	8	0
Ditto, ditto, 6d., yellow-green,* mint, ditto	3	0	0
Ditto, 1860, 1d., clean-cut perfs.,* mint, ditto	2	10	0
U.S.A., Executive, set of five*	3	15	0

Collection of Colonials (1,711), £35.

Sale of June 30th and July 1st, 1903.

* Unused.	£	s.	d.
Great Britain, 1d., black, reconstructed plate of 240	5	10	0
Ditto, 2d., blue, no lines,* full gum, oxidised	2	4	0
Great Britain, 1d., Plate 132, mint, horizontal pair	1	6	0
Ditto, "O.W. Official," ½d., green, Queen, block of four, used	1	15	0
Ditto, ditto, 5d., used, ditto, single copy	3	0	0
Ditto, ditto, 10d., ditto, ditto, ditto	6	0	0
Natal, 1st issue, 1d., blue	1	10	0
Ditto, ditto, 3d., rose	1	8	0
Ditto, ditto, 9d., blue	2	2	0
New Brunswick, half 6d., yellow, used as 3d., on entire	1	12	0
Newfoundland, 6½d., scarlet-vermilion, cut close	3	0	0
Ditto, ditto, another, fine	3	17	6
Ditto, 4d., orange, cut close	1	14	0
Niger Coast, 1894, one half penny on 2½d., blue, pair	2	17	6
North Borneo, 1883, 8 c. on 2 c., S.G. No. 2*	1	16	0
Ditto, 1886–89, one cent, rose, error in block of 4 c.*	1	14	0
Queensland, 1868, 1s., red-violet with burelé, horizontal pair*	2	0	0
Turks Islands, 1893, ½d. on 4d., horizontal pair,* mint	2	10	0

Collections: 5,031, £28; 5,500, £22; and 6,028, £15.

* * *

MESSRS. PUTTICK AND SIMPSON.

Sale of June 9th and 10th, 1903.

* Unused.	£	s.	d.
Crete, 1st issue, 60 parades, strips of three	£1 6s. and	1	12 0
Denmark, 1870–71, 2 sk., blue and grey, perf. 12½,* mint		1	4 0
France, 1849–50, 10 c., deep bistre, block of six,* mint		2	10 0
Great Britain, 1841, 1d., red-brown, blocks of thirty-six,* mint	£1 19s. and	2	6 0

	£	s.	d.
Great Britain, 1847–57, Large Crown, perf. 14, 2d., blue, block of six,* mint	3	7	6
Naples, 1861, 50 c., slate-blue, inverted head, *used*	1	6	0
Ceylon, CC, 5d., purple-brown,* mint	2	10	0
India, 1874, 9 pies, lilac, entire sheet of 320 stamps*	5	17	6
Ditto, Jhind, 1886, 2 as., blue, *red* surcharge,* mint	2	2	0
Labuan, CC, 12 c., carmine,* no gum	1	5	0
Straits Settlements, "P.G.S.", 12 c., blue, and 24 c., green, CC,* mint	4	0	0
British East Africa, 1891, MS. surcharge "½ anna AB" on 2 a., vermilion	4	0	0
Cape of Good Hope, triangular, 1s., dark green, pair,* mint	6	0	0
Lagos, 5s., blue	3	15	0
Mauritius, "Post Paid," 2d., blue, medium imp., cleaned	5	5	0
Ditto, ditto, ditto, large fillet, cut into	5	7	6
Transvaal, 1877, "V.R. Transvaal," red surcharge, 6d., blue, on thin paper,* but damaged	7	5	0
Ditto, 1 Penny, in red, on 6d., black, Type 14, mint*	12	10	0
Ditto, 1900, V.R.I., ½d., 1d., 2d., 2½d., 4d., 6d., and 1s., all with inverted surcharges, mint*	11	0	0
Ditto, ditto, 4d., green, ditto £1 14s. and	1	16	0
U.S.A., Justice, 90 c.,* nearly full gum . £2 16s. and	2	18	0
Ditto, State, set of eleven,* mint	3	3	0
Bahamas, perf. 12½, 6d., lilac, the scarce shade, a very fine block of four, mint*	2	2	0
St. Vincent, ½d. on half 6d., pair,* mint	2	15	0
Ditto, One Penny on 6d.	2	2	0
New South Wales, Sydney Views, 1d., red, Plate 2, a pair, on entire original, fine colour and lightly cancelled, one creased, but the other very fine	4	4	0
Ditto, ditto, two single copies, on entire original, both lightly cancelled, one very fine	2	18	0
Ditto, ditto, 2d., blue, Plate 1, on entire original, lightly cancelled and very fine	2	2	0
New South Wales, Sydney View, another, on entire original, fine colour and impression, pen-cancelled	5	10	0
Ditto, ditto, 2d., bright blue, Plate 3, 2nd retouch, the variety fan with six segments, on entire original, fine	1	17	0
Tasmania, 1889–91, 2½d. on 9d., pale blue, with double surcharge, one inverted, mint*	1	11	0
Victoria, 1st issue, 1d., vermilion,* large margins, and a very nice copy, but without gum	1	10	0
Ditto, ditto, 2d., lilac, fine background, on entire original, good margins and colour, but slightly creased and a little heavily cancelled	3	3	0
Ditto, ditto, another, ditto, ditto	3	3	0
Western Australia, 1854, 1s., brown, and 1857, 6d., black-bronze, used together on entire original, latter very fine	2	0	0
Ditto, 1857, 6d., black-bronze, rouletted, fine, but one corner repaired	2	14	0
Zanzibar, 2½d., in black, on 1 a., plum, a very fine block of nine, being three each of Types 3, 4, and 5, mint*	9	10	0
Collections: 7,415, £53 10s. od.; 5,971, £39; and 2,709, £34.			

* * *

MESSRS. VENTOM, BULL, AND COOPER.

Sale of June 12th, 1903.

* Unused.

	£	s.	d.
Great Britain, 2s., brown	1	17	0
Ditto, £1, brown-lilac, Anchor	2	5	0
Gibraltar, 1st issue, 6d. and 1s.,* with gum	2	0	0
Holland and Colonies, collection of 475, all*	15	0	0
Modena, 1st issue, 1 lira, black, *used*	1	10	0
Naples, ½ tor., Arms, on newspaper	7	5	0
Ditto, ditto, Cross, ditto	3	0	0
Moldavia, 1st issue, 54 paras, cut to shape	3	0	0
Saxony, 3 pf., red, fair	2	0	0
Switzerland, Basle, 2½ r.	3	5	0
Ditto, Geneva, 5 c., yellow-green, large Eagle, pair,* with gum	1	12	0
Ditto, Winterthur, 2½ r.	1	18	0
Ditto, Zurich, 4 r.	5	0	0

	£	s.	d.
Spain, 1852, 2 reales, pale red	5	12	6
Schleswig-Holstein, 1 and 2 sch., both used	4	0	0
Philippines, 1855, 5 c., red	1	18	0
Mauritius, 2d., blue, large fillet, torn at corner	5	0	0
Newfoundland, 6d., orange	2	5	0
U.S.A., 1869, 90 c., carmine and black,* with gum	2	2	0
St. Vincent, 4d. on 1s., vermilion *	9	15	0
Trinidad, 1882, 1d. in black MS. on 6d., green, and six others	2	0	0
Brazil, 180 r., italic figures	1	6	0
Antioquia, 1st issue, 1 peso, red	2	12	6
Colombia, 1861, 2½ c., black, and 20 c., red	2	2	0
Ditto, ditto, 10 c., blue,* and 1 peso, rose	1	13	0
Guatemala, 1881, 5 c., *inverted centre*	5	7	6
New South Wales, Sydney, 1d., red, Plate 11	1	18	0

Collections: A fine lot of Colonials, no Australian, 1,350, £66; a fine lot of Australians, 750, £41; a fine collection on loose sheets, about 5,000, £62.

THE

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The "Off" Season.

THERE is a time for everything, says the wise man, and presumably now is the season when the Philatelist hangs up his tweezers and his gauge and hies him to pleasures afield or ashore. One of the claims, however, made upon behalf of stamps is that, like the poor, they are always with us; and there are many enthusiastic lifelong collectors, or others who during a shorter period "have the fever," who would not leave their hobby for any vicissitude of temperature or change of surrounding. Still, for the larger number of collectors the summer season must wean him from his pursuit to a certain extent under normal conditions. In this year of grace the conditions have been abnormal and the Briton has had more than his usual excuse for reviling the weather. Debarred by the constant downpours and the chilly temperatures, many collectors have this year found —even at midsummer—in their stamps that companionship and solace that it is the chief charm of Philately to afford. The man who is keenly interested in stamps will never grumble at a soaking day, but with cheerful mien and friendly pipe will spend the hours in quickly passed enjoyment regardless of all the weather that was ever invented.

Another circumstance that has tended to make the philatelic "off" season less marked than usual has been the advent of so many novel and even remarkable series of new issues during the present summer. The tragic death of King Alexander brought in its train an historical series of surcharged stamps; the tardy acceptance by the Canadian Government delayed till midsummer the appearance of the handsome new set: the issues of four different sets for the Leeward Islands, created simply to fill voids in the local exchequers, are now appearing, and now the long-expected forerunner of the Australian Commonwealth series has arrived—and assuredly was not worth waiting for. Beyond this is the flowing tide of King's Heads for the colonies—

pretty in effect, perfect in their printing, paper, and perforation, but monotonous in design ; and lastly the volcanic activity of New Zealand that belches forth streams of new varieties of papers, watermarks, perforations, and surcharges, not only for the parent islands, but for every little rock that can support a few wild fowl or half a dozen aborigines. Verily is the fare of "the new collector" varied and extensive ; whether he can assimilate it all with benefit to his future system, financial or philatelic, is a moot question ! The auctions and the societies' meetings give us a short respite, but so much is always happening in our microcosm of a world that the "off" season of Philately may—in comparison with other pursuits—be said to be almost non-existent.

A Few Notes on the Stamps of St. Vincent.

READ BEFORE THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY, LONDON, ON THE OCCASION OF A DISPLAY OF THE STAMPS OF THE COLONY, ON MARCH 6TH, 1903.

BY R. B. YARDLEY.



IN the following notes I propose to refer principally to a few varieties either unrecorded, so far as I am aware, or to matters on which Messrs. Bacon and Napier's recent handbook on the stamps of Grenada and the perforation of Messrs. Perkins and Bacon throws a new light.

First, as to the 1st issue (1861). On referring to the handbook of the stamps of St. Vincent by the same authors, we find that Messrs. Perkins and Bacon despatched to the Colony in March, 1861—

56,040	. . .	1d. stamps.
10,020	. . .	6d. „

These were the 1d., deep dull rose, and the well-known 6d., yellow-green, on unwatermarked paper. They were perforated by the A machine in its second crisis (*vide* Grenada handbook), and the perforation is in the condition which the authors of the Grenada handbook call "intermediate between A_1 and A_2," that is, neither clean-cut nor rough. I exhibit two single used copies of the 1d. The shade of these stamps is somewhat peculiar, differing from the A_2, or roughly perforated stamps, in being of a somewhat deep or intense hue. I think that the 6d. were probably perforated first, as they are usually more cleanly cut than the 1d. In fact, the perforations of the latter closely resemble those of the 6d., Barbados, carmine, perforated A_2, which were, I believe, the next stamps perforated by the A machine. Mr. Hadlow showed me a copy of the 1d. stamps some three or four years ago, and I was fortunate in securing three copies in 1901 among a number of used West India stamps. It will be observed that the next stamps despatched did not go out to the Colony until July, 1862, when the A machine produced only rough perforations.

In this connection I will refer to the well-known imperforate varieties of

the 1d. and 6d.; while the imperforate 1d. is of the colour of the 1d. issued stamps of 1861, the 6d. is of the deep blue-green of the later roughly perforated stamps. Yet these imperforate stamps were recorded by Monsieur Alfred Potiquet in December, 1861, and by M. Moens early in 1862 (see St. Vincent handbook, p. 39), so that it is probable these 6d. imperforate stamps were printed by Messrs. Perkins and Bacon in anticipation of further orders.

The next stamps I refer to are the blocks and strips and pairs of the 1d., black, and 6d., blue-green, on Star-watermarked paper. It has often been difficult to me to distinguish in single specimens the perforation A_2 and A_3, not only in St. Vincent, but in some of the contemporary Barbados stamps; but in pairs the difficulty disappears. The difficulty arises from the fact that in the A_2 perforations there is frequently a small puncture, but (if it exist) it is always at the bottom of an inverted conical depression showing a distinct circular edge, while in the A_3 perforations there is always a small clean puncture with no surrounding depression. The fact is that the pins in the A_2 condition of the A machine were larger than in the A_3 condition and blunt, while in the A_3 they were small and sharp. The strips and blocks in my collection well illustrate this difference.

The 1d. and 6d., perforated A_2, at any rate in the unused condition, are much scarcer than the same values perforated A_3. This is quite consistent with the numbers despatched to the Colonies. I make the following list from the St. Vincent handbook.

1d., Black.		6d., Blue-green.	
Perforated A_2.			
March, 1871 . .	18,000	March, 1871 . .	18,000
January, 1871 . .	18,000		
Total . .	36,000		18,000
Perforated A_3.			
(But, as to the 1d., including those perforated B and A_3.)			
October, 1872 . .	36,000		
July, 1873 . .	36,000	July, 1873 . .	18,000
August, 1874 . .	36,000		
March, 1875 . .	36,000	March, 1875 . .	18,000
February, 1876 . .	60,000		
May, 1877 . .	60,000		
August, 1878 . .	60,000		
Total perforated A_3, including the 1d. perforated B and A_3	324,000		36,000

In this connection I will refer to certain varieties mentioned in the handbook (Nos. 26–8 in the reference list), and formerly catalogued, but recently omitted. These are 1s., rose-red, perf. B × A_2, and possibly A_2, and shades.

It will be seen, on referring to page 58 of the handbook, under the heading of "Notes on Issue 8," that the authors quote from the *Philatelic Journal*, which mentions the rose-red 1s. as "perf. *circa* 14½ to 15½." The

quotation is also found in the October number of the *Philatelist*, 1872, vol. vi. p. 139:—

"The shilling stamp is now found [to borrow again from our Birmingham contemporary] Star-watermarked, compound perf. *circa* 14½ to 15½, colour precisely that of the rose 1d."

Mr. Pemberton may have been mistaken in his gauging, but it is improbable. There can be no possibility of any confusion of this with the lilac-rose 1s. stamps, which were not despatched to the Colony until July, 1873, and are first reported in 1874. Although I have not seen any specimens of this variety, it is one which has probably existed, and I think the documentary evidence sufficiently strong to justify its provisional restoration to the recognised reference lists.

I believe that the following varieties are unrecorded.

A. In the printings of Messrs. Perkins and Bacon.

(1) 1s., lilac-rose, on Star-watermarked paper, perforated A_3. Reported to me by Mr. W. H. Peckitt.

(2) A horizontal pair of 1s., vermilion, on Star-watermarked paper, perforated B all round, but imperf. between. This pair is in my collection.

(3) The provisional ½d. of September, 1881, the fraction-bar of the surcharge missing. This variety had been reported to the authors of the St. Vincent handbook (see p. 72), but as they had not seen it they refrained from placing it in their reference list. I exhibit two pairs (*i.e.* four halfpenny stamps) *se tenant*, one showing this variety.

To these by way of reference I may add the stamps above mentioned, viz:—

May, 1861. Perforated intermediate between A_1 and A_2; unwatermarked.

(4) 1d., deep dull rose.

June, 1871. Perforated A_2, on paper watermarked with small six-rayed Star.

(5) 1d., black.
(6) 6d., blue-green.

End of 1872. Perforated A_3, on paper watermarked with a small six-rayed Star.

(7) 1d., black.
(8) 6d., blue-green.
(9) 1s., red-rose; perf. B and A_2.
(10) 1s., red-rose; perf. A_2 (?).

B. In the printings of Messrs. De la Rue.

(11) In the printings of 1886–9 I exhibit a dull red shade of the 1s. on paper watermarked C A, perforated 14. I have seen many specimens of this stamp at different times and in different places,

and have no doubt that it is a distinct printing; and it is, in my opinion, quite as noteworthy as the two recognised shades of the 6d., *i.e.* lavender and reddish purple.

(12) The 5s., lake, of 1886, on paper watermarked C A, perforated 12. Mr. Breitfuss last year showed me a specimen of this stamp in his collection.

(13) The 4d., yellow, on C A paper, perforated 14, exists in two distinct shades. I exhibit these.

(*a*) Bright canary-yellow.
(*b*) Greenish yellow.

In conclusion, I show a pair of the provisional 5d. of 1892, formed by surcharging "5 PENCE" on the 4d., lake-brown, of 1886, one stamp showing the variety with the first "E" of "PENCE" double. This variety is well known, and its position is constant in the sheet, viz. the third stamp in the bottom row, and I imagine that it is due to a defect in the electrotype or mould from which the surcharge was printed.

And I show three dated copies of the 1d. of Messrs. De la Rue of 1885–9, watermarked C A and perforated 14. There are at least four shades of these stamps, viz.:—

(*a*) Deep carmine; date of earliest postmark, January, 1887.
(*b*) Scarlet „ „ 1886.
(*c*) Pale carmine (no dated copy).
(*d*) Bright pink; date of earliest postmark, April, 1887.

Yet (*b*), the scarlet stamp, was reissued, and was the last shade of the line-engraved stamps.

Further Notes on the Stamps of New South Wales issued between 1871 and 1884.

By L. L. R. HAUSBURG.



SINCE writing the notes on these stamps in the last number of the *London Philatelist*, I have a few additions to make to the list:—

3d., green; perf. 11½, 12; wmk. Type 1.

3d., green; perf. 10 × { 11 / 11½, 12 } (that is, 11 on left, 11½, 12 on right side); wmk. Type II.

3d., green; perf. 10; wmk. Type II. sideways.

In the following tables will be found certain stamps surcharged in red, the existence of which, as genuinely issued varieties, is doubted.

I have, however, thought it better to include these, as they have found more or less acceptance from collectors in bygone years; but the absence of

authentically postmarked copies militates against my belief in them. There is, however, reason to hope that, owing to inquiries and investigations now being made in Australia, the true status of these red surcharges may ere long be defined.

Wmk. Type I. O.S.

	Colour of surch.	12½, 13	11½, 12	11	10	12½, 13 compd. with 10	11½, 12 compd. with 10	11½, 12 compd. with 11	11 compd. with 10	Comb mach. 11×12
1d., pale red	blk.	1d.	—	—	1d.	1d.	—	—	—	—
1d., red	,,	—	—	—	—	1d.	—	—	—	—
2d., blue	,,	2d.	—	—	—	2d.	—	—	—	—
2d., deep blue	,,	2d.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
3d., green	,,	3d.	—	—	3d.	3d.	—	—	—	—
3d. ,,	red	3d.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
4d., brown	blk.	4d.	—	—	4d.	4d.	—	—	—	—
5d., green	,,	—	—	—	5d.	—	—	—	—	—
5d. ,,	red	—	—	—	5d.	—	—	—	—	—
6d., lilac	blk.	6d.	—	—	6d.	6d.	—	—	—	—
8d., yellow	,,	8d.	—	—	8d.	—	—	—	—	—
8d. ,,	red	8d.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
⁹⁄₁₀d., brown	blk.	—	—	—	⁹⁄₁₀d.	—	—	—	—	—
⁹⁄₁₀d. ,,	red	—	—	—	⁹⁄₁₀d.	—	—	—	—	—
1s., black	,,	1s.	—	—	1s.	1s.	—	—	—	—

Wmk. Type II. O.S.

	Colour of surch.	12½, 13	11½, 12	11	10	12½, 13 compd. with 10	11½, 12 compd. with 10	11½, 12 compd. with 11	11 compd. with 10	Comb mach. 11×12
1d., pale red	blk.	—	—	—	1d.	1d.	—	—	—	—
1d., red	,,	—	—	—	1d.	1d.	—	1d.	—	1d.
2d., blue	,,	—	—	—	2d.	2d.	—	—	—	2d.
2d., deep blue	,,	—	—	—	2d.	—	—	—	—	2d.
2d. ,,	red	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2d.
3d., yellow-green	blk.	—	—	—	3d.	—	3d.	—	—	—
3d., green	,,	—	3d.	—	3d.	—	3d.	—	3d.	—
3d. ,,	red	—	—	—	3d.	—	3d.	—	—	—
4d., pale brown	blk.	—	—	—	4d.	—	4d.	—	—	4d.
4d., deep ,,	,,	—	4d.	—	4d.	—	—	—	—	4d.
5d., green	,,	—	5d.	5d.	5d.	—	5d.	—	5d.	—
6d., lilac	blk.	—	6d.	6d.	6d.	—	6d.	6d.	6d.	—
8d., yellow	,,	—	8d.	8d.	8d.	—	8d.	—	—	—
8d. ,,	red	—	8d.	—	8d.	—	—	—	—	—
1s., black	,,	—	—	—	1s.	—	—	—	—	1s.

Besides those in the above tables the following exists :—

3d., O.S. ; perf. 10 ; wmk. Type II. sideways.

The Adhesive Stamps of Portugal.

By J. N. MARSDEN.

A Paper read before the Philatelic Society, London, on December 19th, 1902.

(*Continued from page* 168.)

Issue VIII. July, 1866. D. Luiz.



BY decree dated the 17th July, 1866, new values of 20, 80, 120, and 240 reis, in a new type, were authorised. The new values were intended to facilitate the franking of correspondence to foreign countries. The same decree also authorised that the stamps then existing should be altered to the new type.

To Mons. C. Wiener, of Brussels, was entrusted the preparation of the new die, and his initials appear below the bust.

Although the decree is dated the 17th July, the stamps of 20 and 120 reis must have been already printed, as *Le Collectionneur de Timbres-poste* for the 15th July, 1866, announces the appearance of these values, and gives an illustration of the latter. These values were followed by, first, the 80 reis, and then the 5 and 50 reis later in the same month (July), the 10 and 25 reis in January, 1867, and the 100 reis in February, 1867. It is noteworthy that although decreed, the 240 reis did not make its appearance until a much later date, and then only in the perforate condition. The probable explanation is, that being a value in small demand, it was left to the last. There were only two machines for printing all the stamps, and each stamp was printed separately, which cannot have been otherwise than a slow and laborious process. The department must have had all it could do to keep up with the increased demand for the other values, and the printing of the 240 reis was in consequence deferred until an opportunity for printing occurred.

For this issue and the following one—in fact for all the D. Luiz relief issues after 1866—only one matrix was employed, and reduplications produced from it, with the numerals of value inserted on either side of the word "REIS." Every new value required a new reduplication, and as they became worn, new ones were made, giving rise to the numerous varieties which occur in the relative positions of the figures of value. Mr. Ehrenbach has very well explained this in the *London Philatelist* for August, 1902, but he gives one to understand that the sheets were printed in panes of twenty-eight stamps. This is not correct; the sheets contained twenty-eight stamps, but each stamp was printed separately, as I have already explained (*L. P.*, May, 1903, p. 101).

I append a description of the varieties I have been able to find in the values of 5 and 25 reis. In the other values, imperforated, I have found no varieties. The 25 reis are given in the order of their appearance.

5 *reis.* Variety 1. A line drawn through the line of the upper right-hand "5" just misses the top of the "E" of "CORREIO."

Variety 2. A line similarly drawn cuts through the top of the second "O" in "CORREIO." This variety may also be distinguished by a fine line running from the foot of the "I" in the lower word "REIS" to the frame.

In the case of the 25 reis, I have adopted a system which appears to me as simple as any in the identification of these stamps, but which, I admit, leaves much to be desired. A description of such minute, almost microscopic differences, is almost impossible without being exceedingly verbose. The normal positions of the four inside figures is, or should be, vertical, so I take the variation of these figures from the perpendicular as a primary guide in detecting the varieties. The "5" in the upper left-hand corner will be designated (1), the "2" in the upper right-hand corner (2), the "5" in the lower right-hand corner (3), and the "2" in the lower left-hand corner, being in all cases practically vertical, will not be noticed. "To left" or "to right" means respectively leaning to left or to right.

25 *reis.* Variety 1. (1) Vertical, (2) to left, (3) to left.
„ 2. (1) To right, (2) vertical, (3) vertical.
„ 3. (1) Vertical, (2) vertical, (3) to left.

I have discovered no varieties except of shade in this issue.

The paper and gum in this and the following issue are very regular, the latter being of a yellowish tinge.

In the early part of 1867 it was decided to perforate the stamps, but preparatory to the ordering of a perforating machine some trials were made, most probably locally, to test the adaptability of the stamps for perforation. Some sheets of each value—how many I do not know, but they must have been few—were perforated with a series of cross-cuts in the form of successive crosses along the margins of the stamps. The crosses were very similar in size and shape to the crosses, leaving out the dotted ones, which go to form the borders of the provisional stamps of British Guiana of 1882, perforated "SPECIMEN." The perforation did not take place in the mint, for this establishment never possessed a perforating machine of this description. Sheets of 5, 10, 25, and 120 reis were issued in Portugal, but the complement of the series—the 20, 50, 80, and 100 reis—was surcharged for use in Madeira.

The 5 reis belongs to Variety 2 and the 25 reis to Variety ?.*

Reprints.

Mr. Castle states that the reprints are rarer than the originals, but this is not my experience, and I would willingly exchange reprints of this issue for unused originals. A full set of reprints, on the thick reprint paper, of Portugal and Colonies, costs about £10.

The reprints of this issue were printed on the thick white reprint paper, in similar shades to the originals, with the exception of the 100 and 120 reis, which are paler. The 5, 25, and 100 reis are varieties which do not exist as originals, but are found in the perforated issue.

* This stamp was in the collection of Lieutenant F. H. Napier, but I have not seen his copy, so cannot give the variety.

SYNOPSIS.

Issue VIII. July, 1866. D. Luiz.

5 reis	(2 varieties);	black, grey-black.
10 „		orange, orange-yellow.
20 „		bistre (slight shades).
25 „	(3 varieties);	rose to bright carmine.
50 „		yellow-green, deep green.
100 „		deep purple (shades).
120 „		deep blue, blue, pale blue.

Experimental perf. in the form of crosses, 10½.

5 reis	(Variety No. 2);	black.
10 „		yellow.
25 „	(Variety No. ?);	rose.
120 „		deep blue.

Reprints.

5 reis	(Variety No. 2 of next issue);	black.
10 „		deep yellow.
20 „		pale bistre.
25 „	(Variety No. 7 of next issue);	rose.
50 „		yellow-green.
80 „		orange-red.
100 „	(Variety No. 2 of next issue);	lilac.
120 „		pale blue.

Philatelic Notes.

THE LAUREATED SERIES OF VICTORIA.

MR. CHARLES B. DONNE, who is a collector of many years' experience and one of the most able of the Australian Philatelists, has written an interesting article, which appeared in the *Australian Journal of Philately* for June, in which, after treating generally of the issue, he draws up a list of varieties that are as yet unknown but which *may* exist. He gives the following list of possibilities:—

"ONE PENNY VALUE.

"Watermark double-line figure 2, 'three pence' and 'four pence' in words.

"TWO PENCE VALUE.

"Watermark double-line figure 2, 'three pence,' 'four pence,' and 'six pence' in words.

"THREE PENCE VALUE.

"Watermark double-line figures 2 and 4, single-line figures 4, 6, 'three pence' 'four pence,' and 'six pence' in words.

"FOUR PENCE VALUE.

"Watermark double-line figures 1 and 2, single-line figure 6, 'three pence,' 'four pence,' and 'six pence' in words.

"SIX PENCE VALUE.

"Watermark single-line figure 4."

We should think it very problematic if more than one or two of these varieties exist—despite the many finds that Victoria has rejoiced in. The 1d., 2d., and 4d. exist already in such a sufficiently wide range of variety as to induce careful examination of their watermarks by every collector worthy of the name; the 3d. was relatively little used, and it is practically impossible that to the three varieties known seven more should be added.

With regard to the 6d., watermark single-line figure 4, this stamp exists and is catalogued. The writer had an undoubted copy in his collection, but it is a scarce variety. The result of Mr. Donne's article should be to increase the study of a remarkably interesting series of stamps, as these Laureateds, beyond the watermarks, will be found to possess many smaller but thoroughly collectible varieties in the guise of shades, defective impressions, and perforations.

Occasional Notes.

DISCOVERING WATERMARKS BY PHOTOGRAPHY.

THERE have been paragraphs going the round of the philatelic Press during the past few months with relation to the "discovery" of the reproduction of watermarks through the aid of the camera, the credit for this new idea being claimed for an Australian collector. The idea is, however, not quite so novel as seems to have been imagined, and we fancy there are several who claim to have been first in the field. Among these we would cite Mr. William A. R. Jex Long, dating from Scotland on the eleventh of last month, and it is only just that his claim to these discoveries should be recognised as well as others. Our correspondent writes:—

"On my return from my holidays, and whilst looking over the philatelic papers which had arrived during my absence, I found the enclosed article under date June 20th (*S. C. F.*).

"Far from being new, this is a method of discovering watermarks which I discovered in 1902 whilst experimenting with stamp contact-printing.

"I showed it to several of my friends (philatelic and otherwise) at the time. Illness prevented me from sending particulars and specimens to the philatelic Press. I enclose both negatives and positives of the stamps I was reproducing when I made the discovery. The Barbados watermark was practically invisible on the stamp itself.

"The Brazil and the Cape stamp were the first two I printed, and at the time had not thought of the watermark coming out (the Brazil, of course, being a stamp which has not got a watermark).

"Noticing the outline of the anchor on the Cape stamp, I tried the Barbados and the New Guinea. The latter, however, being printed at the same time as the opaque Barbados, got printed too deep in the negative, and the watermark is not visible except very slightly.

"I had intended to prepare a short note of the subject, with illustrations, for the purpose of sending to the philatelic magazines for the benefit of those

Philatelists who might think it worth noting, but, as mentioned, illness prevented me. If the enclosed positives and negatives are of any use to you for your magazine, I shall be very pleased that you should use them."

Our correspondent kindly sent specimens of all the stamps mentioned, photographs both from the face and the reverse, so as to show the watermark.

THE EARL OF CRAWFORD.

THE Vice-President of the London Philatelic Society has been cruising on his yacht in various parts since November last, and it is to be hoped that as he has returned, we shall find him in the best health after so long and delightful a voyage. It seems, however, that his lordship has not been immune from those little mishaps that arrive to most travellers, as we read in the *Melbourne Argus*, under the somewhat sensational heading of "British Yacht's Adventure," the following paragraph :—

"Another extraordinary instance of Customs administration in Australia is afforded by an incident which recently occurred at Thursday Island. The visiting yachtsman who was concerned is the Earl of Crawford, the father of Captain the Hon. R. H. Lindsay, whose marriage with Miss Mary Clarke took place in Melbourne a few weeks ago. The Earl of Crawford's steam yacht *Valhalla* put into that port, with its owner aboard, and remained there two or three days. It was not plying for public patronage or competing in any way with coastal shipping, but the Customs officials nevertheless demanded that Lord Crawford should pay £2 10s. to the department as representing duty on the stores consumed on the yacht whilst she was in Commonwealth waters. That gentleman demurred, and telegraphed to the Minister of Customs on the subject. As Mr. Kingston did not favour him with a reply, he wired again and again, but without eliciting any rejoinder. The local Customs officers became insistent, and threatened to seize the vessel under the Customs Act. Lord Crawford offered to deposit the duty demanded with an agent in the town, pending the settlement of his dispute with the department, but the officials would not adopt this suggestion, so the captain of the yacht hauled up his anchor, and at daybreak of the next morning quietly slipped out to sea, and left the Customs Department's absurd claim unsatisfied."

The action of the Australian Customs administration seems preposterous and represents protection in its most hide-bound form. The Earl of Crawford, however, distinctly has the advantage of the story—"he laughs and he rides away!"

OVER-CATALOGUING.

THE question of what shall or shall not be excluded from catalogues has frequently formed the subject of comment in our columns, nor have we refrained from pointing out that the modern catalogue is far too elaborate for the general collector. The inclusion of multifarious new issues gives the general collector full scope for his energies without the multiplication of

smaller varieties, and the specialist will be more than satisfied if all his pet varieties are not priced up to date.

It is also inevitable that before many years, if the present rate of new issues is only maintained—and it is far more likely to be increased—the catalogue of all the world's varieties will be beyond publishing or purchasing power. It is with satisfaction therefore that we note that these views are beginning to spread, and that in the United States the fact is being recognised that there is already too much—and much that we could do without. If there could only be a melting-pot for issues that never ought to have existed, we should have quite a thin and genteel catalogue. The *Metropolitan Philatelist* of July 18th has the following remarks upon this subject, the sound common sense of which we commend to our readers :— .

"Stamp catalogues are gradually increasing in size. This is inevitable, and it is only a question of a few years when complete catalogues will be things of the past. In all probability they will then be issued in sections, and the parts that pay will be published regularly for a few years longer. The unprofitable parts will be published at increasingly long intervals and be finally discontinued. It is to the interest of every collector and dealer that an entire catalogue should be published as long as possible, and to that end it should be trimmed down to its closest limits. For instance, one popular catalogue commences with thirty-six pages of matter which, although valuable when first published, is now comparatively useless, as it is in the hand of every collector. Then the list is padded with an enormous number of varieties. This is injurious to collecting. The new beginner looks at the list and is dissuaded from attempting the task of getting a specimen of every stamp, and thus another recruit is lost."

PENNY POSTAGE TO AUSTRALIA—DEFERRED.

In reply to the British Empire League, the Postmaster-General has sent a letter regretting his inability for the present to grant penny postage to Australia. As Philatelists we must all be sorry that Australia cannot fall into line with other parts of our colonial empire, but it will be seen from the following excerpts from Mr. A. Chamberlain's letter that his reasons are cogent ones, and that the deferment of the boon is entirely due to the want of reciprocity on the part of the Australian Commonwealth.

"In reply I am directed to acquaint you, for the information of the Council, that, from the commencement of the Imperial Penny Postage scheme in 1898, His Majesty's Government has always attached great importance to the arrangement being a reciprocal one. It was on this basis that the Post Offices of the United Kingdom, Canada, New Zealand, and other British colonies and possessions adopted the penny rate for letters exchanged among themselves, while the Australian colonies held aloof on the ground of the financial loss involved. The recent offer of the Postmaster-General of the Commonwealth did not extend to a reduction of its own postage, but contemplated an arrangement under which the postage from Australia would remain as at present, while the rate from this country would be reduced.

"The main obstacle to the establishment of a penny rate from this country to Australia, so long as a charge of 2½d. is made in the opposite direction, is that it would result in fining a number of persons in this country a sum of 3d. on each letter received from Australia insufficiently stamped. The Australian sender would naturally suppose that he could reply to a penny letter for a penny, and the number of insufficiently paid letters to this country would thus be largely increased. As the penalty for insufficient postage is recovered, not from the sender, but from the addressee, the British Post Office would thus be compelled to fine residents in this country for the defaults of Australians. That the danger is a real one is shown clearly by an examination made, by the Postmaster-General's directions, of one of the recent mails from Australia.

"It should be stated that whilst the postage on a post card from this country to Australia is 1d., the homeward rate is 1½d. The result of the examination showed that out of a total of 2,275 cards received, 739, or almost one-third, were paid 1d. only. It will be obvious that if a similar proportion of the letters were paid 1d. only instead of 2½d., the resulting inconvenience would be much more serious. Many more letters are sent than post cards, and there is naturally a greater reluctance on the part of the public to refuse a taxed post card than a taxed letter. These surcharges in the case of post cards and in other similar instances already give rise to numerous complaints against the Post Office.

"Under these circumstances, Mr. Chamberlain has come with great regret to the conclusion that he cannot at the present time take any further steps. He still hopes, however, that the growth of Australian revenue will before long make it possible for the Commonwealth Government to indicate a date upon which they can bring the lower rates into force, and I am to assure you that when they are in a position to do this, they will find the British Post Office most ready to meet them."

SALE OF LEEWARD ISLANDS REMAINDERS.

WE have received the following notice for publication in the *London Philatelist*:—

"LEEWARD ISLANDS.

"OBSOLETE POSTAGE STAMPS, WRAPPERS, CARDS, ENVELOPES, ETC.

"The Crown Agents for the Colonies have been requested by the Secretary of State to ascertain on what terms the undermentioned obsolete Victorian Postage and Revenue Stamps, Post Cards, News-wrappers, and Stamped Envelopes, which comprise the whole stock remaining in the hands of the Leeward Islands Government, could be disposed of.

"The Crown Agents therefore give the leading stamp dealers this opportunity of stating before the 10th August next at what price and in what quantities they would be prepared to purchase the stamps which, not being demonetised, cannot be sold at less than their face value. The stamps are at present in the Colony, and as the dies from which they were manufactured have been destroyed, no further supplies can be printed.

Duty.	Nature of Article.	Number for Sale.	Watermark.	Colour.
½d.	Postage and Revenue Stamps	111,073 ...	Crown and C A ...	Green and mauve.
1d.	,, ,, ...	13,267 ...	,, ...	Carmine ,,
2½d.	,, ,, ...	7,523 ...	,, ...	Blue ,,
4d.	,, ,, ...	55,165 ...	,, ...	Orange ,,
6d.	,, ,, ...	21,850 ...	,, ...	Brown ,,
7d.	,, ,, ...	27,927 ...	,, ...	Grey ,,
1s.	,, ,, ...	28,163 ...	,, ...	Carmine and green.
5s.	,, ,, ...	13,171 ...	,, ...	Blue ,,
1d.	Post Cards ...	1,831 ...	— ...	Carmine.
1½d.	,, ...	1,082 ...	— ...	Brown.
2d.	,, reply ...	839 ...	— ...	Carmine.
3d.	,, ,, ...	1,294 ...	— ...	Brown.
½d.	Wrappers ...	240 ...	— ...	Green.
1d.	,, ...	12,987 ...	— ...	Carmine.
1d.	Envelopes ...	18,509 ...	— ...	Embossed pink.
2½d.	,, ...	17,846 ...	— ...	,, light blue.
2½d.	Registration Envelopes ..	383 ...	— ...	—
3d.	,, ,, ...	398"...	— ...	—

The intimation that not less than face value will be accepted is hardly likely to facilitate a sale—the aggregate value of the 1s. and 5s. lots being over £5,000! The supersession of the Leeward Islands stamps and the recurrence to the picture gallery series for the different islands was a retrograde step, and the present sale is a movement on the same grade.

THE NEW AUSTRALIAN COMMONWEALTH STAMPS.

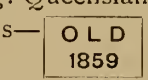
In continuation of the note hereon in our last issue, on page 173, we are now indebted to the same correspondent, Mr. J. H. Smyth, for further information as regards the new issue for the Commonwealth. The *Sydney Morning Herald* of June 23rd contains the following paragraph :—

"To-morrow the first consignment of 9d. stamps for use in Queensland and New South Wales will probably leave Melbourne. It will be used principally for placing on telegrams within the States, and as those are the only two States in the union which have not adopted a stamp of that denomination, they will probably attract some curiosity. In appearance the new stamp is unlike any of the present State issues. It is of the usual size, but is of a colour which can be best described as a 'brick-dust brown.' In each of the top corners the figure '9' is printed, and in the centre of the stamp there is a representation of Britannia and her shield. At the bottom the name of the State for which the stamp is issued is printed, and underneath the figure of Britannia is another shield, in which another figure '9' is placed, much larger than those in the corners. The figures are printed in a deep blue colour, as is also the name of the issuing State. It is not certain that the design of this stamp will be adopted for a uniform stamp when it is introduced."

The *Australian Philatelist* of July 1st states that "the first Federal stamp has been issued; it emanates from Victoria, of course. We cannot compliment the authorities on their design; we illustrate the stamp in question, and

leave our readers to form their own opinion of the abortion." At the time of writing we have not seen a specimen of the stamp, but if the illustration in our contemporary is reliable, we can only say that a more commonplace, meretricious, or inartistic stamp could hardly have been produced. It has apparently nothing to recommend it, and we sincerely trust that public opinion in Australia will not allow such a pitiable production to be scattered broadcast throughout the world as an emblem of the great Australian Commonwealth. That the new stamp has been received with marked disfavour is evident by the following comments in the *Melbourne Argus*:—

"Several hundreds of pounds were expended in obtaining suitable designs for the first Commonwealth flag and seal. But no invitation was publicly extended, or even issued departmentally, to anyone to submit designs for the first Federal stamp to be printed in the union. The new stamp, of which we publish a copy, is not, therefore, the choice of the Postmaster-General, after examining specimens of the best draughtsmanship that Australia can produce, but simply a selection made by Senator Drake from a few designs which were furnished to him by persons whose names have not been disclosed. The stamp cannot be regarded as an artistic triumph, and regret will probably be felt that the postal authorities should issue what is claimed to be a distinctly Australian stamp without taking the trouble to obtain designs from the best artists available. The new stamp will be issued in New South Wales and Queensland almost immediately."

In the design poor Britannia has the appearance of being seated on a bicycle, the front wheel of which is inscribed "9d.", and the hind wheel (apparently representing the shield) is being turned round by the lady's hand! The word "COMMONWEALTH" forms an arch over the head of the figure (but why omit the word "AUSTRALIA"?—Commonwealth of what?), supported on two columns bearing the initials and dates of founding of the six colonies composing the federation. These initials are painfully small, and resemble labels on wine bottles, *e.g.* Queensland is represented by "Q L D," but the inscription apparently reads— 

and might well be a label for fine old brandy!

The most vital and unsatisfactory feature to Philatelists of the whole affair is the word "VICTORIA," in block type, printed in the second colour—blue—on the white label at the base of the stamp. It is clear from this that movable plugs will be inserted bearing the names of the six colonies. We are thus face to face with the unwelcome probability that there will be six sets of these monstrosities, comprising, perhaps, fourteen or fifteen denominations of value, ranging from ½d. to £1, and thus adding eighty or ninety fresh and monotonous varieties to the already too redundant crop of Australian novelties. Collectors will be wise who in such case take one set and inscribe a note that similar sets exist for the other colonies.

With the memories of the *great* stamps of the early Australian days—the Sydneys, the Victorian half-lengths, or the splendid Perkins Bacon and Co. types of the other colonies, the collector of the twentieth century well may hang his head alike for shame and regret and mutter, "*Delenda est Australia!*"

Since the foregoing was written, Mr. J. H. Smyth has forwarded us a

copy of the *Evening News* (Sydney) of July 8th, from which it will be seen that our dissatisfaction with the new stamp finds a ready echo across the water.

"'Censor' writes: 'A supply of the 9d. value of the new Federal series of stamps recently announced has arrived in Sydney, and, although not yet on sale, I have been permitted to see some specimens. One reason given for the issue of this new series is that a request has been received from the British authorities to the effect "that the late Queen's head be removed from all stamps as soon as possible," but, having waited so long, would it not have been better if the Postmaster-General had waited a little longer, and had submitted to him designs which would be worthy the occasion, and taken steps to see that they were satisfactorily printed?

"'As to the printing, it seems to me that the stamp has been produced by what is known as the zinco-etching process, a cheap method. Stamp collecting, or "Philately," has got beyond the boy and girl stage, and the advent of new stamps causes considerable comment. Those above referred to are printed on paper watermarked V and Crown, which, although an insignificant matter to the general public, has considerable meaning to a Philatelist. Stamps are a splendid medium of advertising a country, and stamp collectors have helped in no small degree to bring this about. Such being the case, is it any wonder that there is much indignation at the idea of the stamps being printed in Melbourne and foisted upon New South Wales? The plant at the Sydney Government Printing Office is superior to that in Melbourne, and the work turned out is far and away ahead of that produced in any other Australian State. On what ground, therefore, will Mr. Drake excuse this deliberate slight? Until the Federal Printing Office has been installed, each State should have its fair share of work. From what I can ascertain, the Sydney Post Office is being belittled on every possible occasion, and treated in a subsidiary manner. The authorities here have had nothing to say regarding the new stamps, and have not received any instructions from the Postmaster-General's Department as to putting them on sale.'"

As we go to press Mr. W. H. Peckitt has shown us this stamp issued for Queensland. Its appearance fully bears out our criticisms.

Review.

ALL ABOUT POST CARDS.*

"THERE is nothing like leather," cried the shoemaker, and it is only natural that Mr. W. J. Scott should sing the praises of the wares that his firm so largely deal in. The book in question, containing some seventy pages devoted to the post card—official and pictorial—and thirty-four pages of the firm's price catalogue of the same, bears out our opening quotation. None the less, this little volume will be found to afford both interest and information to those who are interested in entires, the author

* *All About Post Cards.* By J. W. Scott. Scott and Wilson, 4, Reginald Mount, Leeds.

acknowledging his indebtedness to Mr. W. B. Warhurst, the well-known collector and worker on the subject of entires, and to Mr. E. W. Richardson, the editor of *The Picture Post Card.* The letterpress, divided into nearly twenty chapters, devotes about equal space to both sections of the subject, but there is an obvious leaning on the part of the author to the "fascinating hobby" of pictorial card collecting. This is not an "interesting branch of Philately," as are termed the regular post cards, and does not call for any comment in our columns. Of its amazing popularity we have had abundant evidence as previously recorded in our pages, and we see no reason why such charming and artistic mementoes, produced at a price that places them within the reach of all, should not have an abiding and brilliant future.

As regards officially issued post cards, we should be only too glad if this branch of Philately could be reinvigorated and sustained; it has the merits of straightforwardness in issue, limits in numbers, and relatively small cost, and we should rejoice to see its adherents increased; their bulk is against them, but they are far more easily susceptible of arrangement than are envelopes, and they embrace far less stationery. They have probably been crowded off the philatelic stage by the ever-increasing quantity of new issues of all sorts, and it is to be hoped that by the aid of such excellent advocacy as that of Mr. Scott and others their popularity may be restored.

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.

AITUTAKI.—From various sources we gather that six current New Zealand stamps have been surcharged for use (?) here.

Adhesives.

½d. "Ava Pene," in red, on green.
1d. "Tai Pene," in blue, on carmine.
2½d. "Rua Pene Ma Te Ava," in red, on blue.
3d. "Toru Pene," in indigo, on buff-brown.
6d. "Ono Pene," in blue, on rose.
1s. "Tai Tiringi," in indigo, on scarlet.

The overprint "AITUTAKI" at top is in tall sans-serif caps, and the value in native language in caps. and lower-case type. Perf. 14 for the ½d. and 1d., and 11 for the remainder; wmk. latest NZ, etc.

ANTIGUA.—Messrs. Whitfield King and Co. send us the new set of stamps for this island.

They are a fine lot of stamps and far superior in appearance to the St. Kitts-Nevis issue. They are of large size, and bear in the centre a copy of the Arms or Seal of the colony. "ANTIGUA" appears at top, "POSTAGE"—"REVENUE" at sides, and value in words at bottom. The 5s. value has for centre design a small oval with Head

of the King, value in figures in top corners and in words at foot, and is also inscribed "POSTAGE"—"REVENUE" like the others. All are watermarked Crown C C and perf. 14.

Adhesives. Centre in second colour.

½d., green and black.
1d., carmine and black.
2d., red-brown and violet.
2½d., ultramarine and black.
3d., brown-orange and grey-green.
6d., grey-black and mauve.
1s., purple and blue.
2s., violet and grey-green.
2s. 6d., red-violet and black.
5s., violet and green.

Note.—Opinions as to the various colours are certain to differ considerably, and the above may not be absolutely correct.

AUSTRALIAN COMMONWEALTH. — *Victoria.*—The *Australian Philatelist* illustrates the new 9d. stamp of the Commonwealth, and our contemporary makes the following remarks:—

"The first Federal stamp has been issued; it emanates from Victoria, of course. We cannot compliment the authorities on their design; we illustrate the stamp in question and leave our readers to form their own opinion of the abortion. The design was taken from a medal in the possession of Postmaster-General Drake. The order of the names of the States on the arch was so arranged as to place the oldest State nearest to the mother earth from which the arch rears. The *Argus* publishes the following with reference to the design: 'Several hundreds of pounds were expended in obtaining suitable designs for the first Commonwealth flag and seal. But no invitation was publicly extended, or even issued departmentally, to anyone to submit designs for the first Federal stamp to be printed in the union. The new stamp, of which we publish a copy, is not therefore the choice of the Postmaster-General after examining specimens of the best draughtsmanship that Australia can produce, but simply a selection made by Senator Drake from a few designs which were furnished to him by persons whose names have not been disclosed. The stamp cannot be regarded as an artistic triumph, and regret will probably be felt that the postal authorities should issue what is claimed to be a distinctly Australian stamp without taking the trouble to obtain designs from the best artists available. The new stamp will be issued in New South Wales and Queensland almost immediately. Ninepenny stamps have never been printed in those States, and as they are required in large numbers for telegrams, the Federal stamp will probably be welcomed. Victoria has a large stock of stamps of all denominations on hand, so none of the new stamps will be issued in this State for the present. The general colour of the Federal stamp will be brown; but the name of the State in which it is to be current, and the figure denoting its value, will be printed in blue on a white background.' [The information about the 9d. stamp is incorrect, as this value has been in use in N. S. Wales since 1871.—ED.]."

We would add that the centre has a figure which might be of Britannia, but is, we understand, a draped female representing Australia. "POSTAGE" and "COMMONWEALTH" above, "VICTORIA" at foot, and the value "9d." is repeated three times in figures.

CANADA.—We are informed that the new issue is printed in sheets of 100 stamps.

CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.—*Ewen's Weekly* makes an addition to the list of King's Head stationery.

Envelope. 1d., pink, oval, embossed.

CEYLON.—There is a 2 cents wrapper of the King's Head type.

Wrapper. 2 c., violet on buff.

INDIA.—*Jhind.*—"We have received the current 1 a. stamp, King's Head, with the 'Service' overprint for this State, and we are told that the ½ a. has also been issued."—*M. J.*

Officials. ½ a., pea-green, King's Head.
1 a., carmine ,,

Nabha.—The *M. J.* chronicles the ½ a., 1 a., and 2 annas, King's Head issue, with the "Service" overprint.

Officials.

½ anna, pea-green, with "Service" overprint.
1 ,, carmine ,, ,,
2 annas, mauve ,, ,,

JOHOR.—On page 120 we chronicled two provisionals, and we are now told that the bars cancelling the original value having been ruled by hand, with a pen, varieties exist without the original value cancelled.

Next we expect to hear that specimens exist with the original value ruled out, but *without* the surcharge. Why not?

LEEWARD ISLANDS. — *Ewen's Weekly* publishes an Order in Council of these islands, from which we are given to understand that new issues are to be provided for the islands of Dominica and Montserrat, in addition to Antigua and St. Kitts-Nevis.

We are told the set for Montserrat has reached London, but we have not seen specimens.

The designs selected for all values under 5s. are for Montserrat copy—part or whole—of the Public Seal of the Presidency, and for Dominica a view of this island from the sea.

The 5s. values are all to bear the King's Head.

A full supply of stationery will also be provided.

We have been expecting something of the sort for years.

NEW ZEALAND.—The 5s. value has to be added to the set on the latest watermark paper, and supplies have reached *Ewen's Weekly.*

The watermark is printed sideways.

Our contemporary has also received the ½d. and 1d. embossed King's Head type envelopes.

Adhesive. 5s., deep red; wmk. N Z and Star sideways; perf. 11.

Envelopes. ½d., green.
1d., rose.

PENRHYN ISLAND.—It is reported that the 1s. of New Zealand in the *bright red* shade has been surcharged for this island.

Adhesive. 1s., bright red; perf. 11.

QUEENSLAND.—Messrs. J. H. Smyth and Co. have kindly sent us the new 9d. Commonwealth stamp for this colony.

It is identical in every way but the name at foot of the stamp to the one described under the heading "Victoria," and our friends remark that it is condemned everywhere.

1,000 sheets of this stamp for use in New South Wales have been prepared, but not issued yet, as there is a large stock left of the old 9d. value.

Adhesive.

9d., brown and blue; wmk. V and Crown; perf. 12½.

SEYCHELLES.—The new King's Head issue was hardly in circulation before the 3 cents were all sold or cornered, and a provisional had to be made, to be in turn immediately bought up.

This of course necessitated another provisional, and so the game goes on.

Messrs. Bright and Son and Whitfield King and Co. send us specimens, and the latter friends write as follows:—

"Seychelles, 3 c. on 15 c. and 3 c. on 45 c., King's Head type. Of the 3 c. on 15 c. the total number issued was 33,000, all of which were sold out in one day, nearly two-thirds of the whole issue having been bought by one man, who had a crowd of fifty men outside the post office when it opened on the day the stamps were to be issued, orders having been given that nobody would be supplied with more than one sheet. By this means the man in question prevented many others from getting any stamps at all; and after the issue was sold out there were none left for postal use, consequently, on July 22nd, another provisional had to be made, there being no 3 c. stamps in the island; but to prevent these being speculated in as the former were, no one is to be allowed to have more than five stamps at a time, and when the daily sale reaches 400 stamps it is stopped, and no more can be had till next day. By this means it is expected that these provisionals will last until a fresh supply of the ordinary 3 c. stamps is received from London."

Provisionals.

3 CENTS on 15 c., ultramarine; black surcharge.

3 CENTS on 45 c., chocolate and carmine; black surcharge.

EUROPE.

ALBANIA.—From the *M. C.* we learn that three Italian stamps have been surcharged with values in "Para" only, without the word "Albania."

It is stated that these stamps were issued in December last, and it seems strange they have not been reported sooner.

Adhesives.

10 paras on 5 c., green.
35 ,, 20 c., orange.
40 ,, 25 c., blue.

BOSNIA.—Another value has been added to the issue with value in black numerals.

Adhesive.

40 heller, orange, numerals in black.

LEVANT.—*Austrian Post Offices.*—The *M. J.* has received four or five values of a new series for these offices, in which the figures denoting the values in heller are entirely omitted, and the overprint of "Para" or "Piaster" is added both at top and bottom. It appears uncertain whether the 20 piaster stamp is a variety in colour of the 1896 stamp, or whether it replaces the corresponding value of 1900.

Adhesives.

10 para, dark green; value in black.
20 ,, rose ,,
1 piaster, ultramarine ,,
2 ,, pale blue ,,
20 ,, on 2 gl., dull green.
All perf. 12½, 13½.

SERVIA.—The set of new Servian stamps contains the 5 dinars value, colour brown and black, with Arms in blue.

Adhesive.

5 dinars, brown and black, Arms in blue; perf. 11½.

AMERICA.

BOLIVIA.—The *Metropolitan Philatelist* has received samples of a new adhesive and envelope for this country.

Portrait slightly turned to left in centre in circle, inscribed in upper part "CORREOS DE BOLIVIA." Value in curved line below, "DIEZ CENTAVOS," numerals in upper corners and "CENTAVOS" above, engraved. Perf. 12 for the adhesive, and lithographed for the envelope.

Adhesive. 10 centavos, blue.
Envelope. 10 centavos, blue.

COLOMBIAN REPUBLIC.—There are lots of new stamps appearing, but if we should miss any, or chronicle some twice over, we do not think it can matter very much, as, probably, most of them are only made for stamp collectors, and to raise the wind.

The *M. C.* tells us that the provisional post card lately chronicled has been replaced by a new card, value 5 centavos.

Post Card.

5 centavos, black on buff.

Antioquia.—We read in the *M. J.* that some of the stamps of the 1902 design are now coming in slightly different shades from those in which they originally appeared. The 2 c. ordinary and 5 c. return receipt stamp we have already noted, and so make the following additions:—

Adhesives. 3 c., deep green.
4 c., slate-violet.
5 c., rose.
10 c., lilac-mauve.
20 c., dull green.
Too Late Stamp. 2½ c., mauve.

Baranquilla.—The *A. J. P.* lists two stamps as follows:—

Adhesives.

2 c., rose; wove paper; imperf.
20 c. ,, ,, ,,

Bolivar.—From the same journal we copy the following:—

Adhesives.

50 c., blue on pink; laid paper; imperf.
50 c., blue on bluish ,, ,,
50 c., purple on brown ,, ,,
5 p., scarlet on yellow ,, ,,
10 p., dark blue on greenish blue; laid paper; sewing-machine perf.
50 c., purple; wove paper; sewing-machine perf.

Registration.

20 c., orange on rose; laid paper; imperf.

Return Letter Receipt.

20 c., dark blue on yellow; laid paper; imperf.

Too Late Stamp.

20 c., purple on yellow; laid paper; imperf.
20 c. ,, lilac ,, ,,

Boyaca.—From several sources we hear of the following:—

Adhesives.

10 c., grey; thin wove paper; imperf.
20 c., red-brown ,, ,,
10 c., grey ,, perf. 12.
20 c., red-brown ,, ,,
50 c., green ,, ,, and imperf.
1 p., red ,, ,, ,,
With a plentiful assortment of shades.

Cauca.—According to *Ewen's Weekly*, there are a couple of type-set stamps to list.

Adhesives.

10 c., black on red; imperf.
20 c., black on orange-brown; imperf.

VENEZUELA.—Here again we have a batch of stamps which were probably quite unnecessary. We hardly know whether to chronicle them, or leave them severely alone.

Having, however, listed the new Colombian Republic stamps as far as we were able, we will include these labels.

We have not seen these stamps (?), and are indebted to our contemporary, the *M. J.*, for the following full description:—

"We have before us sets of stamps for three different places, all printed from the same type, with only the names changed, so that it is quite evident that in this instance one set would have been quite sufficient for the three, as all were produced in the same place. All the stamps described below were set up and printed from movable type, and are in *black* on coloured papers, perf. 12.

"*Guayana.*—i. Large stamps, design 42 mm. square; Arms in the centre, 'CORREOS DE VENEZUELA' at top, 'ESTADO' at left, 'GUAYANA' at right, 'CENTIMOS' or 'BOLIVAR' at foot, numerals in the lower corners; enclosed in a frame of small ornaments.

5 c., black on *pink*.
10 c. ,, *orange*.
25 c. ,, *pale blue*.
50 c. ,, *pale yellow*.
1 b. ,, *pale grey granite*.

"These appear to have been printed singly, but in sheets of twelve, three horizontal rows of four.

"We have a whole set of the above and a set of all the values of the second series for Guayana (including the only copy we have seen of the 10 c. on *orange*) plastered

upon an entire envelope addressed to Port of Spain, Trinidad, and postmarked at Ciudad Bolivar on April 29th, 1903.

"ii. Oblong stamps, 28×21 mm., with a ship in the centre and the same inscriptions as the above, but 'Correos de Venezuela.' is not in capitals and is punctuated. Frame composed of some of the same ornaments.

5 c., black on *pale grey granite.*
10 c. ,, *orange.*
10 c. ,, *deep red.*
25 c. ,, *pink.*
50 c. ,, *pale blue.*
1 b. ,, *pale yellow.*

"These were set up and printed in vertical strips of three, forming so many varieties of type; the varieties may be easily recognised by the dots in the top and bottom of the frame, the uppermost stamp having three dots in each place, the second stamp two dots at top and three below, and the third three dots at top and only one below. The sheets contain twenty-four stamps, in six horizontal rows of four.

"*Marino.*—The same type as ii. above, but lettered 'Distritto' at left and 'Marino' at right.

5 c., black on *deep red.*
10 c. ,, *pale yellow.*
25 c. ,, *pale grey granite.*
50 c. ,, *pink.*
1 b. ,, *pale blue.*

"The same varieties of type as before, but the second stamp has the third dot below too high. Sheets of the same size.

"*Maturin.*—As Guayana, Type ii., but inscribed 'MATURIN' at right.

5 c., black on *pink.*
10 c. ,, *pale blue.*
25 c. ,, *pale yellow.*
50 c. ,, *deep red.*
1 b. ,, *pale grey granite.*

"The varieties are like those of Marino, and the sheets the same size. There is said to be some doubt whether the Maturin stamps were really issued, but there is no doubt that they are for sale.

"It is interesting to note that some little trouble must have been taken to give the same values different colours in each of the three sets of the same design."

The *P. J. G. B.* has received two stamps for the State of Zulia with extracts of the official decree authorising their issue.

As these stamps were, it is stated, put into circulation in May, 1891, and franked letters to all parts of Venezuela and to Cucuta in Colombia for about three months, it is, to say the least, strange we have not heard of them before.

Adhesives.

5 centavos, deep violet; perf. 13½.
10 ,, light red ,,

OTHER COUNTRIES.

FRENCH COLONIES.—*Ivory Coast.*—We have received from Messrs. Whitfield King and Co. the 15 c., 60 c., 5 c., and 10 c. of the unpaid French Colonial series surcharged "CÔTE D'IVOIRE" at top, "COLIS POSTAUX" at foot, and respectively 50 c., 50 c., 1 fr., and 1 fr., all with black surcharge.

Parcel Post Stamps.

50 c. on 15 c., green; black surcharge.
50 c. on 60 c., brown on buff; black surcharge.
1 f. on 5 c., blue; black surcharge.
1 f. on 10 c., brown ,,

Senegambia and Niger Coast.—We have received the following set of the Colonial type from Messrs. Whitfield King and Co:—A, with carmine inscription; B, with blue inscription.

Adhesives.

1 c., black on azure. A.
2 c., red-brown. B.
4 c., claret. B.
5 c., yellow-green. A.
10 c., rose. B.
15 c., drab. A.
20 c., red on green. B.
25 c., blue. A.
30 c., brown. B.
40 c., red. B.
50 c., brown on blue. B.
75 c., brown on orange. A.
1 f., olive-green. A.

FRENCH POST OFFICES ABROAD.—*Cavalle.*—The 5 c., *deep green*, is known, states the *M. C.*, surcharged in *vermilion.*

French Morocco.—From the same source we hear of the 30 c. of France being surcharged 30 centimos.

Adhesive. 30 centimos on 30 c., lilac.

Mongtsé.—The *M. C.* informs us that the same set of Indo-China stamps that were overprinted for use in Pakhoi (see page 180) have been surcharged for use here.

SPANISH COLONIES.—*Elobey, Annoben y Corisio.*—The following is a list of the new stamps taken from *Ewen's Weekly.*

Adhesives. Type of Fernando-Poo 1899, dated "1903." Control numbers at back.

¼ de c., carmine.
½ c., dark violet.
1 c., black.
2 c., vermilion.
3 c., dark green.
4 c., blue-green.
5 c., violet.
10 c., claret.
15 c., orange.
25 c., dark blue.
50 c., red-brown.
75 c., dark brown.
1 peseta, orange-red.
2 p., violet-brown.
3 p., olive.
4 p., garnet.
5 p., green.
10 p., blue.

Spanish Guinea.—From the same source we cull the following:—

"*L'Echo de la Timbrologie* now chronicles a set of eighteen stamps dated '1903' and inscribed 'Guinea Conti[a1] Española.'"

¼ de c., black.
½ c., green.
1 c., garnet.
2 c., olive.
3 c., violet-brown.
4 c., orange-red.
5 c., dark brown.
10 c., red-brown.
15 c., dark blue.
25 c., orange.
50 c., claret.
75 c., violet.
1 p., blue-green.
2 p., dark blue.
3 p., vermilion.
4 p., blue.
5 p., dark violet.
10 p., carmine.

Philatelic Societies' Meetings.

The Collectors' Club.

351, FOURTH AVENUE, NEW YORK.

THE ninety-fifth meeting of the Board of Governors was held at the Club House on Monday evening, July 13th, 1903. Present: Messrs. Luff, Rich, Scott, and Perrin. The Treasurer's report, showing a cash balance in bank of $155.03, exclusive of reserve fund, was approved as read. The report of the House Committee was read and received. The following application for membership was received and posted on the bulletin-board: L. N. Herbert, New York City.

THE ninety-sixth meeting of the Board of Governors was held at the Club House on Monday evening, August 3rd, 1903. Present: Messrs. Andreini, Dewing, Luff, Rich, Scott, and Perrin. The meeting was called to order by the President at 8.10 p.m. The minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved. The Treasurer's report, showing a cash balance in bank of $186.07, exclusive of reserve fund, was approved as read. The resignation of Mr. Jos. B. Leavy was read, and was accepted with regrets. The application of Mr. Maurice Herbert, having been posted the required length of time, was balloted upon, and he was declared to have been unanimously elected a subscribing member of the Club. The following application for membership was received and posted on the bulletin-board: Geo. L. Toppan, New York. Proposed by A. Holland, seconded by John N. Luff.

ALBERT PERRIN, *Secretary.*

THE

London Philatelist:

THE MONTHLY JOURNAL OF

THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY, LONDON.

VOL. XII. SEPTEMBER, 1903. No. 141.

British Official Surcharges.

WE have no wish to dwell upon the unfortunate episode in connection with the Official Surcharges, elsewhere recorded, except to call the attention of collectors to the risks attendant upon the possession of these stamps. Several of the public journals have been by no means unwilling to cast a certain proportion of the blame of recent events upon the shoulders of collectors, on the assumption that they were probably not ignorant of the source whence these varieties emanated. The *Standard*, for example, asks :—

"But how far is there complicity on the part of collectors in buying these overprinted stamps? It is likely that in some cases the purchasers are innocent. We cannot suppose that the public are as well acquainted with the arrangements of the Inland Revenue as the head of the Works Department of the Admiralty assumed them to be. According to the evidence of the Registrar of that Department, its Chief held an inquiry when the stamps were missed. The conclusion at which he arrived was that the stamps had not been stolen, because they would be of no value outside the office. Nobody, he thought, would buy them, knowing the restrictions. That was under-estimating the temptation to some collectors who could not be ignorant ; but it is by no means necessary to believe that they all were aware of the illegality of their purchases. There will no longer be any excuse for such ignorance."

It is the closing sentence of our contemporary's little homily that we wish to emphasise. The eyes of the world of collectors must now be fully open to the risk they run in buying or holding these Departmental stamps in unused state, and they will be well advised if they are content to take them in used condition.

We do not imagine that Somerset House will issue search warrants to examine the albums or safes of collectors or dealers, nor do we believe that were they so found, the forfeit of these stamps would be exacted by the authorities, but their re-sale would be a matter that might entail awkward consequences. It is obvious that henceforth no dealer or auctioneer can sell these stamps without running a grave risk, and it is equally clear that any collector who henceforth purchases these surcharges must do so with the risk of being utterly unable ever to get rid of them.

We would therefore counsel collectors, if they feel that their collection is incomplete without Official surcharges—a point on which we have previously expressed our opinion—to content themselves with used specimens. These are fortunately to be encountered with comparatively light obliteration, and their acquisition will cost but a tithe of the value attached to the unused specimens. In any case, the authorities have laid down a rule, and acted on it with the utmost severity, and it behoves Philatelists, as all other law-abiding citizens, to do nothing that may be in any way an incentive to the commission of crime. Innocent as may have doubtless been the general body of collectors in acquiring these stamps, it is assuredly owing to the high prices they were willing to give that the recent proceedings have resulted. If, therefore, for the future, Philatelists will loyally accept the dictum of the authorities, there will be no market for these stamps, and there will be no longer, as in the past, any inducement for the breaking of the rules of the Government Departments.

The Disgrace of New Zealand.



E consider that the time has arrived when a little plain speaking with regard to New Zealand postal administration may have a useful effect—perhaps not in altering the methods of that postal administration (?), but in opening the eyes of collectors to the rubbish that is being foisted on them. We are fully aware that the S.S.S.S., had it lived (and been supported as it deserved), would by no means have been able to confine its energies to the banning of the issues of South American States or Spanish and Portuguese Colonies. Several of our own possessions would have come under the ban of the Society. Seychelles, St. Helena, the Leeward Islands, and many others have pandered to Philatelists by speculative and unnecessary issues. It may therefore be urged that the case of New Zealand is no worse—but the whole thing is a question of degree. These stamps may or may not be the proverbial straw that will cave in the philatelic camel's overladen back, but it will be seen that the latest issues of New Zealand are of the ridiculous nature that is safe to kill all respect or liking for the ineffable rubbish of an advertising colony.

There are few colonies whose older issues command a greater or more deserved appreciation at the hands of stamp collectors than New Zealand, and the more to be regretted therefore is the prostitution of their present postal administration. For more than forty years—from 1855 to 1898—there was no redundancy of issues, although the changes of papers in the older issues afforded ample scope for investigation and collation. For seventeen years—1855 to 1872—New Zealand was content with six values which, excepting the 4d., rose, remained unchanged in colour. In 1872 the 1d., 2d., and 6d. were changed in colour, but the design remained until 1874, when a new set of the same six values was issued, and four years later were added to them values of 2s. and 5s. These were superseded by the series in use from 1882 to 1897, the new denominations of ½d., 2½d., 5d., and 8d. being introduced in accordance with the requirements of the Postal Union rates. Thus in more than forty years there were but three sets of new types, the colours of one set being once changed as to three values. The difficulties of procuring paper and perforating machines in the earlier days led to the interesting varieties of blue, thick, fiscal, and pelure papers, and to the various improvised kinds of perforation—all of them as interesting in their character as they were unpremeditated in their issue.

The first symptom of decadence in the New Zealand stamps was the printing of advertisements on the backs of the last issue of the foregoing—a practice that any self-respecting administration would hardly be capable of, and one that the force of public opinion speedily put an end to. The succeeding achievements of this Colony in the stamp-issuing line may be briefly epitomised as follows:—

1898. Issue of thirteen varieties of pictorial designs printed by Waterlow and Sons, that were created apparently to advertise the beauties of New Zealand and the modesty of its postal administration. This included the error on the 2½d. "Wakitipu"—which assuredly might have been avoided.

1898–99. Issue of eleven of the foregoing values printed in the Colony and perforated 11.

1899. Issue of eighteen varieties of Unpaid Letter stamps.

1900. Issue of two values, ½d. and 1d., of preceding with watermark NZ and Star.

1900–2. Issue of eleven varieties with the preceding watermark, the ½d. and 1d. being of altered design. The 4d. converted from the former 1d. and the 6d. in a new colour.

1901. Issue of a new design of 1d. and of the ½d. with the introduction of a new perforating machine gauging 14. This machine was used in conjunction with the old one gauging 11, in charming variety, even going so far in some instances as to perforate stamps with the latter gauge, to then paste paper over the perforations, and finally to perforate them 14 alongside of the other covered-up perforation! In the course of a few months no less than four distinct papers were used, and in conjunction with the two machines a combination of varieties has been made that must disgust anyone but their speculative holders. The four changes of paper within so short a time seem utterly inexcusable or unaccountable, except on the assumption that as many

varieties as possible were desired. This issue has already resulted in a list of twenty-eight varieties as drawn up by Mr. C. A. Gilles in the *Australian Journal of Philately* for May.

1902. Issue of several values of the preceding surcharged for Niue and Penrhyn Island. Errors were provided in the surcharges, including the shilling value with the aboriginal equivalent for "thief" printed on it "in mistake"—promptly called in—but now being offered for sale at about £5 each by the holders. The continued use of the two perforating machines in conjunction with these surcharges has created varieties galore!

1903. Issue of several varieties for Aitutaki, surcharged and perforated as preceding.

Assuming that the eleven values of the "Mother Colony" will be issued surcharged respectively for New Zealand's "Colonies"—a proceeding that judging by the past vagaries we are entitled to predict—no less than 118 varieties that a consistent collector is bound to accept have been issued since 1898 by a portion of the British Empire containing as many inhabitants as Liverpool!

Until the issue of these surcharged stamps, the tiny islands, or rocks, of Niue and Penrhyn were practically unknown, their population in either case consisting of but coloured folk and a scanty handful of whites. Their solitude is at rare intervals intruded upon by the advent of a steamer which takes letters, and were postage stamps required for so scanty a "population" ten shillings' worth of the New Zealand stamps would probably suffice for a year's requirements!

We come now to the last issue, and here, thanks to a correspondent of *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News*, we have definite information as to Aitutaki, its inhabitants, and their postal requirements as follows:—

"The island of Aitutaki is one of the Cook group of islands recently included in the boundaries of New Zealand. It is distant from Rarotonga 120 miles, has an area of about seven square miles and a population of about 1200, including about ten Europeans. The chief productions of the island are oranges, pineapples, copra, and lime juice, all of which are exported to Auckland, New Zealand. A steamer from New Zealand calls regularly at the island once a month, while there is also frequent communication with Rarotonga, the seat of government, by sailing vessels. The Aitutakians are a very hardy race and make very good sailors. Many of the inhabitants cultivate their land, and the produce of the island has doubled within the last five years. The women make fans and mats and also hats from plaited fibres. The New Zealand Government is represented on the island by a Resident Magistrate who also acts as Customs Officer and Postmaster.

"Our Rarotonga correspondent writes:—'The Aitutaki stamps did not reach the Post Office there until 29th June, and, so far as I know, none have yet been used there with the exception of three sets which I had specially sent me. I enclose you two of these sets as unique specimens, being the earliest of the new issue postmarked. There is not yet any date stamp at Aitutaki, but the Rarotonga dated postmark, being struck on the letters on arrival here, fixes the date. The Aitutaki stamps were sold at the Auckland

P.O., New Zealand, during the month of June, the Aitutaki Post Office being deemed to have been opened on 1st June, notwithstanding that the new stamps did not reach the island until the 29th!'

"Three weeks ago we described in *E. W. S. N.* an envelope received from Aitutaki, and noted that it was franked with a Cook Islands stamp. It may be added that the letter contained in the envelope was dated 29th May and the only dated postmarks on the envelope were Rarotonga, 2nd June; Auckland, 11th June; and Norwood, 17th July. The stamp was simply cancelled 'Cook Islands—P.O.—Aitutaki' in violet, as already described, and the stamps on the envelope sent by our Rarotonga correspondent are similarly obliterated. Doubtless before long Aitutaki will have a dated postmark."

Mr. Ewen in his price list already not only quotes for six values surcharged for the "colony" of Aitutaki, but advertises an error at 25s. and a minor variety at 2s. 6d., and adds that they are of great rarity. We have of course no fault to find with Mr. Ewen for placing these things on sale—in fact, collectors are much indebted to him for bringing down new issues to an acceptable price—but the conjunction of his quotation coupled with the information as to the dimensions of Aitutaki surely form as grotesque a piece of humorous extravagance as was ever heard of outside Messrs. Gilbert and Sullivan's operas!

Here is a tiny speck of land in the great Pacific Ocean, about three miles long by a couple of miles wide, with a white population of ten people for whom has to be created a set of several values of stamps on which the changes as to perforations and surcharges can be rung! Of the ten white people probably not more than three or four are adults, and it is utterly inconceivable that a special set of stamps should be prepared for their use.

No unprejudiced person can pass any judgment on the foregoing statements except that the vast majority of the recent issues of New Zealand are entirely speculative and unnecessary. Their issue is prompted by the unworthy desire of the postal authorities to increase their revenue by the sale of worthless rubbish to the unwary collector, and doubtless by speculators outside (or perhaps inside) the Post Office, who are desirous of making money by the buying-up and retailing of these varieties.

In our humble opinion the action of the New Zealand Post Office casts a grave shadow upon the reputation of Colonial administration. It has descended lower in the scale than the most venal of the South American States, and richly deserves the contempt that is so freely bestowed upon it in this country.

[P.S.—As we go to press we read in the *Australian Journal of Philately* a letter from Mr. A. T. Bate, covering one from the Secretary of the G.P.O., New Zealand, which endeavours to find an excuse for the issue of stamps for these tiny islands. We agree with the forenamed journal that the letter is entirely unconvincing, and we see nothing to affect any of the opinions expressed in the article preceding. We hope to publish the correspondence in our next issue.—Ed.]

The Adhesive Stamps of Portugal.

By J. N. MARSDEN.

A Paper read before the Philatelic Society, London, on December 19th, 1902.

(*Continued from page* 193.)

Issue IX. July, 1867. D. Luiz.



URING 1867, and after the trial of the system of perforation before referred to, the first perforating machine was purchased from MM. Gouweloos Brothers, of Brussels. It perforated sheets of twenty-eight stamps at a time, seven horizontal rows of four, and is, I believe, what is generally termed a harrow machine: by a steel plate the size of the sheet, and following the lines of perforation, are a number of fine punches, pointing downwards, each about an inch long. The imperforate sheets—generally about ten at one time—are placed on another steel plate, which contains holes corresponding in position to the punches of the upper plate. By means of a hand lever the plate with the punches descends, they pass through the sheets, and each one through its corresponding aperture in the lower plate, the small circular pieces of paper cut from the sheets falling into a receptacle below. The punches count 61 horizontally and 120 vertically, and give a perforation of as near as possible $12\frac{1}{2}$ all round.

It sometimes happened that the sheets did not receive the punches properly, but that the punches passed through some of the lower sheets without removing the circular discs of paper. They acted more as pins than punches, and sheets subjected to this treatment appear with a very rough perforation. This is more especially noticeable in the issue with value in a straight line, and in some of the crown issues for the colonies.

It may here be well to note that forged perforations are met with of this and succeeding issues. Stamps which have forged perforations may easily be distinguished by noting the size of the stamp between perforations. They should measure 27 cmm. by 24 cmm., which is constant; any others of shorter measurement should be regarded with suspicion. These forgeries of perforation are not made generally so much with the intention of deceiving collectors, as to give a stamp, if one or more sides have been cut or damaged, a better appearance. I once ordered and obtained the 25 reis of this issue most beautifully perforated $13\frac{1}{2}$; the copy was, of course, obtained from an imperforate specimen. A $12\frac{1}{2}$ or $13\frac{1}{2}$ changed into a 14 would be at once condemned if the distances between perforations were less than the lengths I have given above.

Mons. Moens gives the dates of the various values as they appeared, which, as far as I have been able to verify, are correct.

After the employment of the perforating machine no values were issued perforated, and the explanation of their appearance at various dates is that

they were not requisitioned before those dates, the supplies existing in the various post offices in the imperforate state being sufficient for their requirements.

The first to appear was the 20 reis, in July, 1867; this was followed by the 10, 25, and 80 reis in the following September. The 5 and 120 reis appeared in November, 1867, the 50 reis in July, 1868, and the 100 reis in March, 1869. The 240 reis was issued early in 1870.

In the perforated series there are varieties in the 5, 25, and 100 reis.

Among the specimens of the 5 reis I have examined I have not found any which exactly correspond to the varieties of the imperf. issue; it is, however, probable that they exist.

5 *reis.* Variety 1. There is a break in the frame below the "E" of the lower word "REIS," and the "5"s are about 1½ cmm. from the ends of the labels.

Variety 2. There is no break in the frame, otherwise similar to No. 1, except that the lower left-hand "5" is blurred.

Variety 3. The "5"s are nearer the ends of the labels.

Variety 4. Very like No. 3, but the upper left-hand "5" leans over to the right, and the distance of the lower left-hand "5" from the end of the label is greater.

25 *reis.* Here I adopt the system of identification used for the imperf. stamps of this value.

Variety 1. (1) to right, (2) vertical, (3) vertical. In this variety there is a greater distance between the figures and the ends of the label than in any other variety.

Variety 2. (1) to right, (2) vertical, (3) vertical. This is like No. 2 of the imperf. series.

Variety 3. (1) vertical, (2) to left, (3) to left. This is like No. 1 of the imperf. series.

Variety 4. (1) to right, (2) to left, (3) to left.

Variety 5. (1) vertical, (2) vertical, (3) to left. This is like No. 3 of the imperf. series.

Variety 6. (1) to right, (2) to left, (3) to left. Very similar to No. 4, but there is a greater space between the "2" and the end of the label in the upper right-hand corner.

Variety 7. (1) to right, (2) vertical, (3) to left. This is very similar to No. 2, but the lower part of the "5" in the lower left-hand corner touches the network.

Variety 8. (1) to right, (2) vertical, (3) to left. Similar to No. 7, but the "5" in the upper left-hand corner leans much more to the right.

Variety 9. (1) vertical, (2) vertical, (3) to left. Similar to No. 7, but a greater distance separates the figures at the upper right-hand corner.

The above represents the order of the appearance of the different varieties as far as I have been able to discover. From an examination of

a large number of stamps on the original covers there occurs, however, a great overlapping, and I am inclined to think that some varieties were issued practically at the same time.

Of the remaining values of this issue no varieties occur except of the 100 reis.

The first variety is the same as the stamp in the imperf. state in deep purple, but variety 2 is printed in pale lilac, and the last "0" of the figure of value in the right-hand lower corner has a square top.

Reprints.

I am not sure if all the stamps of this issue can be met with perf. 12½. I possess only the 240 reis, nor have I ever seen any others. I have heard of some, but without seeing them I prefer to leave their chronicling to others. The 100 reis was intentionally reprinted in the two shades of purple and pale lilac.

SYNOPSIS.

Issue IX. July, 1867. D. Luiz.

Perf. 12½.

5 reis	(4 varieties);	deep black to grey-black.
10 „		orange, orange-yellow.
20 „		bistre (deep to pale).
25 „	(9 varieties);	pale rose to deep carmine.
50 „		yellow-green (shades).
80 „		orange (shades).
100 „	(Variety No. 1);	deep purple (shades).
100 „	(Variety No. 2);	pale lilac (shades).
120 „		deep blue, bright blue, pale blue.
240 „		deep purple, purple, pale purple.

Varieties of double impression.

25 reis (Variety 7); deep rose.
120 „ pale blue.

Reprints.

Perf. 12½.

240 reis; bright purple.

Perf. 13½.

5 reis (Variety No. 2); black.

The Government Official Stamp Case.

WITH the increased prices attaching to stamps, as in common with all other objects of value that are easily disposable, there has, of later years, been no inconsiderable crop of offences against the laws of the land, but unless any point of philatelic interest was involved we have generally deemed it better to leave such news to the more appropriate columns of the daily Press. The very important case that has just terminated cannot, however, be passed by any journal that aspires to place on record the events and history of current Philately, although, for obvious reasons, the task is far from congenial.

The proceedings have been exhaustively reported and widely commented upon in almost every newspaper in the country, hence we do not deem it necessary to do more than briefly and succinctly to place on record the broad facts of the case.

On June 9th proceedings were instituted by the Inland Revenue at Bow Street Police Court against Alfred Waterhouse, a clerk in the Inland Revenue Department, of Great Percy Street, King's Cross; Henry John Richards, cycle maker, Russian Road, Nightingale Lane, Wandsworth Common; and Anthony Buck Creeke, jun., solicitor, Wray Crescent, Tollington Park, who were charged, before Sir Albert De Rutzen, with being concerned in stealing and receiving a number of officially surcharged postage stamps. After a remand, Percy Tidd Richards, the brother, and subsequently Walter John Richards, the father of H. J. Richards, were also included in the prosecution. After occupying no less than nine days before the magistrates, all the five defendants were committed for trial, bail being allowed.

The trial was held at the Central Criminal Court before the Recorder, on the 10th of this month, and after occupying nearly three days, Waterhouse and the two younger Richardses were acquitted, but Walter John Richards, principal clerk in the Postal Department of Somerset House, and Anthony Buck Creeke, jun., solicitor, acting on the advice of counsel, pleaded guilty to one of the counts of an indictment preferred against them. Both were sentenced to six months' imprisonment in the second division. During the protracted course of this case very many of the leading dealers and collectors were summoned as witnesses, and it was clearly established that large sales of these official stamps had taken place of late years, despite the stringent regulations to the contrary. A reproduction of all the evidence is beyond the scope of this journal, and we cannot do better than place before our readers the able *précis* of the case contained in a leading article in the *Standard* of September 15th.

"The prolonged inquiry into the curious fraud which has aroused so much interest among Philatelists was yesterday brought to a close at the Central Criminal Court, when the Recorder passed sentence on Walter John Richards and Anthony Buck Creeke, jun., who had pleaded guilty to charges of illegal trafficking in Government stamps. Richards had been principal clerk

in the Postal Department of Somerset House, and Creeke was a solicitor. A clerk named Waterhouse, who had been employed at the Admiralty, and was charged with having stolen a large number of official stamps and sold them to a dealer named Frank Moore, was acquitted, the jury adding a rider to the effect that Moore, who had purchased the stamps, ought to be put in the dock and charged with receiving. Two other of the five accused were the sons of the prisoner Richards, and the jury returned a formal verdict of acquittal, the prosecution having offered no evidence against them. The fraud practised by the two principals, who have escaped somewhat easily with a sentence of six months' imprisonment each, was very ingenious and deliberate, and it was effected by Richards taking advantage of his official position. He was in charge of the stamps at Somerset House, which represent a face value of many millions. Amongst them were what are known as overprinted official stamps, which have the name of a Government Department impressed on them—for example, the Office of Works or Royal Household—for the purposes of accounting with the Post Office and ascertaining what amount of postal work is done gratuitously for the different Departments. These stamps are not issued to the public; but, as the evidence showed, the public, in some cases perhaps innocently, in others not so innocently, are glad to get possession of them for collections, and the dealers, who, if they are not aware of the restriction, at least ought to be, have in some instances been prepared to supply the demand at considerably enhanced prices over the face value. Creeke was an expert in stamps, who had written a book on the subject, and had been allowed facilities by Somerset House to collect information for this literary purpose. Richards, out of the supply of overwritten stamps in his custody, supplied Creeke with stamps of various denominations. In order to conceal his abstractions, it was necessary that the *lacunæ* should be filled up; and this was done by cutting off parts of stamps that had been cancelled, fitting them skilfully together, and putting them in the place of those that had been abstracted. Suspicion had been aroused by the fact of the overprinted stamps getting into the hands of the public; it was discovered that Creeke was selling 'sets' of them to collectors; and the relations of Richards and Creeke then became evident."

From among the many articles and comments in the Press, we select the following portion of a leader in the *Morning Advertiser*, as it absolutely embodies our ideas and impressions of this case:—

"Many people who have followed the curious 'stamp case,' the result of which we record to-day, will be inclined to feel some sympathy for the unfortunate men who left the dock at the Old Bailey yesterday to serve sentences of six months' imprisonment. As the Recorder made clear, the sentences inflicted are in no way indicative of the real penalty each will undergo. In the case of W. J. Richards, a man who has been employed in a Government office for thirty-five years, the sentence means loss of position (£540 per annum) and the pension which would have kept him in comfort for the rest of his days; to say nothing of the social obloquy which attaches to a convicted person. In the case of A. B. Creeke, the sentence may be followed by his loss of the right to act as a solicitor. Sympathy will, we imagine, be directed towards these men because the

public will feel that Richards was led into the commission of a crime by the example of some of his superiors, while Creeke was encouraged to aid and abet him in the belief that the matter would, if discovered, be treated as a very trifling offence. In the course of the police-court inquiry it was made quite clear that high officials in Somerset House consider themselves at liberty to take specimen sheets of new Government stamps, and either add them to their own collection or present them to their near relatives and friends. There is of course a difference between such transactions and the traffic in Government property for private profit, but the lax system which seems to have prevailed in high circles in Somerset House goes to explain, if not to extenuate, the prisoners' wrongdoing. Under all the circumstances we do not think the Government could have done less than prosecute Richards and Creeke and allow them to suffer the penalty. However great may have been the inducement offered by the example of others, they were evidently aware that they were not doing the right thing. The mere fact that the stamps themselves were of no great value had no more to do with the criminality of the offence than the paper value of a Bank of England note has with its value as a medium of exchange."

There is one person in connection with the case who has escaped lightly, as the process of placing the prohibited stamps in the hands of the dealers, and thence to private collectors, was made clear by the examination of the dealer Frank Moore. "Whoever stole the stamps from the Admiralty, they found their way to Moore, who asserted that he did not know they were not issued to the public. For hundreds of stamps, ranging from one penny to four shillings, he gave double the face value; and for the shilling stamps he said he could get £1 each; and the Recorder remarked that he regarded Moore as having been an accomplice of whoever sold the stamps. There were other stamps bought by Moore, overprinted with the 'Office of Works,' and resold at £12 or £15 a set. At the time he was aware from the visits of detectives that the Admiralty stamps had been stolen; but his explanation was that he did not consider this any bar to his purchase of Office of Works stamps, since he was not aware of any prohibition applying to Departmental stamps."

The final judgment of this case from the philatelic world will not be widely different from that of the daily Press, *i.e.* that there has been a grave breach of trust, and that it has been severely punished. At the same time there are circumstances that in the eyes of the collector tend to reduce the gravity of the offence, and hence to make the sentence seem almost unduly severe. Although all the stamps in the Inland Revenue Department that have not been issued for sale are the exclusive property of the Government, and like any private effect should have remained so, during the past forty years there has been a constant leakage of obsolete stamps. It is within the knowledge of very many leading collectors, dealers, *and others*, that certain stamps which could only have "got out" from official sources have, during many years, changed ownership. In the case of the I. R. Official there must now be an enormous quantity in the hands of Philatelists, not only in this country but all over the world, acquired, despite the absurd comments in some papers about "the innocence of purchasers," as legiti-

mately as any other curio. The knowledge of these facts, and the extended issue of the Departmental surcharges, doubtless caused the Inland Revenue Department to lay down still more severe regulations as to the sale of these stamps, and in the present case the Government has obviously determined to stamp the practice out by making an example and "hanging someone." Although we can in no way condone the gross breach of faith on the part of either Richards or Creeke, we cannot but feel that they have been very heavily punished indeed, as far beyond the sentence itself is the cutting off of their career, and the absolute forfeiture alike of their position and income. To Mr. A. B. Creeke especially, as a Philatelist of long standing and great ability, will the sympathies of all collectors be tendered, coupled with the hope that some means may ultimately be devised to mitigate the severity of his punishment.

Occasional Notes.

THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY, LONDON.

1903 PROGRAMME OF THE SEASON 1903–4.

Oct. 23.	The Earl of Crawford, K.T. (*Vice-President*).	A Display of the Stamps of the United States of America, with Notes.
Nov. 6.	H.R.H. The Prince of Wales (*President*).	A Display of Proofs, Essays, and Stamps, Illustrating the History of the Postal Issues of the United Kingdom during the Present Reign, with Notes compiled from Official Sources.
Nov. 20.	Mr. W. B. Avery . .	A Display of the Stamps of British Guiana, with Notes.
Dec. 4.	Mr. F. Reichenheim .	A Display of the Stamps of France (1849–1899), with Notes and Lantern Enlargements.
Dec. 18. 1904	Mr. M. P. Castle (*Hon. Vice-President*).	A Display of the Earlier Issues of New Zealand, with Notes.
Jan. 8.	Mr. L. L. R. Hausburg .	A Display of the Stamps of South Australia, with Notes.
Jan. 22.	Mr. B. D. Knox . .	A Paper entitled "Philatelic Reminiscences of the Early Sixties," with Display of Untouched Collections of that period.
Feb. 5.	Mr. Gordon Smith . .	Notes on the Correct Treatment of Perforations.
Feb. 19.	Mr. R. B. Yardley . .	Notes on the Stamps of the First Republic of the Transvaal, in connection with the Reference List for "Africa," Part III., with Display of Dated Specimens.
	Mr. E. J. Nankivell. .	Paper on the Waterlow Series of New Zealand Stamps, with Display.
Mar. 4.	Mr. W. Dorning Beckton .	Display of the Stamps of Modena, with Notes.
Mar. 18.	Mr. Douglas Ellis . .	Display of Japanese Post Cards.

1904.		
Mar. 18.	Mr. R. Ehrenbach .	. Discussion, "Is Collecting with the Aid of the Present Catalogues and Albums becoming too Difficult for Beginners?"
April 15.	Mr. T. W. Hall .	. Paper on the Early Issues of the Stamps of Uruguay, with Display.
April 29.	Mr. L. L. R. Hausburg	. Display of the Stamps of Victoria, with Notes and Lantern Enlargements.
May 13.	Mr. H. R. Oldfield .	. Paper and Display.
May 27.	Mr. T. Wickham Jones	. Paper on the Stamps of Sicily, with Display.
June 10.		Annual General Meeting.

SPANISH COLONIAL S.S. ISSUES.

THE dimensions of the former great Colonial Empire of Spain have been so sorely shorn by recent events that the remnant would seem to afford but little scope for the collector's energy. The enterprise of Spanish colonial administration has apparently determined to make up this deficiency by the issue of stamps that can have no legitimate use, and can only be created to draw money from the collector's pocket. Among the very few relics of Spain's former colonies is Fernando Po, which for very many years was represented, like Malta and Poland, by a single stamp only. All this, however, is to be changed by the issue of several sets of many values. *Mekeel's Weekly* informs us that "there is only one Post Office for the colony of Fernando Po, the continental district of Spanish Guinea and the islands of Elobey, Annoben, and Corisco—none other than that of Santa Isabel. A French paper tells us that this town had 1,193 inhabitants at the last census, mostly illiterate, as there were only 108 whites and half-breeds. This single office, then, has the distinction of employing three series of stamps, comprising fifty-four varieties, for the needs of an exceedingly small population, with the prospect of an annual renewing of the same. It seems that this presentation of the true status of Spanish colonial operations should open the eyes of collectors as to the worthlessness of such trash. Insult is added to injury by Madrid dealers offering cancelled sets that have, without doubt, never seen Africa."

There are, therefore, more varieties of stamps than there are adult people, and these issues are to be renewed annually! Fernando Po may yet wipe out its splendid isolation of bygone years, and have to be specialised in ten volumes.

FORGERIES OF THE THESSALY STAMPS.

MESSRS. Whitfield King and Co. inform us that stamps for this country issued during the Turkish occupation in 1898 have been extensively forged, and are being sent in large quantities from Constantinople, mostly obliterated very nicely with assorted fancy postmarks.

Our friends kindly submit an unused set, which, they inform us, are genuine, and another used set, stated to be forgeries, for comparison. The first thing we notice is that the former are perforated 13½, while the forgeries only gauge 11½.

The colours, further, do not agree, the forgeries being darker in the 1, 2, and 5 piastres, and quite different in the two lower denominations. Side by side, the difference between the two sets is easily detected, and the perforations alone are sufficient to give the show away.

THE AMERICAN PHILATELIC CONVENTION.

THIS function was held this year at Clayton, New York, on the 10th of August, and was very largely attended by American Philatelists. The following elections to the A.P.A. were made: President, Alex. Holland, Brooklyn, New York; Vice-Presidents, F. H. Burt, Gordon Ireland, and Willard O. Wylie; Secretary, D. T. Eaton, Muscatine, Iowa; International Secretary, E. Doeblin, Pittsburg, Pa.; Treasurer, C. L. Annan, St. Paul, Minn.; M. H. Lombard, resident Vice-President, Boston; William E. Loy, resident Vice-President, San Francisco; W. F. Gregory, resident Vice-President, New York; E. Doeblin, resident Vice-President, Pittsburg; P. M. Wolsieffer, resident Vice-President, Chicago; Eben S. Martin, resident Vice-President, Minneapolis; R. D. Maynard, resident Vice-President, Western Mass.; Librarian, E. H. Anderson, Pittsburg, Pa.; Assistant Librarian, H. E. Deats, Flemington, N.J.

DEATH OF MR. J. V. PAINTER.

WE learn with much regret of the decease of Mr. Painter, of Cleveland, who was so well known to many collectors and dealers on both sides of the Atlantic as an ardent and enthusiastic collector. The visits of Mr. Painter to London were at one time of frequent occurrence, and he came in contact with many who will sadly regret the loss of one who was assuredly among the pioneers of collecting, for we well recollect his name in our earliest philatelic days. Mr. Painter was a keen student of stamps, and acquired during his long career very many of the choicest varieties, and should his collections have remained unbroken they must now represent alike a great interest and a great value. *Mekeel's Weekly* states that he "was a conspicuous example of the Philatelist of the serious and advanced type and a member of the American Philatelic Association," and gives the following sketch of Mr. Painter's successful career:—

"John Vickers Painter was born in West Chester, Pa., July 20th, 1835, His parents were descendants of people of the Quaker State who accompanied William Penn from England. In his boyhood and youth Mr. Painter received the Quaker training. He was educated at Haverford College, Pennsylvania, and early in his career came West and embarked in business in this city, where he had since resided. He first engaged in railroading in the employ of the Cleveland and Toledo Railroad Company, which is now a part of the Lake Shore system. In this capacity he acquired the business habits which exhibited to some extent his executive ability as a man of prompt and shrewd judgment. Later Mr. Painter went into the banking business, in which he continued until June 1st, 1873, when he retired because of failing health. After spending some years abroad he became interested in

manufacturing and iron mining and in the organisation of the Cleveland Stone Company, of which he was vice-president. Mr. Painter was also vice-president of the Cleveland and Pittsburg Railway, and was a director in many companies."

THE COMMONWEALTH STAMP.

IT is evident that the strictures we expended on this hideous production are fully shared in the land of its origin, as we read from the minutes of the meeting of the Sydney Philatelic Club of July 15th that "a discussion then took place regarding the 9d. value of the New South Wales variety of the new Federal stamps, the issue of which had begun that day (specimens being shown by Mr. Smyth). Opinions were expressed to the effect that New South Wales was not receiving proper treatment from the Postal Department, and that the members ought to take some action in regard to the matter immediately. The following resolutions were carried unanimously:—

"'That the members view with regret the action of the Postmaster-General in issuing the first Federal stamps without previously calling for public competitive designs. They also regret that he has favoured one State to the disadvantage of the others by having stamps intended for use in New South Wales and Queensland printed in Victoria on paper water-marked V and Crown. They desire to express the opinion that the Postmaster-General's excuse for putting New South Wales last on the list of federated States on the new stamp is not satisfactory, and they consider that the omission of the word "Australia" is a serious mistake. They further desire to say that the design adopted has not even the merit of being original, is quite unworthy of the occasion, inartistic, and crude. That these resolutions be communicated to the Postmaster-General and the Press.'"

Reviews.

PAUL KOHL'S CATALOGUE.*



THIS now well-established catalogue has just reached us, and we note that, being dated 1903–1904, it is apparently not to be replaced by a new edition until 1905. This is as well, for we quite fail to see, and have not infrequently so written before, what reason there can possibly be for the issue of the leading dealers' catalogues every year. An addendum for the second year should surely suffice as regards new issues; and as regards prices, the less frequently they are disturbed the better for all concerned.

In our last review of this catalogue we were not sparing of our praises, but Herr Kohl is evidently not one of those people who "let well alone,"

* *Paul Kohl's Catalogue*, 1903–1904. Chemnitz, Germany.

as he has so much improved this new edition that our vocabulary of words of approval is likely to fall short of its merits. No less than 200 pages of fresh matter have been added, bringing the total paging to 940, all in double column. A most laudable and successful attempt has been made to make this work useful alike to the small and the big collector. In view of this the principal stamps are numbered and the minor varieties lettered after each number; in cases where there are several varieties of perforation, a special column is added for the "price of cheaper sorts" or normal copies; the catalogue is now quite alphabetical, whereas in the previous edition the colonies were grouped after the mother countries; and, lastly, the issues have been, as far as possible, simplified by forming them into groups. We note by the way that in so treating New Zealand, Herr Kohl has placed the London prints of 1855 with the Star watermark set of 1862; this, however, should not be, as it is an absolutely distinct issue of seven years previous date. The 1d. and 1s. are distinct stamps, as also the 2d., *bleuté;* the latter on white paper is hard to differentiate from early prints of 1862, but a note could be inserted that collectors can only accept such for certain when dated. New South Wales should have more and better illustrations of the Sydneys and Laureates. Of the former there are only two, both indifferent, *i.e.* not done from the stamp. The two plates of the 1d., Plate I. and II. of the 2d., and one of the 3d. should be the minimum. In the Laureates only the 1d. is shown, whereas there are three distinct plates of the 2d.

We can but re-echo our praise of last year, only in a still warmer manner, as regards this catalogue: it bears throughout the stamp of painstaking and scientific compilation, it is remarkably lucid in its arrangements, it is admirably printed and illustrated, and it reflects the greatest credit upon its enterprising publisher. We can but wonder that in a relatively new catalogue—this is only the fourth edition—so splendid a result has been arrived at. Paul Kohl's Catalogue is, in our opinion, worthy to rank alongside of the leading works of this kind all over the world, and we are not overstating our views if we say that we know of none better.

GEBRUDER SENF'S CATALOGUE.*

Many of us have had plethoric acquaintances whom we have been in the habit of meeting and noting that they were continually acquiring "breadth without height"; we have wondered how long and how far the too redundant obesity would continue before some cataclysm of nature solved the question in its own abrupt fashion. Such a thought occurs to us in contemplating the new edition (1903–1904) of our old friend—Senf's Catalogue. With 1300 pages bound up it is now almost as thick as it is wide, despite the marvellously thin and excellent paper employed. As with our fat acquaintance, there must be an end to this swelling greatness some day, and we would invite the publishers' attention hereto. They will have to face the question, at the latest, in two or three years from the present time, either by the division of the catalogue into two volumes, or, adopting the general plan followed of

* *Gebrüder Senf's Catalogue*, 1903–1904. Leipsic, Germany.

having double columns. It would, however, be a pity if the excellent, clear, large type, that has always been a feature of Messrs. Senf's Catalogue, were sacrificed, as in this particular line it stands in advance of all other similar works.

In all other respects Senf's Catalogue may be said to be living fully up to its reputation—and it is now one of the longest established—the new issues are fully brought up to date, the notes have been extended and revised, now numbering no less than 1400; the illustrations, though small, are clear and sharp, and the type and paper are worthy of Leipsic. It has long been a *vade mecum* with Continental collectors, and we can safely affirm that the present edition will, in all ways, confirm and strengthen the hold that this catalogue has upon Philatelists. We have, in fact, to congratulate Messrs. Senf Brothers on one more excellent and reliable edition of their catalogue, which, like Herr Kohl's, is apparently happily destined to exist for the next two years without a new edition. We should add that a new and commendable feature is provided in the guise of a want-list with all the numbers of the stamps on the left pages and blank sheets for remarks on those to the right.

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.

AUSTRALIAN COMMONWEALTH. — The new 9d. stamp for use in New South Wales has reached this side, and Messrs. Whitfield King and Co. send us a specimen. It is identical in design with those for Queensland and Victoria except for the inscription "NEW SOUTH WALES" at foot.

It is again reported that the 10s. and 20s. emerald-green Unpaid Letter stamps exist, and so we chronicle them.

Adhesive.

9d., red-brown and blue, inscribed "NEW SOUTH WALES" at foot; wmk. V and Crown; perf. 12½.

Postage Due.

10s., emerald-green; 2nd type (?).
20s. ,, ,,

BERMUDA.—Messrs. P. L. Pemberton and Co. have shown us the new 3d. stamp of the Arms or Graving Dock type.

Adhesive.

3d., sage green, magenta centre; C A; 14.

BRITISH SOMALILAND.—Information reaches *Ewen's Weekly* that "a complete set of Indian stamps, with the *King's* portrait and surcharged 'BRITISH SOMALILAND,' is ready in the Treasury, and will be issued on the expiration of the present set, but not conjointly." At the moment of going to press we hear from Mr. W. T. Wilson that supplies have reached him.

BRITISH SOUTH AFRICA.—The *P. J. G. B.* chronicles a new ½d. post card for Rhodesia. It bears the inscription "RHODESIA" as a

curved heading, and the Company's Arms underneath, while the stamp is a new arrangement of the adhesive type.

Post Card. ½d., blue-green on white.

CANADA.—The 1 c. post card with King's Head has appeared, and *Mekeel's Weekly* has received a specimen.

Post Card. 1 c., green on cream; King's Head.

CEYLON.—An addition has to be made to the King's Head issue of adhesives, and we hear through *Ewen's Weekly* of a new envelope.

Specimens of the new 2 c., 12 c., and 25 c. adhesives reach us from Messrs. Whitfield King and Co.

Adhesive.

2 cents, brown-orange; CA; perf. 14.

Envelope.

5 c., dark blue on cream wove.

EAST AFRICA AND UGANDA PROTECTORATES.—It is reported in *Ewen's Weekly* that a supply of King's Head stamps of the values ½ a., 2 a., 1 and 2 rupees, adhesives and registered envelopes, had reached Mombasa, and that the 2 annas adhesive had arrived on this side. The *Metropolitan Philatelist* gives the colours of all the adhesives.

Adhesives.

½ anna, green; King's Head; CA; 14.
2 annas, violet and lilac; King's Head; CA; 14.
1 rupee, green; King's Head; CA; 14.
2 rupees, purple ,, ,,

HONG KONG.—To the list of King's Head stationery given on page 118 must be added a 1 cent envelope.

Envelope. 1 cent, brown on white.

INDIA.—*Mekeel's* makes an addition to the Officials of the King's Head pattern.

Official.

3 a., brown-orange, surcharged On H S in black. M

Mr. W. T. Wilson has kindly sent us the new 6 annas stamp of the King's Head issue.

Adhesive.

6 a., bistre-brown; wmk. Star; perf. 14.

Gwalior.—The 1 anna, carmine, *Queen's Head* stamp reaches us from Messrs. Whitfield King and Co., surcharged in black "Gwalior" and native inscription in two lines.

Some King's Head stationery has to be noted.

Adhesive. 1 anna, carmine; *Queen's Head.*

Post Cards.

¼ anna, red-brown, with King's Head.
¼ + ¼ anna ,, ,, ,,

Jhind.—From the *P. J. of India* we gather that the following King's Head stamps have been surcharged for use here in addition to those already reported:—

Adhesives. 3 pies, grey.
½ a., pea-green.
1 a., carmine.
2 a., purple.
3 a., orange-brown.
4 a., olive-green.
8 a., violet.

Officials. 2 a., purple.
4 a., olive-green.
8 a., violet.

Patiala.—From the same source we hear of the following King's Head stamps supplied for use.

Officials. 1 anna, carmine.
3 annas, orange-brown.
8 ,, violet.

MONTSERRAT.—The expected new issue has come over, and Messrs. Whitfield King and Co. submit copies. The design for all but the 5s. value, which bears the King's Head, shows a female figure, a cross, and a harp, enclosed in a fancy frame with name at top, value in words at foot, "POSTAGE" at left and "REVENUE" at right.

All values up to 2s. 6d. inclusive are of the usual size, wmk. CA and Crown; while the 5s. is of large size, like the Antigua, wmk. CC; all perf. 14.

Adhesives.

½d., green.
1d., carmine and grey-black.
2d., brown ,, ,,
2½d., ultramarine ,,
3d., mauve and yellow-brown.
6d., olive and mauve.
1s., violet and green.
2s., chestnut and green.
2s. 6d., black and green.
5s., carmine and grey-black.

MOROCCO AGENCIES.—We read in *Ewen's Weekly* that more of the Gibraltar stationery has been surcharged for use here.

Post Cards.

5 c., in black, on ½d., green on cream.
10 c. ,, 1d., rose ,,

Wrappers.

5 c., in black, on ½d., green on chamois.
10 c. ,, 1d., rose-red ,,

NEW ZEALAND.—The latest novelty issued here is a ½d., green, newspaper wrapper of effective appearance and bearing the King's Head.

Wrapper.

½d., green on white.

ST. KITTS-NEVIS.—The following list of stationery, belonging to the new adhesive set, is taken from *Ewen's Weekly.*

Envelopes.

1d., red on white.
2½d., blue on white.

Registration Envelope.
2d., blue.

Wrappers.
½d., green on buff.
1d., carmine on buff.

ST. LUCIA.—Another value of the King's Head type reaches us from Messrs. Whitfield King and Co.

Adhesive.
1s., green, name and value in black; CA; perf. 14.

VICTORIA.—Something new in the perforation line is noted in the *Australian J. of P.* and *Ewen's Weekly*.

Adhesives. 3d., orange-brown; perf. 11.
6d., bright green ,,
6d. ,, perf. 12½ × 11.
1d., rose-red ,,

EUROPE.

GERMANY.—The new German Official stamps are stated to exist in about thirty different sets.

Each State uses a different number, that for Prussia being No. 21, and presumably the most common.

It will be well for Philately if these stamps are unattainable in an unused condition.

ROUMANIA.—We understand from the *Philatelic Record* that the 15 bani of the 1893-6 type has changed its colour to lilac or mauve.

Adhesive. 15 bani, mauve.

SERVIA.—The run on the lately issued 1 para stamp was so great that a provisional has been made.

It is the 5 dinars, *Ewen's* tells us, that has been converted into a 1 para stamp, and *Mekeel's Weekly* informs us that both the new value and the Arms are in *red.*

Provisional.
1 para on 5 dinars, brown and black; new value and Arms in *red.*

AMERICA.

BOLIVIA.—We gather from the *Metropolitan Philatelist* that there is another new stamp of the general style of the 1901 series—20 c., dark-violet, with Portrait in centre in black.

Adhesive. 20 c., dark-violet and black.

COLOMBIAN REPUBLIC.—*Antioquia.*—The *Metropolitan Philatelist* has received a new stamp of this State.

It is reported that the shape is narrow oblong, with large numeral in the centre, and that the principal interest is the fact that the postage is to be advanced to this amount and no more low values will be printed.

Adhesive. 50 centavos, dull rose.

NICARAGUA.—Another provisional has appeared, and *Ewen's Weekly* lists a 5 pesos on 10 c.

Provisional. 5 pesos on 10 c., violet.

SALVADOR.—The 3 c., Ship design, listed on page 155 as an ordinary adhesive, turns out, according to the *M. J.*, one of an Unpaid Letter series, of which four other values are known.

Postage Due. 1 c., green; Ship design.
2 c., red. ,, ,,
3 c., olive-green. ,, ,,
5 c., deep blue. ,, ,,
24 c., deep red. ,, ,,

OTHER COUNTRIES.

FRENCH COLONIES.—*Congo.*—The following provisionals are recorded by *Ewen's Weekly*:—

Adhesives. Stamps of large type.
5 c. on 30 c., red and yellow (4,000).
10 c. on 2 fr., carmine and brown (4,000).

The old value is barred, in the case of the 30 c. by two short bars placed on the figures, and in that of the 2 fr. by one long bar extending the whole width of the stamp.

FRENCH POST OFFICES ABROAD.—*Canton.*—From the *P. J. of India* we learn that the set of stamps for Indo-China has been surcharged "CANTON," in black, with an additional Chinese surcharge of value.

Morocco.—Another value, the 5 pesetas on 5 fr., has been reported.—*M. C.*

Adhesive. 5 pestas on 5 fr., blue and yellow.

Pakhoi.—To the set chronicled on page 180 must be added the 5 francs.

Adhesive. 5 fr., lilac on toned.

Tchongking and Yunnan-Sen.—The full set of Indo-China, 1 c. to 5 fr., is reported by *Ewen's Weekly*, surcharged in black for use here. We need not repeat the different values.

NYASSA (PORTUGUESE POSSESSIONS).—Messrs. Whitfield King and Co. inform us that the surcharges on the five provisionals chronicled on page 122 were applied locally, and that a fresh lot has been overprinted in London.

The latter show the word "PROVISORIO" printed *horizontally* in tall capitals on the 15 and 25 reis, and the three higher values

have tall, thick figures and the word "REIS" in block capitals.

Specimens of all are submitted by above friends.

PERSIA.—We have received the 2 Chahis, in the second variety of Type 29, with a new form of the "P. L. TEHERAN" overprint. The letters "P. L." are now in heavy type, with serifs, and the name is in upright sans-serif capitals, instead of italic.—*M. J.*

2 ch., red-brown; black *surcharge*.

Philatelic Societies' Meetings.

Herts Philatelic Society.

Honorary President:
H. Jennings-White.
Honorary Vice-President:
Herbert R. Oldfield.
Vice-Presidents:
W. B. Avery, M. P. Castle, J.P.,
Robert Ehrenbach, Gordon Smith, M.A.
Committee:
Louis E. Bradbury, W. G. Cool,
R. Frentzel, Franz Reichenheim,
W. Schwabacher, J. C. Sidebotham,
W. Simpson, C. R. Sutherland.
Honorary Librarian:
George Haynes, Norbury House, Kingston-on-Thames, and 124, Newgate Street, London, E.C.
Honorary Auditors:
W. A. Boyes and George Gaffe.
Honorary Secretary and Treasurer:
H. A. Slade, Ingleside, St. Albans.
Headquarters for Monthly Meetings:
Anderton's Hotel, Fleet Street, London, E.C.

Annual Subscription, 5s. No entrance fee.
Life Membership, £2 2s.

PROGRAMME OF MEETINGS.

1903.
Oct. 20. Display with Notes: France. Franz Reichenheim.
Oct. 27. General Display by the Members: Great Britain. (Special Meeting.)
Nov. 17. Display: Ceylon and Straits Settlements. W. B. Avery.
Dec. 15. Display with Notes: Japan. F. Wickham Jones.
1904.
Jan. 19. Display: New South Wales. R. G. Harvey Clarke.
Feb. 16. Display: Mauritius and United States. H. J. Duveen.
Feb. 23. Display with Notes: Zanzibar. W. V. Morten. (Special Meeting.)
Paper: "Our Young Philatelists and Philatelic Prospects." E. Heginbottom, B.A.
Mar. 15. Display with Notes: Griqualand. R. B. Yardley.
Paper: "The Shady Side of Philately." F. A. Wickhart.
April 19. Display with Notes: Tonga. H. L. Hayman.
Display: Oil Rivers and Niger Coast Protectorate. C. J. Daun.
May 10. Annual Dinner.
May 17. Annual Meeting.

Promises for Papers and Displays are regarded as conditional. Other meetings may be called at the discretion of the Committee.

ATTENDANCES.

The attendance of the Members at the meetings was:—

October	14,	1902,	No. of Members present		36
November	11	,,	,,	,,	20
December	9	,,	,,	,,	17
January	13,	1903	,,	,,	22
February	10	,,	,,	,,	27
February	27	,,	,,	,,	22
March	10	,,	,,	,,	17
April	21	,,	,,	,,	33
Annual Dinner, May 19		,,	,,	,,	52
Annual Meeting, May 26			,,	,,	15

Average attendance of Members for 1901–2: 22
" " " " " 1902–3: 26

EXCHANGE PACKETS (1902–3).

Month.		Value of Pkts. £	s.	d.	Sales. £	s.	d.
October,	1902 .	742	16	11 .	79	9	7
November	,, .	707	8	4 .	82	4	10
December	,, .	668	17	3 .	81	3	1
January,	1903 .	699	4	1 .	65	17	7
February	,, .	681	3	2 .	61	4	3
March	,, .	591	1	9 .	64	4	6
April	,, .	704	3	2 .	69	13	1
May	,, .	606	1	11 .	71	1	11
		£5,400	16	7	£574	18	10

Average Value of Packets . £675 2s. 1d.
Average Sales . . . £ 71 17s. 4d.

Manchester Philatelic Society.

ESTABLISHED 1891.

SESSION 1903–4.

President:
W. Dorning Beckton.
Vice-Presidents:
J. H. Abbott. W. Grunewald.
Hon. Treasurer:
C. H. Coote, Holmefield, Sale.
Hon. Librarian:
G. L. Campbell, jun.
Hon. Secretary:
G. Fred H. Gibson, Fairfield, Crumpsall, Manchester.
Assist. Hon. Sec.: J. S. Gee.
Comptroller: W. Grunewald.
Committee:
G. B. Duerst. W. W. Munn. Rev. L. F. Ward.

The meetings are held at the *Grand Hotel, Manchester*, every Friday evening, at 7 o'clock.

SYLLABUS.

1903.
Sept. 25. Opening Meeting: Display of stamps catalogued (S. G. and Co.) at £1 or under. Limited to twelve by each member.
Oct. 2. Auction Lots.
,, 9. Paper: Tasmania. L. L. R. Hausburg.
,, 16. Elementary Discussion: Italy.
,, 23. Display with Notes: Belgium (later issues). W. W. Munn.
,, 30. Auction Lots.
Nov. 6. Display with Notes: Fiji. W. D. Beckton.
,, 13. Elementary Discussion: Falkland Islands.
,, 20 Practical Demonstration of the Colour Question.
,, 27. Auction Lots.
Dec. 4. Five Minutes with Interesting Stamps. F. J. Beazley, G. F. H. Gibson, W. Grunewald.
,, 11. Elementary Discussion: China.
1903.
Dec. 18. Paper: Types of Stamps. N. Heywood.
1904.
Jan. 8. Display of Stamps of any one country. Limited to twelve by each member.
,, 15. Auction Lots.
,, 22. Paper: Ionian Islands. W. D. Beckton.
,, 29. Elementary Discussion: Paraguay.
Feb. 2 (Tuesday). Annual Dinner, 6.30 p.m.
,, 12. Auction Lots.
,, 19. Display with Notes: Nicaragua. R. Albrecht.
,, 26. Elementary Discussion: Liberia.
Mar. 4. Paper: Young Philatelists and Philatelic Prospects. J. E. Heginbottom.
,, 11. Auction Lots.
Mar. 18. Display with Notes: Dutch Indies. R. F. Chance.
,, 25. Elementary Discussion: Russia.
,, 30 (Wednesday). Display with Notes: Roumania (from 1893). C. H. Coote.
April 8. Elementary Discussion: Hong Kong.
,, 15. Paper: Saxony. G. B. Duerst.

Correspondence.

COMMUNICATIONS.—*All communications of Philatelic matters and Publications for Review should be addressed to the Editor of* THE LONDON PHILATELIST, Aylesbury, Furze Hill, Brighton.

ADVERTISEMENTS *should be sent to* MR. A. CHURCHILL EMERSON (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. A. CHURCHILL EMERSON, EFFINGHAM HOUSE, ARUNDEL STREET, STRAND, LONDON, W.C.

OFFICIAL STAMPS.

To the Editor of the "London Philatelist."

SIR,—The article in the July *London Philatelist* raises two questions regarding which it might be interesting to have some discussion, namely:—

(*a*) Whether Official stamps should be procurable by the public unused.

(*b*) Whether such should be collected by a postage stamp collector.

In order to form a judgment, it may perhaps be well to refer to a couple of definitions (English and American respectively) of the word "stamp."

Encyclopædia Britannica, vol. xxii. p. 448: "The stamp is a cheap and convenient mode of certifying that the revenue regulations have been complied with."

Century Dictionary and Encyclopedia, p. 5896: "An official mark set upon a thing chargeable with duty or tax showing that the duty or tax is paid."

In view of these definitions it would seem to me that if one desires a complete collection of postage stamps of any country he should collect everything which certifies "that the revenue regulations have been complied with." It is undoubtedly true that the surcharge of a stamp is probably only done in order the more accurately to allocate the expenses of a particular department, but if a department elect so to mark its stamps, it is clearly the intention that such and only such are to be used for franking its correspondence, and a collection of a country would not be complete without specimens of all "stamps" actually used for franking letters either within such country or for its external correspondence.

It almost follows that except as "specimens" unused official stamps should *not* be collected, inasmuch as for the general public they possess no franking power, and in many instances their use other than as prescribed would lead to a penalty.

Personally I consider it quite logical for a collector of postage "stamps" to include everything that indicates the "regulations have been complied with," and consequently permits any package or thing to pass through the post without fine or penalty, although as a matter of convenience I can scarcely imagine any collector endeavouring to secure a copy of every type and variety of, say, O.H.M.S. envelopes! But though as a matter of convenience such things are not collected, they are to my mind just as much

postage "stamps" as the best engraved little bit of adhesive paper nicely perforated all round, inasmuch as the latter "postage stamps" possess no greater franking power than any other officially authorised device, nor, in fact, so much, in consequence of restrictions as to weight of packages sent by the public. Yours faithfully,

S. CHAPMAN.

P.S.—Incidentally I may mention that since Mexico began to surcharge with the word "Oficial" stamps ordinarily sold to the public, it has not been possible to purchase any of such official stamps unused, and the majority of used copies offered for sale were not surcharged "Oficial" by the Mexican authorities.—S. C.

[The definition of "postage stamp" may be widely different from that of "stamp." We agree with our correspondent that O.H.M.S. on the envelopes have equal significance from a philatelic point of view with the surcharges of a Government Department. Neither have aught to do with postage.—ED.]

"DISCOVERING" WATERMARKS BY PHOTOGRAPHY.

To the Editor of the "London Philatelist."

SIR,—With reference to Mr. Long's claim to have "discovered" the method of discovering watermarks by photography, may I draw your attention to pp. 15 and 149 of *Postage Stamps and their Collection*, published by L. Upcott Gill in 1897? The illustrations on the pages referred to show the wavy-line watermark on horizontally laid paper of a Bavarian stamp, and the "N S W" watermark of the "Duty" paper of New South Wales, both illustrations being from prints on photographic paper made by using the watermarked paper itself as a negative.

This is not to say that any claim is put in for the "discovery" of such a means, which one would think must have been made as soon as albumen paper was commonly used, such a use of it being almost self-evident! Yours faithfully,

A MEMBER, P.S.L.

The Market.

NOTE.—*Under this title will be inserted all the information that may refer in any way to the financial aspects of Philately*, e.g. *the sales or values of stamps, the state of the Market, Trade publications, etc.*

THE auction season opens with good promise.

Before *The London Philatelist* is in print the sales will be in full swing again, for we have received catalogues from Messrs. Ventom, Bull, and Cooper; Puttick and Simpson; Plumridge and Co.; and the J. W. Scott Co., Ltd.

Messrs. Ventom, Bull, and Cooper will hold their sale of September 24th and 25th, and future ones, at the Temple Hotel, Arundel Street, Strand, most centrally and conveniently situated.

Included in this catalogue is a pair of 1s. Nova Scotia, exceedingly rare in this condition. The writer has seen and handled many 1s. values of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick in his time, but never once a pair. Competition for this pair should indeed be keen.

An entire envelope, bearing no less than nine specimens of the 1d., buff, and three 3d., blotting-paper, Natal, is also not likely to have gone begging.

Messrs. Puttick and Simpson's sale of September 29th and 30th contains some good things. The St. Vincents are a nice lot, and a block of four 1d. on half 6d., green, and strip of three 4d. on 1s., vermilion, all unused and mint, will doubtless be keenly contested for. There are also some nice blocks of four unused triangular Capes and some fine used pairs of 1d. and single 2d. "Post Paid" Mauritius. The 1s., *yellow-green*, perf. 15, engraved, Nevis, no gum, and the St. Kitts, One Penny on 2½d., blue, *small type*, we may safely say will excite competition.

Messrs. Plumridge and Co. open their season with a sale on October 6th and 7th, which contains a good many desirable lots.

The voluminous catalogue of the collection of the late Wm. Alex. Smith, jun., to be sold by Messrs. J. W. Scott and Co., Ltd., of New York, on October 26th, 27th, 28th, and 29th, November 30th, and December 1st, 2nd, 3rd, has reached us. An idea of the magnitude of this sale may be deduced from the fact that the catalogue extends to 176 pages, and that there are no less than 874 lots devoted to U.S.A. Postals, Officials, Carrier Stamps, Newspaper Stamps, Envelopes, Telegraphs, Revenues, Proofs, etc., while the foreign portion is comprised under 3,534 lots, but some of the lots are smaller than we are accustomed to see in catalogues issued on this side.

The sheet of illustrations shows the 27, 54, and 108 paras circular Moldavians; 60 crazie, Tuscany; pair of Winterthurs; pair of Athens 5 cents, and the 5 cents Baton Rouge, on *entires;* Prussia, pair 2 sgr., solid background, unused; together with a goodly lot of the rarities of Europe and British Colonies. The sale will doubtless be the success that so important a collection demands.

THE

London Philatelist:

THE MONTHLY JOURNAL OF

THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY, LONDON.

VOL. XII. OCTOBER, 1903. No. 142.

The Tapling Collection.

IT is with sincere gratification that we are at length enabled to announce that the Tapling Collection is now finally arranged and permanently thrown open to public inspection. The cases were unlocked on Monday the 5th of October, and the whole of the adhesive stamps are now on view. Unfortunately, however, there is not room to display the entire collection of entires, the exhibition area required for these being enormous, but an endeavour will be made to show the most interesting of these. To this end eighty-four slides in the last cabinet will, later on, contain a selection of the envelopes and post cards. We are glad to hear from Mr. E. D. Bacon that an Index of the collection is being prepared for public use, by which the visitor will easily and promptly be able to find any particular issue or country that he may desire to inspect.

The system adopted for the display of the stamps of sliding vertical drawers has been fully described in this journal, and now that public access thereto is allowed, there is scarcely need for further description of the system of arrangement; but we are confident that every visitor will join with us in our expression of the highest approval of the scheme of display, than which, in our judgment, nothing could be better.

There can be no two opinions about the cases; they are superb examples of joinery, exquisitely pieced together in English oak, with mahogany panels. In size the cases are ten feet long by six feet wide, and they form quite a prominent feature in the King's Library at the Museum. The 1,188 vertical glazed drawers contained in the three cases are in every way admirably adapted for the purposes of display, and we quite fail to see how any better scheme could have been devised. The drawers pull out very easily, remain quite firm, and allow the eye of the student to approach quite

close to the stamps; while the glass is so excellent in quality as to permit the most minute inspection. The weight of the drawers when fully extended causes them to bear downwards a little, and they will be found more easily returnable to their places by slightly raising them when so doing.

The Museum is open from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., electric light being used after dark; but the best hours for inspecting the stamps will probably be between twelve and three o'clock, when the sun is overhead and the light equally distributed on both sides of the glass drawers. A special custodian has been appointed to watch over the stamps, and the authorities seem to have neglected no precaution to ensure the safety of this valuable exhibit. We must confess, therefore, to some little surprise at finding that a few of the rarest stamps—presumably as a precautionary measure—have been withheld from view. These include the 2 c., rose, and the two varieties of the 4 c. of 1856 of British Guiana, the two types of the 2 c. of Hawaii, the two "Post Office" of Mauritius, and a few others. So great is the reputation of these latter two stamps as *the* great rarities—how far deserved may be open to a little questioning—that to many collectors it will seem like *Hamlet* without the Prince of Denmark, and we think their exclusion will be received with general regret. Surely in the British Museum, and even in the King's Library itself, there must be very many exhibits of books, MSS., etc., of value far transcending that of these stamps, and we feel convinced that these "great rarities" could with equal safety be exposed to the public gaze.

We understand that there has already been much interest displayed in the exhibition of the collection, the visitors at times being so numerous as almost to interfere with the inspection; while not infrequently at least two hundred people have examined the cases in one day. With the publicity that will now be given to the fact of the display, the attendance will doubtless be largely increased, and the authorities of the Museum will be now convinced that the adherents of and interest in Philately far transcend those of many other forms of collection that have a far greater scientific value.

The thanks of all philatelists are, however, richly due to the Trustees of the British Museum for the magnificent manner in which they have at length displayed the bequest of the late Mr. T. K. Tapling, and we anticipate that the news of so important an event will be received with the greatest gratification throughout the ranks of collectors. The educational advantages to the younger collector, and the assistance in comparing and ascertaining the genuineness of specimens to all classes, scarcely need dwelling on; but we hope in the near future to call attention to some of the features of and advantages derived from a visit to the British Museum. The Tapling Collection is, however, now worthily and properly displayed for all time for the benefit of all of His Majesty's lieges who have an interest in stamps, and we are all exceeding glad at the happy consummation of our wishes.

The Adhesive Stamps of Portugal.

By J. N. MARSDEN.

A Paper read before the Philatelic Society, London, on December 19th, 1902.

(*Continued from page* 214.)

Issue X. October, 1870. D. Luiz.

MR. EHRENBACH, in his excellent article * on the straight-label stamps of Portugal, has relieved me, in great part, of a very difficult subject. There are, however, some assertions which he makes which I think call for comment, and with which I myself do not entirely agree. I will notice them as they appear in connection with what I have to write.

The new die was designed and engraved by Senhor Campos, and I think it is generally admitted that no stamps of any country present a more attractive appearance than a page of this issue in unused mint state.

Two new perforating machines were purchased—where I do not know, but most probably in Brussels—of exactly the same system as the first. One of them gave a perforation of 13½, the whole sheet containing 63 punches horizontally and 127 vertically. The other gave a perforation gauging 14, and it is most probable that this machine was ordered in imitation of the perforation of the English stamps. Mr. Ehrenbach states that the latter was a provisional perforation, but this is not my opinion. I saw the machine some years ago, though it was then dismantled, and it was the same, in every respect, as the 12½ and 13½ machines, except as to the number of punches. The reason given for its having been discarded was that with the thick paper sometimes employed the perforation was not so perfect, and the stamps were not separated so easily.

All three machines were in use at the same time, and the stamps with the different perforations issued indiscriminately. The machine perforating 14, however, did little work, and stamps bearing this perforation are rare, the commonest being the 25 reis, Portugal, and the 25 reis, carmine, Angola, which is the only colonial stamp known in this state.

Sets, up to 100 reis, can be made of the 12½ and 13½ perforations, in which the perforation is so bad that it is hardly distinguishable.

The 5, 10, 20, and 25 reis exist imperforate, issued accidentally, as I fully believe. At any rate, I have no doubt that the 25 reis was so issued.

The sheets of this issue contained twenty-eight stamps, and were printed one at a time, as before.

In this issue the paper varies greatly. Sets of the 12½ and 13½ perforations can be made up to 100 reis, printed on very thick paper, so thick indeed that it has almost the appearance of thin cardboard. On the other hand, the same values can be found on paper that is practically *pelure*.

* *London Philatelist*, August, 1902.

One quality of paper was employed, presumably for a very short time, which I believe has never before been noticed. This was a horizontally ribbed paper, the ribbing being generally very distinct, but only showing on one side. That is to say, in most cases the back of the stamp shows a plain surface. I possess all the values up to and including the 240 reis, perf. 12½. Of the whole series, the 80 reis appears to be the most difficult to obtain, and the 240 reis one of the easiest. The paper, judging by an examination of the postmarked specimens I possess, was most probably employed in 1870 and 1871.

Of the straight-label issue, the 80 reis was the first to appear, in October, 1870. This was followed by the remainder of the series in the following December.

The 5 reis is met with in many varieties, and it is a most difficult matter to identify them. I have made out six varieties quite independently of Mr. Ehrenbach, but I must say I cannot follow this gentleman's description of the types. Too close attention to the figures seems to cause them visibly to swerve to one side or the other, as most convenient, until the result is bewilderment. I do not wish in the least to depreciate Mr. Ehrenbach's most valuable work, and perhaps he himself has experienced the same difficulties that I have. The illustrations, however, are of the greatest assistance, and with them no one need go astray.

I have the six varieties perf. both 12½ and 13½, also the two varieties perf. 14. The variety on ribbed paper is variety No. 1 (*a*), and the imperforate stamp belongs to variety 6 (*f*).

The 10 reis occurs in only one variety of type. Copies are known. I possess a pair printed in a shade which comes very near some of the 20 reis of the same issue. This is not an oxidised stamp, its abnormal shade, a bistre-yellow, being most probably due to some mistake in the ink or colour employed. I have seen a complete sheet in which several stamps at the top were in the yellow-bistre shade and the remainder of the sheet in bright yellow.

There are no types of the 20 reis.

Many varieties of the 25 reis exist; Mr. Ehrenbach gives seven. I have known of eight for some years, and it is more than probable that other varieties remain to be discovered. In my No. 8 the figures are spaced in all four angles, but the outside figures of each "25" are as far from the frame as in varieties 6 and 7 (*f* and *g*). In the illustrations of this value there appears to be some confusion. I make out *f* and *g* to be the same, though the description of variety *g* is correct, namely, that the lower "5"'s slant to the right. In the illustration they slant most decidedly to the left.

I possess the eight varieties perf. both 12½ and 13½.

Perf. 14 exists in varieties 1, 2, and 5 (*a*, *b*, and *e*) on ribbed paper, also in varieties 1, 2, and 5 (*a*, *b*, and *e*), and imperf. in variety 5 (*e*).

I may say here that I use numerals for varieties in place of letters, in order to be consistent with the system I have previously adopted.

My varieties of the 50 reis, green, correspond with those of Mr. Ehrenbach, except that I have variety 2 (*b*) perf. 13½, in addition to those he gives in his list.

The 50 reis on ribbed paper belongs to variety 1 (*a*). This value,

perf. 14, has not so far been discovered, but it is quite possible that it may one day turn up.

The 80 reis exists in two varieties of type. In No. 1 the "8"'s all lean to the right, and the figures in the right-hand top corner are closer together. In No. 2 the "8"'s are as nearly as possible vertical, and the figures in the right-hand top corner wider apart.

The 80 reis, perf. 14, is of variety No. 1, and on ribbed paper the variety is also No. 1.

In the remaining values of this issue there are no varieties as far as I have been able to discover, neither does Mr. Ehrenbach mention any.

Many catalogues give the 240 reis as existing perf. 13½, but I think that such examples cannot be other than manipulated reprints. I possess, however, the 120 reis, perf. 13½, in a beautiful rich Prussian blue shade; it is the only copy I have ever seen.

Reprints.

This issue was first reprinted in 1885 on the thick reprint paper. I have never seen other values than the 240 reis, perf. 12½, though Mr. Ehrenbach states that other values exist. I do not agree with Mr. Ehrenbach when he states that the reprints were used to frank correspondence in order to defraud the authorities. Up to a certain period all reprints were allowed to do postal duty, and this circumstance, to my mind, adds greatly to the interest that collectors of Portuguese stamps should take in the reprints of this country.

The 5 reis was reprinted in variety 3 (*c*), the 10 reis in variety 2, hereafter to be noticed. The 20 reis reprint exists, curiously enough, in two varieties of type—one probably of 1885 and the other of 1890. Variety No. 1 is the same as the stamp of the 1870 issue; variety No. 2 is one that we do not meet with in the regular issues until we come to the period of the chalky paper. The 25 reis is of variety No. 3 (*c*), the 50 reis of variety No. 4 (*e*), and the 80 reis of variety No. 2. The other values call for no special comment, except that there are two distinct shades of the 120 reis.

SYNOPSIS.

Issue X. October, 1870. D. Luiz.

Paper varying from very thick to *pelure*. Perf. 12½.

5 reis	(6 varieties);	deep black to grey.
10 „		yellow (shades) and yellow-bistre.
20 „		bistre (shades) and olive-bistre.
25 „	(8 varieties);	pale red to deep carmine.
50 „	(4 „);	dark to pale yellow-green.
80 „	(2 „);	deep to pale orange.
100 „		brown-lilac, pale lilac.
120 „		blue (shades).
240 „		lilac (dark to pale).

Medium paper varying slightly in thickness. Perf. 13½.

5 reis	(6 varieties);	deep black to grey.
10 „		yellow (shades).
20 „		bistre (shades).

25 reis (8 varieties); pale red to carmine.
50 „ (4 „); dark to pale yellow-green.
80 „ (2 „); deep to pale orange.
100 „ lilac (shades).
120 „ deep rich blue.

Thick paper. Perf. 14.

5 reis (varieties 2 and 3); black.
10 „ yellow.
25 „ (varieties 1, 2, and 5); rose, pale rose.
80 „ (variety 1); orange.
100 „ pale lilac.

Thick horizontally ribbed paper. Perf. 12½.

5 reis (variety 1); black.
10 „ yellow.
20 „ deep olive-bistre.
25 „ (varieties 1, 2, and 5); rose-carmine.
50 „ (variety 1); yellow-green.
80 „ („ 1); deep orange.
100 „ pale lilac.
120 „ blue.
240 „ lilac.

Medium paper. Imperforate.

5 reis (variety 6); black.
10 „ yellow.
20 „ olive-bistre.
25 „ (variety 5); deep rose.

10 reis deep yellow.
20 „ pale bistre.
25 „ (variety No. 7); rose.
50 „ yellow-green.
80 „ orange-red.
100 „ (variety No. 2); purple.
100 „ („ No. 2); pale lilac.
120 „ pale blue.
240 „ purple.

Reprints.

On thick reprint paper. Perf. 12½, 13½. 240 reis, lilac.

5 reis (variety 3); deep black, black.
10 „ („ 2); yellow.
20 „ (varieties 1 and 2); pale bistre.
25 „ (variety 3); rose.
50 „ („ 4); pale yellow-green.
80 „ („ 2); orange.
100 „ pale lilac.
120 „ blue, pale blue.
240 „ lilac.

Notes concerning the Stamps of the Second Republic of the Transvaal.

By N. YAAR.



S our speciality is the postage stamps of the Transvaal and Orange River Colony (Orange Free State),* we have tried to collect as much information as possible on the postal issues of both countries. Our interest has been increased by the papers written by Messrs. Tamsen, Pearce, and Nankivell on the stamps of the first-mentioned country; and noting that some points needed clearing up as to the stamps of the Second Republic, we made up our minds to investigate this matter, and as we were living in the same country as the printers of these stamps, this would occasion us but little trouble.

Writing to Messrs. Joh. Enschede en Zonen, Haarlem, the well-known printers, for information and a list of questions relating thereto, we received a courteous answer from them, stating that, as our list of questions was rather large, we should do much better to visit them at their office, and there they would be pleased to give us all the information they could give which we needed for our article.

Accepting their invitation, we sent one of our representatives, who was most courteously received and supplied with the following information :—

Directly the Boers took over the government from the British authorities steps were taken by them to have their stamps printed in Holland, on account of its being the only country knowing their language, and without fear of having any errors in the spelling of the title or values. The Dutch authorities who were appealed to recommended Messrs. Joh. Enschede en Zonen, of Haarlem, who printed the Dutch Government stamps, bank-notes, etc., and were the printers of the *Oprechte Haarlemmer Courant*, one of the oldest and most reliable daily papers in Holland, as a trustworthy firm to whom this work could be safely entrusted, with the result that a proof was ordered on a rough sketch supplied by one of the Boer authorities, in January, 1884 (Letter No. 1,563). As a proof, Messrs. Enschede en Zonen sent over a 3d. lilac, drawn by Mr. Vurtheim on cardboard, in lilac ink, to Pretoria. This proof suited the authorities so well that they ordered essays of the high values—2s. 6d., 5s., and 10s., and proof-sheets in colours of the 1d. value, in order to choose the colours for the different values.

These proof-sheets were printed in sheets of six horizontal rows of ten stamps, on sheets supplied by and under control of the Dutch postal authorities, each sheet bearing the control mark "P.Z." in blue ink.

* Herr N. Yaar, to whom we are indebted for an article containing considerable fresh information, is a member of the firm of N. Yaar and Co., Philatelists, Amsterdam, and in writing uses the plume as relating to his firm.—Ed.

The 1d. proof-sheets were printed in the following colours:—Carmine, lilac, bright blue, ochre, red-brown, lemon-yellow, yellow, brown, dark green, grass-green, olive-green, olive-grey, grey-blue, grey, light bistre, and dark bistre. In all sixteen different sheets, and the essays of 2s. 6d., 5s., and 10s. were printed in single specimens in black.

The following quantities in the colours chosen were ordered (Letter 1,582) and sent in January, 1885, to Pretoria :—

½d.	1d.	3d.	4d.	6d.	1s.
24,000 ...	600,000 ...	480,000 ...	270,000 ...	120,000 ...	36,000
grey	carmine	lilac	olive-green	light blue	green

All the sheets were printed on white wove paper, measuring about 8 by 12 inches, including margins all round, measuring at top and bottom about 1 inch, and at the sides ¾ inch. Each sheet was duly controlled by a straight line along the sheet in the same colour as the stamps, and also some with a circle, also in the same colour.

Mr. Tamsen, in his paper, "The Stamps of the Transvaal" (*Monthly Journal*, 1894), writes: "It will be noted that no 2d. stamps were sent out, owing to there being no demand for this value when the order was given; the Postal Convention with the Cape Colony was entered into afterwards."

We have seen from the official source that no stamp of this denomination was even mentioned at that time, so that it was impossible to print them at the same time as the other values.

As on the 1st of January, 1885, it was decided by the Postal Convention to reduce the inland tariff from 3d. to 2d., the 2d. stamp was immediately ordered (Letter 1,595), and was sent by Messrs. Enschede on 23rd February, 1885. It was printed in dark brown.

It seems that these 2d. stamps (60,000) were sent along with the

2s. 6d.	5s.	10s.
buff	slate-blue	fawn
36,000 ...	30,000 ...	12,000

which, according to Mr. Tamsen (see article in *S.G. Monthly Journal*), arrived at Pretoria on the 27th May, 1885. We questioned Mr. Enschede as to the reason why these stamps were known six months earlier in Europe than they arrived in Pretoria.

He told us that at the end of 1884 his firm held a printing exhibition in Haarlem, and these proofs being exhibited, no doubt these were chronicled in the philatelic journals. They could not give any other explanation, neither could they remember anything more, but they were positive that no stamp left their office except those sent to the Transvaal.

On our questioning them about the perforation, they told us that at their works they had used three perforating machines measuring $11\frac{1}{2} \times 12$, $12\frac{1}{2} \times 12$, and $13\frac{1}{2} \times 13$. These machines were used indiscriminately, so that all stamps can be found in the three above-mentioned perforations. Gauges vary often, so it is not to be wondered at that some gauges measure perforations between those mentioned above; but only those above are the official perforations.

On account of the bad condition the case containing the stamps was in

when it arrived at Pretoria, the Government did not issue these stamps till December, investigating what had happened to the case, but without success.

We read in Mr. Tamsen's paper: "On November 2nd, 1885, a supply of the ½d. arrived from Holland at the same time as a supply of 600,000 2d. stamps, printed brown on wove paper." We think this must be a mistake on Mr. Tamsen's part, as these 2d. stamps were sent, as mentioned above, together with the higher value stamps, and arrived on the 27th May in Pretoria. As stated above, these were not issued till December, for the reason given.

How it happened that these stamps sent at the end of February only arrived at the end of May, 1885, is a mystery. It is possible that this was the reason the Boer authorities delayed the issue till this was thoroughly investigated, but nothing resulted to clear this up.

Perhaps Mr. Tamsen thought that the printers would not send the batch of ½d. stamps singly; but as at the same time 30,000 post cards were sent along, this filled a good-sized case. In the books of Messrs. Enschede we found that these 60,000 ½d. stamps were sent in September, 1885.

In June, 1886, a new supply was sent from Holland, viz:—

1d.		1s.
120,000	...	30,000

In February, 1887, a large order being received, the following were sent:—

½d.		1d.		2d.		6d.		1s.
50,000	...	1,880,000	...	3,000,000	...	100,000	...	470,000

In this batch the 2d. stamp received another colour—from dark brown it was altered to yellow-brown.

On our questioning the reason of this alteration, Messrs. Enschede showed us a letter of the Postmaster-General at Pretoria asking for a lighter colour for the 2d. stamps, as the cancellation did not show clearly on the darker colour. It was left to the discretion of the printers, and they chose olive-bistre (or yellow-brown).

(*To be continued*).

The Disgrace of New Zealand.

(*Continued from page* 211.)

THE article under this heading in our last number has evoked no inconsiderable notice, and many comments and criticisms have been elicited—in the vast majority of cases cordially endorsing and approving our strictures. It is obvious, however, that there must be some who would be prone to take objection to such an article from interested motives. In one case it has been argued that our comments were dictated by individual proclivities—regardless of the general requirements of collectors—and that

we were doing untold harm to the collectors of new issues. The former contention scarcely needs any refutation ; the *London Philatelist* is not run to favour individual predilections, nor has it ever been influenced by the personal considerations of anyone. Its aim, as the organ of the Philatelic Society of London, is to fear no one, or to favour no one, but to steadfastly endeavour in and out of season to foster the healthy growth of Philately, and to reduce its excrescences to the greatest possible extent. Were any other policy adopted, those who are responsible for the direction of the journal would be deservedly relieved of their functions.

Touching the latter point, as to the damage to new issue collectors, a word or two on this may not be amiss to those critics whose bearing in this matter is guarded by the particular cakes they have to sell.

Our criticism of the methods of New Zealand was not intended to have any relation to new issues generally, but we are convinced that it is far better, both for sellers and buyers, that the eyes of both should be open as to the class of goods in which they are doing business. The cult of the new issue is of comparatively recent growth, and if it is to continue, anything that tends to destroy confidence, such as the promulgation of this New Zealand rubbish, should be ruthlessly denounced. The principal claim of the new issue section is that it is a clean, wholesome class of stamps presumably issued in the interests of the general public, and not for the exploitation of the collector, and that these stamps can, owing to the spirit of modern enterprise, be acquired at a very slight percentage over their face value. On this head it should, however, be borne in mind, by those who purchase these stamps "for the rise," that as on the one hand there is an immunity from loss, so on the other hand, by their quantity, there is no likelihood (except in a few isolated instances) of making a profit. We therefore quite fail to see why the strictures we have passed upon the issue of such rubbish as the later New Zealand stamps should be taken amiss by those whose business it is to deal in new issues. With the latter, if their birth is legitimate, we have the greatest sympathy; they foster and perpetuate the interest in a collection, and are the links that bind up the past and present in Philately. It must be, however, evident to the smallest schoolboy that there is no lack of new issues!

The advertisements in the dealers' journals offer such an enormous number of stamps from every quarter of the globe—many of them running up to face values in pounds—that simply to make a collection of all the current stamps of the world would be a task involving the expenditure of a large sum of money. Among this multitude, therefore, we can well afford to dispense with a few spurious issues, and the sooner such ridiculous issues as those of New Zealand's rocklets are ignored, the better for everyone connected with Philately.

The views we have expressed upon the disputed New Zealands evidently find sympathisers in Australia, as evidenced by the letter and editorial article which we now reproduce, as promised in our last issue, from the *Australian Journal of Philately.*

"NEW ZEALAND.

"*The Editor 'Australian Journal of Philately.'*

"DEAR SIR,—In the *Australian Journal of Philately*, of 16th June, appears an article headed 'New Zealand.'

"I have not the leisure to deal with certain inaccuracies contained in that article, nor do I desire to excuse or defend the number of varieties which have appeared within the last eighteen months, except to say that in attributing these to a mercenary desire on the part of the N.Z. postal authorities, the philatelic papers are grievously wrong. On this point, however, Mr. Hamilton and other writers have already sufficiently expatiated.

"What I wish to call attention to is the statement that there was not the slightest necessity for the Niué and Penrhyn stamps. I felt sure there must have been a reason behind the one generally attributed, viz. the exploiting of collectors, and I accordingly brought the article above referred to under the notice of the Secretary for the Post and Telegraph Department. I have much pleasure in forwarding you a copy of his reply.

"As regards the error 'Tahae Sileni' of the 1s. Niué, it is within my knowledge that the proof impression of the surcharge, as submitted to the Post Office authorities, was correct, *i.e.* 'Taha e Sileni.' The alteration appears to have occurred in preparing the electros, and is possibly the result of carelessness or ignorance in pushing the words together when spacing.

"On the specimen sheets being forwarded to the Secretary the error was discovered, and instructions were given to at once wire to the Auckland office to withdraw the supply of 1s. stamps and return them to Wellington. A cable message was also sent to the Agent-General to return the supply sent through him to Ewen's Stamp Agency.

"An English dealer, I learn, secured some fifty out of the ninety-six sold over the Auckland counter.

"The supplies returned from Auckland and London have been destroyed.

"I mention these facts as being evidence of the desire of the Government to suppress errors.—Yours faithfully,

"ARTHUR T. BATE.

"'GENERAL POST OFFICE, WELLINGTON,

"'*3rd August*, 1903.

"'SIR,—Referring to your inquiry about Niué, Penrhyn Island, and Aitutaki stamps, I beg to inform you that, under the Acts relating to these islands, the whole of the revenue is retained by them, and it would be impossible to determine the postal revenue without providing special postage stamps for each island. The stamps are provided for revenue as well as postages purposes.

"'I beg to return the *Australian Journal of Philately* enclosed with your letter.—Yours obediently,

"'(Signed) W. GRAY, Secretary.

"'A. T. BATE, Esq., Post Office Box 103, Wellington.'

"[We are pleased to insert Mr. Bate's letter, and accept it as a desire on his part to enable us to put before our readers all phases of the subject, which we are anxious to do. We cannot, however, accept the Postal Secretary's reply as satisfactory. The stamps in question are sold at Auckland and never see the islands. What has such a transaction got to do with their revenue? They may get the benefit of all stamps sold, but if such a procedure is not a barefaced attempt to fleece the philatelic public, then we don't know what would be considered as such. Our assertion that there was no *real* necessity for the issue of these stamps has not been answered. Postage stamps are supposed to be issued only for the prepayment of mail matter. Mr. Gray's admission 'lets the cat out of the bag' and enables us to say further that the stamps of Aitutaki, Niué, and Penrhyn must be considered as purely speculative issues and classified as such, on the same level with Labuan, North Borneo and other like places.

"Mr. Bate occupies such a high position in the philatelic world that collectors must accept his version of the Niué 1s. error, but the carelessness admitted borders on recklessness which should not be tolerated by any British Colonial Government, and we trust our strictures will help to put an end to such a state of affairs which calls into question their bona fides. It would appear from Mr. Bate's letter that Messrs. Ewen never received delivery of the Niué 1s. errors sent to them through the Agent-General, as the cable would reach him before the stamps. Moral: Buy your stamps over the counter.

"Have the members of the Philatelic Society of New Zealand as a body raised their voices in protest at the vagaries of the recent issues? If not, they are neglecting their obligation to philatelists elsewhere. It is unfortunate that New Zealand collectors do not seem to realise that the present-day procedure is inimical to the welfare of Philately. If, on the other hand, they can in any way defend the action of their Postal Department, it is their duty to do so. All philatelic journals would willingly open their pages for the insertion of anything which would throw light on the subject.—Ed. *Aus. J. of P.*]."

The Secretary's letter is most grotesque. Fancy determining the postal revenue of the six white inhabitants of Aitutaki! Perhaps there are two adults who *can* write, and they might write—though very improbably—six letters each in a year! The colossal amount of book-keeping required to audit this account of one shilling can, however, only be dealt with by the issue of a special set of stamps, including high values! We doubt if the aggregate wealth of Aitutaki could purchase a complete set of the values unused!

Our contemporary justly observes that the stamps are sold at Auckland and never see the islands, and considers therefore that "the stamps of Aitutaki, Niué, and Penrhyn must be considered as purely speculative issues and classified as such." This is exactly our opinion, and it is one that will be shared by every sensible and unprejudiced adherent of stamp collecting in the British Empire.

The late Mr. W. E. Image.



TO the modern collector the name of Mr. Image will convey but a faint impression of reality as a collector, so many years having passed since his relinquishment of the pursuit; but Mr. Image was not only one of the pioneers of stamp collecting in this country, but one of that select band of workers who were the first to place Philately upon a really scientific basis. His compeers, the past generation of philatelists, have mostly passed away—Mr. E. L. Pemberton, Sir Daniel Cooper, M. Ysasi, Mr. Westoby, Mrs. Tebay, and many others—though fortunately we are still enabled to hold intercourse with two of the old school—Dr. C. W. Viner and His Honour Judge Philbrick, K.C. To the latter gentleman we are indebted for some interesting details relating to the late Mr. Image, with whom Judge Philbrick was for many years in the closest contact and ripest friendship. Mr. Image was born at Norwich in 1807, and had thus passed the patriarchal age of ninety-six at his death. His decease took place at the beautiful country seat where he had resided so many years—Herringswell House, near Mildenhall, Suffolk—on the 26th of last month. Mr. Image was Bachelier ès Lettres of Paris, Fellow of the Royal College of Surgeons of England, and Justice of the Peace and Deputy-Lieutenant for the county of Suffolk, of which county he had served as sheriff. A man of great mental attainments and marked social distinction, he has passed away after a very full and a most honourable career, and now has been gathered to his fathers at an age that it is rarely permitted to man to attain.

In the smaller world of Philately his name will always be regarded with the greatest reverence and respect as one of those first fine intellects who raised Philately from a pigmy to a giant. He was a born and intuitive philatelist, and his collection betrayed, to those who were fortunate enough to have inspected it, a very fine appreciation of all the best points of collecting. The celebrated classic four volumes of imposing dimensions and voluminous pages, with their elaborate silver mounts, clasps, and locks, which contained his treasures for so many years, passed, through the friendly offices of Judge Philbrick, into the possession of the late Mr. T. K. Tapling, in 1882, for the now absurdly inadequate price of £3,000, and the greater part of his stamps have now—most worthily—found a permanent home in the British Museum. Mr. Image's collection was very strong in the great rarities, though he never acquired the two "Post Office" Mauritius, which he once passed when offered to him by M. Moens, of Brussels, at the price of £240; but he was enabled to purchase nearly all the other great rarities for fewer shillings than it would to-day require pounds. His American and Confederates, Locals, Australians, Philippines, and Mauritius were exceptionally fine, while in common with all the old-time philatelists he was especially

rich in unused Europeans. In effect, no sounder or finer stamps exist, even in this twentieth century, than these said unused Europeans, and the day will inevitably come when they will be placed in the forefront of collecting as a class practically unsoiled by the contact of speculation and unrest.

It may be not without interest to relate, as showing the value and extent of Mr. Image's collection, when it passed out of his hands in 1882, that Mr. Tapling found it so immeasurably superior to his own as to propose, with the exception of two or three dozen stamps, to part with his own collection. This was offered to the writer with this view in 1882, and a comparison of the rarities which was then made of the two collections—Mr. Tapling's and Mr. Castle's—showed that the former was very little stronger and had but an inconsiderable number of rarities that were lacking in the latter. The death of Mr. Tapling's father, however, very shortly after suspended the negotiations, and Mr. Tapling, being able and willing to collect on a grander scale, amalgamated practically the two entire collections. It may truthfully be asserted that the very choice and complete collection of Mr. Image formed the foundation of Mr. Tapling's stamps, while, later on, that of the Messieurs Caillebotte worthily crowned the edifice.

The late Mr. Image was one of the earliest members of the Philatelic Society of London, and remained so until his decease. A very interesting sketch of his career will be found in the *Philatelic Record* for December, 1888, to which we are indebted for some of the foregoing details. Mr. Image's death will be deplored by all classes in Philately, but his memory as a collector of the highest standing will ever remain green.

[Judge Philbrick has kindly promised to write a few lines on the history and extent of Mr. Image's collection, which we hope to publish next month.—ED.]

Occasional Notes.

PARTICULARS OF ZANZIBAR STAMPS WANTED.

MR. W. V. MORTEN, member of the Philatelic Society, is assisting in the compiling of the Society's handbook on the Stamps of Zanzibar. It would be esteemed a favour, and it is hoped a help to philatelists generally, if readers who have errors, large blocks, and more especially sheets or panes of any value of the Indian surcharged stamps would kindly send particulars of them to him, addressed to 205, Sumatra Road, West Hampstead, which will be duly and thankfully acknowledged.

A PHILATELIC "WHITAKER."

WE have the communication following, and wish Messrs. Nissen success in what, if properly carried out, should be a very useful little book for the collector. It is to be hoped that it will include a full list of all the philatelic societies and their officers, etc., throughout the British Empire.

"Messrs. C. Nissen and Co., of 77, High Holborn, London, W.C., inform us of their intention to publish, in November, the first issue of a new yearly publication for philatelists, to be known as *The Stamp Collectors' Annual.* This will be a shilling book of over 100 pages, containing a compilation of facts and information interesting and valuable to all philatelists, besides a mass of original and exclusive matter. This new 'Annual,' in fact, will strive to become the *Whitaker* or the *Hazell* of our hobby, its publishers being firmly convinced that there exists a real demand for an interesting and authoritative 'Year Book of Philately.' Correspondence is cordially invited from those who are interested in the subject."

THE CISTAFILE.

THIS is a new system for mounting stamps, consisting, as we understand it, of loose movable sheets held together in a species of cabinet, and very readily detachable. The manufacturers are Messrs. Lawn and Barlow, of 99, Regent Street, W., and we are informed that the Cistafile has been tested and approved by many collectors, while its comparatively low price should be an additional attraction as against the heavy cost of most of the movable-leaved albums. The manufacturers state that "by adopting the Cistafile system for your stamps, when once mounted, specimens never need be unmounted, and at the same time a collection can be rearranged, to any order, in a few minutes, as frequently as desired, without disturbing a single stamp. One of the chief advantages of the Cistafile is its extreme cheapness."

THE IMPORTANCE OF LITHOGRAPHIC ERRORS.

IN the June number of this journal was published a philatelic note concerning the most recent discovery of varieties in the lithograph 5 centavos of Chili by Baron A. de Reuterskiöld, and in our comments thereon we advocated the philatelic importance of these varieties and contrasted their appreciation in this country with that accorded to the similar errors of Oldenburg by the German collectors. It appears, however, that our remarks have met with some small misapprehension, which we think it advisable to disperse. The point of our little and friendly criticism—which was entirely intended to increase the appreciation of these stamps—was that in Germany these varieties "were ignored in favour of varieties of postmark or perforation."

At the meeting of the Berlin Philatelic Club, of August 24th, Herr O. Wassermann pronounced a friendly criticism of our remarks, which we may briefly summarise under the following heads:—

(1) That these lithographic errors are not undervalued in Germany, and especially in the Berlin Philatelisten Club, as evidenced by "analogous" articles in the Club's Jubilee Handbook on the Stamps of Roumania and Hamburg, written by members of that body. (2) That the main point of objection in Germany is to the high values attached thereto in the catalogues,

Messrs. Stanley Gibbons' figures being quoted. (3) That the Berlin Club has consistently set its face against attaching too much importance to obliterations, unless possessed of special or extraneous value, as Danish stamps with Lübeck postmarks, etc. (4) That varieties of perforation are not more regarded in Germany than in Great Britain, as evidenced by a comparison of Messrs. Senf's Catalogue with that of Messrs. Stanley Gibbons.

As regards the first point, we in no way indicated the Berlin Club. We have frequently placed on record our high appreciation of that body of philatelists, who have always, and most successfully, striven to uphold the purest and most scientific side of stamp collecting, and whose excellent work is as cordially appreciated in this country as in the Fatherland. The able articles referred to, however, do not, to our mind, treat of stamps analogous to those under discussion, as we are not aware of any lithographic errors caused by faulty paper transfers among the stamps of Roumania or Hamburg. At the time when these lithographic errors were shown at the Philatelic Society of London by Mr. Robert Ehrenbach and the writer, the accompanying paper being subsequently published in this journal, the German collectors generally *refused to recognise these stamps as errors at all*, and distinctly, as we have said, ignored them. They were held to be minor varieties; in some instances they were referred to as being defects caused in printing! and in effect were held to be varieties of very little philatelic importance. We argued then, as we do now, whether in the case of the stamps of Chili, Western Australia, or Oldenburg, that these varieties are of first-class philatelic importance as being varieties that arise from defective stones, and that they are constant in all the impressions produced from that particular lithograph. These Oldenburg varieties, as was shown at the time, are by no means confined to broken or malformed letters, but in the majority of cases affect a large portion of the design. These varieties were only accepted generally in Germany as *defective impressions*, and not, as we contended, as distinct and constant *errors*, *i.e.* deviations in the design from the normal stamp. In our own catalogues and those of most of the leading ones abroad we find considerable prominence given to omitted stops and minor varieties of surcharges, and we consider that these lithographic transfer errors far transcend these in philatelic importance.

In the case of this class of stamp in the Victorian first issue, and in the 6 rappen of Zurich, there is an additional interest, as not only have there been in some instances lithographic transfer defects, but the stone has been touched up or partially redrawn, either by the lithographer or printer, in order to cover up these defective parts of the design. It seems to us that such varieties, distinctly affecting the original design of a stamp, are of the highest order of interest, and, as we urged, far more worthy of study than the majority of perforations or postmarks.

As regards the prices, that side of the question was, as far as we are aware, never alluded to at the time of the discussion by either side, nor has it any relevance to the question, which is solely the *philatelic* value of these varieties. With reference to Herr Wassermann's third point, we are in entire accord as to the Berlin Philatelisten Club; but although it is the foremost scientific society in Germany, its good advice has not pre-

vented an altogether needless and over-elaborated attention from being lavished upon postmarks by a large section of German collectors. There have been too many—nor are we, though in a far less degree, free from reproach—who have forgotten that a philatelist should indicate a collector of stamps and not of postmarks. Herr Wassermann's concluding contention is also one that we cannot controvert, as we think undue attention and importance in this country and abroad are paid to *minor* varieties of perforation. Although, however, we may plead equally guilty in this respect with our Teutonic friends, it has not prevented us at the same time from giving the attention due to their importance with regard to the lithographic errors, as in the principal instances of these varieties—Western Australia, Victoria, Oldenburg, Zurich, and Chili—the information as regards the varieties has practically entirely been disseminated from this country.

We cordially acknowledge the excellent tone of Herr Wassermann's remarks, and we are convinced that discussions such as these between the Philatelic Societies of London and Berlin—whose membership happily so frequently overlaps—will help to till the philatelic soil, to keep down the weeds, and to fructify the crop of sound and honest grain.

THE GERMAN PHILATELIC CONGRESS.

THIS function, so well known on the Continent as the Philatelisten-tag, was held this year at Pforzheim in Baden, between the 28th of August and the 1st of September, was numerously attended, and proved both as enjoyable and instructive a meeting as any of its predecessors. As was but natural, the well-known dealer Herr Carl Willadt, who carries on the main branch of his business at Pforzheim, was elected Chairman, and carried out his duties to the satisfaction of everyone. An innovation was made in the usual course of proceedings by holding the Bourse, or Stamp Exchange, on the initial day, and it appears (according to the *Deutsche Briefmarken Zeitung*) that this part of the proceedings resulted in such animated business that it is even thought advisable hereafter to continue it for a second day. There is no doubt but that the commercial conditions are those that mainly hold together these Philatelic Congresses, as dealers and collectors from all parts of the Continent are brought into personal contact, and the former generally bring their finest stock. If therefore in the future this feature is made more prominent, it would doubtless attract a still larger number of visitors, who would equally benefit by the subsequent scientific discussions and pleasurable excursions, of both of which, in the present case, there was a plentiful and enjoyable supply. The Congress next year is to be held at Leipsic.

DEATH OF M. OSCAR BERGER-LEVRAULT.

WE hear with sincere regret of the decease of M. Berger-Levrault, which occurred during this month at Strasburg. The name of M. Levrault is one of the very earliest connected with stamp collecting, and he was the

first person in the world to issue a list of stamps, the first two editions of which were reproduced by *autographie*, and are to-day of great rarity. His first list was issued in September, 1861, and between that month and the end of the year 1864 no less than eleven other editions appeared, besides five supplements. These were followed by a catalogue published in German in 1864, and one in French in 1867.

M. Berger-Levrault remained a devoted and ardent philatelist during the greater portion of a long life, and even of late years his affection for, and interest in, stamps had evinced an entire recrudescence. His name will be imperishably bound up in the history of Philately, and his fame as one of the very earliest scientific workers in the field will endure as long as the pursuit.

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 GUIANA.—From Messrs. Whitfield King and Co. we have received a new value of the 1889-90 type.

It is the 60 cents, green, with "POSTAGE AND REVENUE" and value in red.

Adhesive.

60 cents, green and red; Crown and CA; perf. 14.

BRITISH SOMALILAND.—The set of new King's Head adhesives received by Mr. W. T. Wilson consists of the ½, 1, 2, 3, 4, and 8 annas for ordinary use, and the ½, 1, 2, and 8 annas for Service.

Adhesives. ½ a., yellow-green.
1 a., carmine.
2 a., violet.
3 a., orange-brown.
4 a., olive-green.
8 a., red-violet.

Officials. ½ a., yellow-green.
1 a., carmine.
2 a., violet.
8 a., red-violet.

Usual watermark and perforations.

BRITISH SOUTH AFRICA.—A 2½d., grey-blue, embossed envelope for Rhodesia has appeared.—*Ewen's Weekly.*

Envelope. 2½d., grey-blue; embossed.

CEYLON.—A 5 c. King's Head wrapper has reached *Ewen's Weekly.*

Wrapper. 5 c., bistre-yellow on buff.

COCHIN.—The 3 pies stamp of the current set has been received by the *M. J.* printed on a very thick wove paper, quite different from the thin greyish material usually employed. It has the Umbrella watermark, but the latter is not easy to distinguish. The other values, it is believed, also exist on this thick paper.

Adhesives. 3 pies, blue; thick paper.
½ puttan, green ,,
1 ,, pink ,,
2 ,, purple ,,

CYPRUS.—The 1 and 4 piastres of the new set with King's Head, chronicled on page 64, have reached this side, and Messrs. Whitfield King and Co. send us specimens.

We find the colours to be as follows :—

Adhesives.

1 piastre, carmine and blue; CA; perf. 14.
4 piastres, olive-green and purple; CA; perf. 14.

DOMINICA.—The new pictorial set reaches us from Messrs. P. L. Pemberton and Co. and Whitfield King and Co.

In the centre we are given a view of the island; "DOMINICA" appears at top, "POSTAGE AND REVENUE" at sides, and value in words at bottom. Shape, large oblong; watermark, Crown CC sideways; and perf. 14. The 5s. value has the head of King same as in the other new sets for the Leeward Islands.

Adhesives.

½d., grey-green.
1d., carmine, with black centre.
2d., brown ,, green ,,
2½d., ultramarine, with black centre.
3d., black, with mauve centre.
6d., orange-brown, with black centre.
1s., green, with mauve centre.
2s., purple ,, black ,,
2s. 6d., orange, with green centre.
5s., brown-black.

GIBRALTAR.—Further stationery is reported by the *M. C.*

Post Cards. ½d. + ½d., green on cream.
1d. + 1d., carmine ,,
Wrappers. ½d., green on cream.
1d., carmine ,,

GOLD COAST.—Reply post cards are reported by *Ewen's Weekly*.

Post Cards. ½d. + ½d., green on buff.
1d. + 1d., carmine ,,

INDIA.—*Gwalior.*—Messrs. Whitfield King and Co. send us the 2 annas, *Queen's Head*, in *violet*.

Adhesive. 2 annas, *violet; Queen's Head.*

With reference to the ¼ anna post cards, single and reply, chronicled on page 224, we are told by Mr. R. C. F. Schomberg that the single card has not yet appeared. Other interesting information is given in our correspondent's letter, which we now publish in full :—

"*The Editor, London Philatelist.*

"NASIRABAD, *Aug. 28th*, 1903.

"DEAR SIR,—I enclose you the ¼ anna inland card, reply, surcharged for Gwalior. The single is, I believe, not issued. I looked through the 'Stamp Chest' in the G.P.O. at Lashkar (Gwalior City) and could find none; and the Babu asserted none were yet issued. I was struck by seeing a quantity of 1 anna, Queen (brown), envelopes. These are for foreign postage, for which, of course, Gwalior stamps are not available. They seemed an unnecessary issue.

"I also noticed large quantities of the 3 pies, red, Queen, and 2 annas, blue, Queen, still remaining in stock. I could obtain no King 3 pies, and hardly any of the ½ and 1 anna, King. There were plenty of the Queen issue on hand.

"I do not think it has been noticed anywhere that the reason of the scarcity of used Native State stamps is to be found in the custom of the Government in keeping an Imperial office in all important towns; *e.g.* there are in Gwalior city two Imperial and only *one* State office. Chamba is the only State in which there are no Imperial offices. Were the Imperial offices to confine themselves to business outside India, it would be a different matter. As it is, they transact all kinds of postal business and compete with the State office, to the detriment of the latter—and of the philatelist!

"I am, your obedient servant,

"REGINALD C. F. SCHOMBERG,
"*1st Seaforth Highlanders.*"

LABUAN.—Two new values are added by *Mekeel's Weekly* to the set bearing the Imperial Crown.

Adhesives. 1 cent, violet and black.
3 ,, brown ,,

MALTA.—An addition to the King's Head set of adhesives is made by the *Philatelic Record.*

Adhesive.

2½d., ultramarine and blue; CA; perf. 14.

MAURITIUS.—It is stated that the stock of 15 c. Labourdonnais stamps has been converted into 15 c. Express Delivery stamps.

A specimen reaches us from Messrs. Whitfield King and Co., and we find the overprint to be "EXPRESS—DELIVERY—15 c.", in red, in three lines. The words "EXPRESS DELIVERY" are in large sans-serif caps.

Express Delivery. 15 c., blue; red surcharge.

NEW ZEALAND.—*Ewen's Weekly* has received a third printing of the current 1s. stamp. The colour is stated to be orange-red.

Adhesive.

1s., orange-red; current type, wmk., and perforation.

QUEENSLAND.—The *M. C.* has received a 2d., blue (Queen), letter card with the directions at back reading—

"This Card may pass through the Post to any place within the Commonwealth of Australia, New Guinea, New Zealand, and Fiji.

"If anything be enclosed in this Letter Card it will be treated as an insufficiently paid letter, if not already prepaid at that rate."

Lithographed on horizontally laid white paper, with the former curious perforation, in which every third perf. is missing, thus—

• • • • • •

Letter Card. 2 pence, blue.

SEYCHELLES.—Messrs. Bright and Son and Whitfield King and Co. have shown us another 3 CENTS provisional. This time it is surcharged on the new 18 cents King's Head stamp.

Adhesive.

"3 CENTS," in black, on 18 c., yellow-green and carmine.

TASMANIA.—*Ewen's Weekly* announces the following novelty :—

Adhesive.

½d., green (Lake Marion); wmk. V and Crown sideways; perf. 12½.

EUROPE.

ALBANIA.—The Italian 10 c. card is now surcharged for use here "20 Para 20" only, in a curve below stamp, "Albania" having been dropped, as from the adhesives.—*S. C. F.*

Post Card.

"20 Para 20" on 10 c., carmine on buff.

AUSTRIA.—In addition to the envelopes chronicled three months ago, there may be mentioned a new value, 12 heller, made by impressing the 6 heller stamp twice, one impression under the other.—*Ewen's Weekly.*

FRANCE.—An envelope of 15 c., with stamp of the latest "Mouchon" type, was issued recently.—*M. C.*

Envelope. 15 centimes, rose-red on greenish.

The 15 c., *Semeuse*, is reported with the "F. M." overprint.

15 centimes, grey-green.

SERVIA. — There is some provisional stationery to chronicle.

Post Cards.

5 paras, green on white (black surcharge).
10 ,, carmine ,, (,, ,,).

Letter Cards.

5 paras, green on rose (blue surcharge).
10 ,, carmine on grey (,, ,,).

SWEDEN.—A new value, 5 krona, adhesive, has, we understand, appeared. The design, we are told, shows a sketch of the new post office, and the stamp is a commemorative one.

Having listed the new Leeward Islands stamps, which were quite unnecessary if not commemorative, we can hardly pass over this Scandinavian novelty.

Adhesive. 5 krona, grey and lilac.

AMERICA.

COLOMBIAN REPUBLIC. — *Boyaca.* — To the list of new issues given on page 204 two high values have to be added.

Adhesives. 5 pesos, black on red.
10 ,, ,, chamois.

COSTA RICA.—*Ewen's Weekly* records two provisional post cards, "INTERIOR—2 céntimos," "EXTERIOR—4 céntimos."

Post Cards. Surcharged as above, in black.
2 c. on 3 c., carmine on yellow.
4 c. on 3 c. ,, ,,

SALVADOR.—Referring to our remarks on page 225, relating to a new set of Postage Due stamps, we think it possible the information there given may be incorrect, unless there are two sets of these stamps current —hardly likely.

Mekeel's illustrates a Postage Due stamp, similar in design to the new postals and officials, and gives the values as follows :—

Postage Due.
1 cent., green.
2 cents., red.
3 ,, orange.
5 ,, blue.
10 ,, violet.
12 ,, slate.
13 ,, red-brown.
24 ,, scarlet.
26 ,, yellow-brown.
50 ,, bistre.
100 ,, bright blue.

OTHER COUNTRIES.

CHINA.—The current 5 cents stamp has appeared in a new colour.—*A. J. P.*

Adhesive. 5 c., yellow; perforated.

COREA.—The *M. C.* reports another provisional, the 3 cheun on 25 poon, and also informs us that the 1 c. on 25 p. and 2 c. on 25 p. may be found with inverted surcharges.

Provisional. 3 cheun on 25 poon, lake.

FRENCH COLONIES.—*Guadeloupe.*—There are some provisionals to note, and the *Metropolitan Philatelist* lists the following :—

Adhesives.
5 centimes on 30 c., brown on bistre.
10 ,, 40 c., red on straw.
15 ,, 50 c., carmine on rose.
50 ,, 1 fr., bronze-green on straw.
1 franc on 75 c., violet on orange.

As our contemporary remarks, the officials convict themselves in this case, as they surcharge 50 c. on 1 fr. and yet make a 15 c. surcharge on a 50 c. stamp.

Ivory Coast.—Another parcel post stamp is reported by *Ewen's Weekly.*

Parcel Post Adhesive.

Surcharged "Cote d'Ivoire—Colis Postaux—4" on the Timbre-taxe of "French Colonies."

4 francs, in black, on 60 c., violet.

Type I. Thick "4" (1,440 examples).
,, II. Thinner "4" (288).
,, III. Upper part of "4" triangular (72).

Martinique.—Information is to hand from Messrs. Whitfield King and Co. that a 5 franc stamp has been added to the current set.

Adhesive. 5 francs, violet and blue (?).

Tahiti.—There is another provisional to chronicle, and this time it is the 15 c., blue, of French Oceania, surcharged 10 centimes, in black.—*Philatelic Record.*

Provisional. 10 c., in black, on 15 c., blue.

FRENCH POST OFFICES ABROAD.—Some additions have now to be made to the various lists given in this journal under the following headings :—

Cavalle.—30 centimes, violet.

Dedeagh.—30 centimes, violet.

Long-Tcheon.—Stamps of Indo-China surcharged in European and Chinese characters.

Adhesives.

1 c., black on blue.	10 c., carmine.
2 c., brown.	15 c., grey on azure.
4 c., violet.	25 c., blue.
5 c., yellow-green.	5 fr., violet.

Mongtsé.—5 fr., lilac on toned.

SOMALI COAST. — The set of stamps chronicled on page 92 and earlier have appeared in new colours, and specimens reach us from Messrs. Whitfield King and Co. All are without watermark, and are perf. 11½.

Adhesives.

1 c., plum,	centre black,	Village type.
2 c., bistre-brown	,,	,,
4 c., red	,,	,,
5 c., green	,,	,,
10 c., red	,,	,,
15 c., dull orange	,,	,, [type.
20 c., purple	,,	Camel and Native
25 c., blue	,,	,,
40 c., orange	,,	,,
50 c., green	,,	,,
75 c., brown-orange	,,	,, [type.
1 fr., orange	,,	Three Natives
2 frs., green	,,	,,
5 ,, orange	,,	,,

Philatelic Societies' Meetings.

Birmingham Philatelic Society.

Honorary President :
W. B. Avery.

President :
R. Hollick.

Vice-Presidents :
T. W. Peck, W. Pimm.

Committee :
P. T. Deakin, H. Grindall, C. A. Stephenson, W. F. Wadams.

Hon. Secretary and Treasurer :
G. Johnson, B.A., 208, Birchfield Road, Birmingham.

OCTOBER 1st. Annual General Business Meeting. The Statement of Accounts, showing a balance in hand of £81 11s. 7½d., was passed, and the following amended programme was approved :—

1903.
Oct. 20. Display : Great Britain, N.S.W., Mauritius. W. B. Avery.
,, 29. Paper : "Portugal and Colonies." G. Johnson.
Nov. 12. Paper : "South Australia." R. Hollick.
Dec. 3. Auction.

1904.
Jan. 7. Lantern Display. J. A. Margoschis.
Feb. 4. Paper : "Holland and Colonies." H. Grindall and J. A. Margoschis.
,, 25 and 26. Auction.
Mar. 4. Paper : "Norway and Sweden." T. W. Peck and P. T. Deakin.
,, 18. Paper : "Ceylon." C. A. Stephenson and W. S. Vaughton.
April 21. Display : "West Indies." W. Pimm.
May 5. Display : "Straits Settlements." R. Hollick, C. A. Stephenson, and others.

The election of the following members was confirmed :—

Messrs. H. R. Stephens, B.A., A. Waroquiers, Dr. E. Barclay Smith, Rev. D. M. Wright, Messrs. K. Schmiede, J. Robinson, H. L. Bryce. All other applications for membership were adjourned till next meeting.

Votes of thanks were entered on the minutes to the following donors to the Permanent Collection : Messrs. H. Beramendi, T. H. Nicolle, H. L. Hayman, A. Mattana, W. Brettschneider, G. Gelli, Wilcox Smith, H. J. Bignold, W. Pimm, E. D. Hissard, W. de Quinze, P. Kohl, S. S. Kee, C. H. Goulden, Prof. Dr. Schoch, Rev. W. N. Usher.

Messrs. C. T. Reed, G. W. Martin, A. Mattana, and David Benjamin were thanked for contributions to the Library.

The *Stamp Collector* was again adopted as the official journal of the Society, and improvements are promised which will bring it quite into the front rank of the philatelic periodicals.

The Officers and Committee were all re-elected.

It was decided to print 3,000 copies of the Annual Report, and to include in same a tentative list of "United States Auction Catalogues" and a list of "Wants in the Permanent Collection."

Twenty pounds were voted in aid of the Permanent Collection, which now contains 8,287 mounted in Gibbon's Imperial Albums, vols. i. and ii. (2,961 in the Colonial Album and 5,326 in the foreign one), in addition to a number of locals, fiscals, etc., which will be mounted in other albums in due course.

The list of members shows a net increase of 18 over last year, the total being 318.

The total value circulated in the packets during the past year has been £38,756 7s. 3d., of which £4,371 17s. 9d. worth was sold.

International Philatelic Union.

PROGRAMME (Season 1903-4).

1903.

Oct. 14. Display: Portugal. R. Ehrenbach.

Nov. 11. General Display of Novelties and New Issues by Members.

Dec. 9. Display and Paper: "France, 1848–76." F. Reichenheim.

1904.

Jan. 13. Display and Notes: Fiscal Stamps of Alsace-Lorraine, Crete, Peru, and Philippines. W. Schwabacher.

Feb. 10. Lantern Display.

Mar. 9. Display: J. C. Sidebotham. Display and Notes: Jamaica. Major J. de C. Laffan.

April 13. Display: Bosnia. L. W. Fulcher.

May 11. Annual General Meeting, and Display by Members generally, for particulars of which see official organ.

Junior Philatelic Society.

President:

Fred J. Melville.

Vice-Presidents:

William Darwen, Bertram W. H. Poole.

Committee:

Messrs. Jas. Feeney, Crosby Blumsum, C. B. James, C. J. Patman, A. McCallum, W. A. Bois, R. Halliday, and C. E. Claydon.

Hon. Librarian:

Mr. W. Fahy, 15, Deauville Road, Clapham, S.W.

Hon. Solicitor:

R. Ralph, Esq., 14, South Grove, Gray's Inn, W.C.

Hon. Counterfeit Detector:

Mr. C. Nissen, 77 and 78, High Holborn, W.C.

Hon. Secretary and Exchange Superintendent:

Mr. H. F. Johnson, 9, Lorne Terrace, South Lambeth Road, S.W.

Meeting Place:

The Wheatsheaf Institute, 67, South Lambeth Road, London, S.W.

PROGRAMME (1903-4).

(*Subject to revision.*)

1903.

Oct. 3. Sale and Exchange. Presidential Address. Display with Notes: British Colonies. I. Gibraltar.

,, 17. Forgery Night. Display of the Society's Forgery Collection. "Forgeries and Fakes." Paper: "Skeleton Philately." A. R. McCallum.

Nov. 7. Sale and Exchange. Paper: "Is Philately on the Wane?" C. J. Patman. Display with Notes: British Colonies. II. Cyprus.

,, 21. Lantern Lecture in the Wheatsheaf Hall, South Lambeth Road, S.W.: "The Romance of Postage Stamps." Fred J. Melville.

Dec. 5. Sale and Exchange. Paper and Display: "Entires, and their Collection." W. A. Bois. Display with Notes: British Colonies. III. Malta.

,, 19. Paper and Display: "The Stamps of Seychelles." B. W. H. Poole. Paper: "The Joys of Generalism." J. Feeney.

1904.

Jan. 2. Sale and Exchange. Paper: "The New Collecting." R. Halliday. Display with Notes: British Colonies. IV. Ceylon.

,, 16. Fiscal Notes, accompanied by a display of stamps. W. Schwabacher, Chairman of the Fiscal Society.

,, 23. Special Afternoon Meeting. Visit to the Tapling Collection of Postage Stamps at the British Museum.

Feb. 6. Fifth Annual Conversazione and Dance in Raleigh Hall, Saltoun Road, Brixton, S.W.

,, 20. Paper and Display: "The Stamps of Mexico." Rudolph Frentzel.

Mar. 5. Sale and Exchange. Paper: "The Evolution of the Postmark." B. W. H. Poole. Display with Notes: British Colonies. V. Straits Settlements.

,, 19. Paper and Display: "The Stamps of France." R. S. Farden.

April 2. Sale and Exchange. Paper: "Our Young Philatelists and Philatelic Prospects." E. Heginbottom, B.A. Display with Notes: British Colonies. VI. India.

,, 16. Paper and Display: "The Stamps of Denmark." W. Darwen. Paper and Display: "Revenues and Cut Square Envelopes of Britain." Oswald Marsh.

May 7. Sale and Exchange. Paper: "Philately at a Distance." C. B. Purdom. Display with Notes: British Colonies. VII. Hong Kong.

,, 21. Annual General Meeting.

The Boston Philatelic Society.

President:
M. H. Lombard, Winchester, Mass.

COMING EXHIBITIONS.

Oct. 20. United States (adhesives only). For members who have never taken a prize. Blocks, strips, and *pairs* to count as single stamps only.
Nov. 17. Commemorative Stamps of the World.
Dec. 15. Original Essays (uncatalogued varieties).

SPECIAL NOTICE.—The Exhibition Committee announce that the Silver Cup offered by Mr. A. H. Weber will be competed for at the December meeting. This is to be an exhibition of uncatalogued varieties, such as very many collectors run across, the condition being that they are not listed in Scott, Gibbons, or Senf. This exhibition is open to *all philatelists*. The Cup will be competed for annually, and will remain in the winner's possession for the succeeding year, his name and the date being engraved upon it. This year's competition occurs December 15th. Exhibits may be sent to C. A. Howes, Secretary, 55, Kilby Street, Boston, U.S.A.

The Collectors' Club.

351, FOURTH AVENUE, NEW YORK.

THE ninety-seventh meeting of the Board of Governors was held at the Club-house on Monday evening, September 14th, 1903. Present: Messrs. Andreini, Dewing, Luff, Rich, Scott, and Perrin. The report of the committee to devise rules for the governing of future competitive exhibitions was submitted to the Board of Governors, as follows: "(1) All exhibitors must be members of the Club, and in good standing. (2) All stamps entered must be the absolute property of the exhibitors. (3) In any exhibitions in which arrangement is to count the stamps must be arranged by the owner. (4) A collection which has previously won a prize in this country shall not be eligible in competition for a prize of the same grade, but it may compete for a prize of higher or lower grade. (5) When a competition is limited to a certain number of stamps, only that number of stamps may be shown. (6) Pairs and blocks may be shown, but only one stamp will be considered and counted. (7) In judging a collection, condition is to count 25 per cent., rarity 25 per cent., and completeness 50 per cent. (8) Unless at least two competitive entries are entered, no first prize can be awarded; likewise three competitive entries must be entered for a second prize to be awarded, and four competitive entries for an award of a third prize. (9) The name of the exhibitor should not appear on the package, but a private mark may be affixed, indicating such exhibitor's ownership. (10) All exhibits must be in the hands of the judges at least two days before the date of exhibition. We recommend that special rules be made for special exhibitions whenever it shall seem desirable to the Governors.

"Signed for the committee by

"ALBERT PERRIN, *Secretary.*"

The above report was accepted, and the committee discharged with thanks. The death of Mr. J. V. Painter was announced and referred to the Committee on Biography. The application of Mr. Geo. L. Toppan, having been posted the required length of time, was balloted upon, and he was declared to have been unanimously elected a subscribing member of the club.

ALBERT PERRIN, *Secretary.*

The Market.

NOTE.—*Under this title will be inserted all the information that may refer in any way to the financial aspects of Philately*, e.g. *the sales or values of stamps, the state of the Market, Trade publications, etc.*

MESSRS. ALFRED SMITH & CO. write us:—

"We have pleasure in informing you that owing to the expiration of our lease in Essex Street, we have removed our office to No. 4, Southampton Row, W.C. This is in a new building at the widened part, with electric lift, telephone call office, etc., and is close to the new Strand-to-Holborn thoroughfare, the Holborn Restaurant, and the British Museum Station."

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MESSRS. PLUMRIDGE AND CO.

Sale of September 22nd and 23rd, 1903.

* Unused.	£	s.	d.
British Central Africa, 1891, £1, blue	1	6	0
Ditto, 1891, £2, rose-red	2	6	0
Ditto, ditto, £5, green	2	12	6
Ditto, 1895, 1d. on 2d., double surcharge	2	10	0
British East Africa, 1891, ½ a. on 2 annas, MS.	2	15	0
Ditto, 1895, 5 annas, mint	1	16	0

	£	s.	d.
British East Africa, 1895, 2 rupees, mint	1	18	0
Ditto, ditto, 5 rupees, mint	1	12	0
British South Africa, 1896, 1d. on 3d.	1	16	0
Ditto, Mafeking, the set of nineteen complete	9	12	6
Nevis, 1878, litho, 1s., pale green, horizontal strip of three*	2	10	0
New South Wales, Sydney, 1d., rose, Plate 1, on yellowish	2	4	0
Ditto, ditto, pair, 1d., on laid, torn into	1	18	0
St. Vincent, 1880, perf. 11 to 12, 1s., vermilion,* part gum	1	18	0
Ditto, ditto, 5s., rose*	7	5	0
Seychelles, 12 c. on 16 c., horizontal pair, inverted surcharge*	5	0	0
Trinidad, 1896, 10s., green and blue, mint	1	10	0
U.S.A., Justice, 90 c., mint, horizontal pair	5	10	0
Victoria, 1863–4, 1d., green, wmk. double line 4	1	10	0
Ditto, ditto, ditto, wmk. Sixpence	1	0	0
Collections: 1,770 (Colonials only), £39; 2,506, £30; and 643, Great Britain only, £20.			

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MESSRS. PLUMRIDGE AND CO.

Sale of October 6th and 7th, 1903.

* Unused.

	£	s.	d.
Bahamas, rough perfs., 4d., dull rose,* mint	2	0	0
British Guiana, 1862, 2 c., provisional, Pearls, fair	2	0	0
Ditto, ditto, 1 c., rose, ditto, S.G. 69	3	5	0
Ditto, ditto, 2 c., yellow, ditto, Grapes, fair	2	0	0
Ditto, ditto, 4 c., blue, ditto, S.G. 74, ditto	3	10	0
Cape of Good Hope, triangular, 1d., rose, block of four*	2	4	0
Ditto, ditto, 4d., blue, ditto	1	18	0
Ditto, 1874, One Penny on 6d.*	2	0	0
Ditto, Mafeking, set of nineteen complete	9	0	0
Ditto, ditto, Baden-Powell, small head, 3d., pale blue, *head to right*, used on piece	17	0	0
Great Britain, 1854, Large Crown, perf. 14, 2d., blue,* mint block of six	4	12	6
Natal, 1862, rough perfs., 6d., grey, block of four,* mint	2	0	0
Nevis, 1868, litho, 1s., deep green,* mint, vertical pair	2	10	0
Oldenburg, 1859, ⅓ g., black on green,*	2	0	0
Swazieland, 2d., ochre, inverted surcharge and with "D" omitted	2	2	0
Trinidad, 1859, pin-perf. 14, 4d., brown-lilac,* mint pair	2	6	0
Ditto, ditto, ditto, 6d., yellow-green,* ditto	2	15	0
Collection: 6,028, £13.			

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MESSRS. VENTOM, BULL, AND COOPER.

Sale of September 24th and 25th, 1903.

* Unused.

	£	s.	d.
Great Britain, 2d., blue, Small Crown, perf. 14*	3	0	0
Ditto, 4d., 1855–7, Small Garter, on safety paper,* with gum	4	17	6
Morocco Agencies, 5 c. and 10 c., an unused horizontal pair of each,* mint, the error inverted "V" instead of "A"	4	0	0
Finland, 1st issue, 10 k., pair on vertically laid paper	2	2	0
French Colonies, 1871–6, 4 c., grey, horizontal pair	2	0	0
Russia, 1st issue, wmk., 20 k.*	1	10	0
Saxony, ditto, 3 pf.,* thinned	2	4	0
Spain, 1851, 2 reales*	15	15	0
Ditto, 1852, ditto, fair	2	4	0
Ceylon, 10d., orange-vermilion, imperf.,* with gum	1	15	0
Ditto, 1d., blue, no wmk., perf. 11½, strip of three	2	0	0
British Central Africa, 1896, £1, black and blue,* mint	3	5	0
Cape of Good Hope, 1882, ½d. on 3d., claret, C C	1	12	0
Natal, 1st issue, 1d., buff, nine specimens, and 3d., rose, three specimens, all used on entire envelope	16	0	0
Niger Coast, 1894, provisional, ½d. on 2½d., blue, horizontal pair, used with two others on piece of original	2	17	6
Orange River Colony, 1896, provisionals, ½d. (in figures) on 3d., ultramarine, an entire unused sheet of 240, including one stamp surcharged four times	10	0	0
Nova Scotia, 1s., cold violet, *pair*, very rare	33	0	0
New Brunswick, 1s., violet	7	0	0
British Guiana, 1862, 2 c., provisional, No. 8,* signed	1	16	0
Dominica, 1s., lilac-rose, C A	2	0	0
Grenada, 1891, provisional, 2½d. on 8d., grey-brown,* twice surcharged, thinned at back	3	3	0
St. Vincent, 1d., rose-red, of 1866, perf. 11 to 12½ × 14 to 16	2	10	0
Ditto, 1880, provisional, 1d., in red, on half 6d., blue-green, a fine unused corner pair, with gum and additional diagonal perforation	8	0	0

	£	s.	d.
Tobago, 1880, provisional, surcharged in pen and ink, 1d. on half of 6d., orange, used on large piece of original with half a 4d., yellow-green . .	4	5	0
Trinidad, 1852, litho, 1d., blue, clear impression . . .	3	2	6
Ditto, "O S," ½d., 1d., 2½d., 4d., 6d., and 5s.,* mint . .	3	10	0
Tonga, 1896, surcharged in English in violet, and in Tongan in black, the latter reading downwards, ½d. on 7½d. on 2d., pale blue, vertical pair . .	2	5	0
Collections : 8,628, £72 ; and 645 (Colonials only), £70.			

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MESSRS. VENTOM, BULL, AND COOPER.

Sale of October 8th and 9th, 1903.

* Unused.

	£	s.	d.
Great Britain, Board of Education, 5d., purple and ultramarine, and 1s., green and scarlet, both used on piece . .	3	0	0
Ditto, ditto, a similar lot, with ½d., green, and 2½d., ultramarine, all used together on piece	3	3	0
Ditto, ditto, 1s., green and scarlet, used on piece . . .	3	3	0
Ditto, ditto, Mulready envelopes, 2d., blue, an entire unused sheet of twelve, fine . .	3	0	0
Ditto, a fine collection in Ewen Album, including 2s., brown, postmarked "C30"; £1, green, unused ; £5, orange ; I.R. Official, £1 ; and other scarce stamps, 872 . . .	19	0	0
Ditto, a fine and valuable lot of unused and used English, including departmentals, etc., in plain book, 3,772 . .	15	10	0
Gibraltar, 1st issue, 1s., bistre,* with gum . £1 3s. and	1	6	0
France, 1862, 20 c., blue, *tête-bêche*, pair	1	8	0
Switzerland, Basle, 2½ r. . .	4	0	0
British South Africa, 1896, provisional Three Pence on 5s., orange-yellow,* mint pair £1 18s. and	1	19	0
Natal, 1874-8, 12½, 4d., brown* .	1	18	0
Zululand on Natal, ½d., green, double surcharge,* mint .	4	0	0
Ditto, 1894-6, £1, purple on red,* ditto . . .	2	4	0
St. Lucia, 1886, 6d., lilac,* with gum	1	14	0
Trinidad, 1860, litho, 1d., slate, horizontal pair . . .	3	5	0
Western Australia, 1882-90, 12 × 14, 1d., yellow ochre* . .	8	0	0
Collection : 2,184 (Colonials), £31 10s.			

MESSRS. PUTTICK AND SIMPSON.

Sale of September 29th and 30th, 1903.

* Unused.

	£	s.	d.
Great Britain, I.R. Official, 1885, 10s., blue . . .	3	0	0
Ditto, ditto, 1892, £1, green .	1	10	0
Labuan, 1880, provisional, 8 on 12 c., carmine, with original value obliterated in red,* mint	2	12	0
Bechuanaland Protectorate, 2s., green,* mint . . .	2	2	0
Ditto, 2s. 6d., ditto,* ditto . .	4	15	0
Ditto, 5s., ditto,* ditto . .	6	10	0
British Central Africa, 1895, One Penny on 2d., green, the scarce trial type printed in Blantyre, with double surcharge,* mint	3	15	0
Cape of Good Hope, 1s., dark green, a superb block of four,* mint	15	10	0
Ditto, ditto, 6d., mauve, a superb block of four,* mint . .	7	15	0
Ditto, ditto, 1s., emerald, ditto, ditto	16	16	0
Gold Coast, 20s., green and red* .	6	15	0
Mauritius, 1848, Post Paid, 1d., orange, early impressions, a pair, one stamp very slightly creased, but very fine, and on piece of original (Nos. 8 and 9 on plate) . . .	14	0	0
Ditto, ditto, another pair, ditto, ditto (Nos. 2 and 3) . .	14	0	0
Ditto, ditto, another pair, ditto, ditto (Nos. 5 and 6) . .	13	0	0
The above three lots are all from the same sheet and are a vertical block of six severed into pairs.			
Ditto, ditto, 2d., blue, early impression, large margins and very fine, on piece of original	8	15	0
Ditto, ditto, another, medium impression, ditto, ditto . .	6	5	0
Ditto, ditto, another, late medium impression, ditto, ditto .	4	0	0
Orange River Colony, 2½d., blue, 2nd printing,* mint . .	2	16	0
Ditto, 6d., carmine, 1st ditto, without stop after "V"* .	3	15	0
Ditto, ditto, 1s., brown, without figure of value, with normal type *se tenant*, 1st printing,* mint	2	18	0
Ditto, ditto, 5s., green, without stop after "V" with normal type *se tenant*, 1st printing,* small defect in corner . .	3	5	0
Ditto, ditto, 5s., green, 2nd printing, pair and a single one with thick "V",* mint . .	7	15	0
St. Helena, 1864-74, wmk. C C, perf. 14, 6d., milky blue, a very fine pair,* mint . . .	3	0	0
Ditto, 1884-95, wmk. C A, ½d., emerald, with double surcharge,* mint . . .	5	5	0

	£	s.	d.
Sierra Leone, 1883, wmk. C A, 4d., blue,* mint, very fine and scarce	9	5	0
Ditto, 1894, C C, Half Penny on 1½d., lilac,* mint	3	3	0
Ditto, ditto, 2½d. on 2s., lilac, a strip of three, being types *a*, *b*, and *d*,* mint, exceedingly rare	32	10	0
Nevis, 1867, perf. 15, engraved, 1s., yellow-green,* without gum	10	0	0
Ditto, 1s., blue-green,* mint	2	15	0
Ditto, 1878, 15, litho, 4d, orange, ditto,	3	5	0
Ditto, 4d. orange-yellow, ditto	3	0	0
Ditto, 6d. grey,* and very fine, but not quite full gum	3	7	6
St. Christopher, 1882–90, wmk. C A, 4d., blue,* mint	2	16	0
Ditto, 1885–8, provisionals, One Penny on 2½d., blue, the small type of surcharge,* mint, extremely rare	19	10	0
St. Lucia, 6d., green,* mint	2	12	0
Ditto, 1883–6, 1s., orange-brown, pair,* mint	5	2	6
St. Vincent, 1866, no wmk., perf. 11 to 12½ × 14 to 16, 1s., slate, a superb block of four,* mint	11	0	0
Ditto, 1877, wmk. Star, perf. 11 to 12½, 4d., dark blue,* mint	4	2	6
Ditto, ditto, ditto, 1s., vermilion,* mint, slightly off centre	3	0	0
Ditto, 1880, 1s., vermilion,* mint, a superb copy	6	5	0
Ditto, ditto, 5s., rose-red, ditto	8	10	0
Ditto, ditto, another, used and very fine, on piece of original	8	10	0
Ditto, 1880, provisionals, 1d., in red, on half of 6d., blue-green, a superb block of four,* mint, exceedingly rare	27	0	0
Ditto, ditto, a single copy (left half) used, very slightly thinned	2	10	0
Ditto, 1881, provisionals, ½d., in red, on half of 6d., yellow-green, a very fine pair,* mint	3	0	0
Ditto, ditto, another pair, used	2	15	0
Ditto, ditto, One Penny on 6d., yellow-green, a superb pair,* mint	7	0	0
Ditto, ditto, a single copy, used and fine, on piece of original	1	16	0
Ditto, ditto, 4d. on 1s., vermilion, a magnificent strip of three,* mint, exceedingly fine and rare	50	0	0
St. Vincent, 1866, a single copy, used and very fine, on piece of original	7	5	0
Ditto, 1881, 4d., ultramarine,* mint	3	3	0
Ditto, 1883–4, C A, 4d., bright blue,* mint	3	15	0
Ditto, 1885, C A, perf. 14, 4d., red-brown, vertical pair,* mint	8	8	0
Tobago, 1882–4, C A, 6d., stone,* mint	3	17	6
Turks Islands, 1881, provisionals, 2½ on 1s., lilac, Type 6,* no gum	3	17	6
Ditto, ditto, another, the variety without fraction bar,* mint	3	15	0
Virgin Islands, 1867–8, perf. 15, 6d., rose on white,* mint	4	0	0
British Guiana, 1876, 96 c., drab,* mint	2	10	0
British Honduras, C C, 6d., rose, pair,* mint	3	5	0
Ditto, C A, 6d., yellow, pair,* mint	6	6	0
Ditto, ditto, 1s., grey, pair,* mint	4	0	0
Ditto, C C, 12½, 2 c. on 6d., pair*	4	4	0
Ditto, C A, 50 c. on 1s., grey, pair,* mint	8	0	0
South Australia, 1859, rouletted, 6d., slate-blue,* no gum £2 5s. and	2	10	0
Ditto, 1867–70, ditto, 10d., black on yellow, the scarce error with inverted surcharge, a very fair copy, but rather off centre	13	10	0
Ditto, perf. 11½ × roulette, 1d., blue-green, a pair,* mint, very fine, but top label slightly cut into by perfs.	3	10	0
Ditto, 1d., yellow-green,* mint	3	0	0
Ditto, 6d., sky-blue, a strip of three,* mint, fine, but top label cut into by perfs.	4	5	0
Ditto, perf. 10 × 11½, 10d., black on yellow, a superb strip of three,* mint	6	0	0
Ditto, 1876–7, wmk. Broad-pointed Star, perf. 10, 6d., blue,* mint. This stamp is so widely perforated that it shows portions of all the surrounding stamps	6	10	0
Victoria, 1858–61, 2s., green, perf.,* without gum; the perfs. are cut a little short at the sides, but is a fine copy and exceedingly scarce	3	10	0
Ditto, 1864, 1d., green, wmk. 6,* mint	5	15	0

THE

London Philatelist:

THE MONTHLY JOURNAL OF

THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY, LONDON.

VOL. XII. NOVEMBER, 1903. No. 143.

Original Gum.

IN the Preface of Herr Paul Kohl's excellent Catalogue for the year current, recently reviewed in this journal, will be found some interesting notes on the subject of original gum. Herr Kohl indulges himself in a little sermon anent the difficulties of procuring stamps in fine condition, the waywardness of some wicked collectors, who can never find anything fine enough, and their too high appreciation of the merits of original gum. In support of this latter contention he appealed to two well-known German philatelists—Herren Max Thier and J. Schlesinger—for their opinions on the subject. The gist of their observations is as follows, and although we agree with them on some of the main points, our agreement must be tempered by one or two observations.

Herr Max Thier writes:—"In reply to your question I agree that you should warn collectors not to attach too much value to original gum. In my experience I have come to the conclusion that it is very difficult, and in most cases practically impossible, to determine with any certainty the existence of original gum. In some cases the gum is of value, but upon the whole, collectors would be wiser in preferring a *perfect* stamp without gum to an indifferent and unsightly specimen with original gum."

Herr J. Schlesinger writes:—"A faultless stamp with original gum in first-class condition is naturally the *desideratum* of a true collector. Through the search for such specimens, however, an industry has been created which must be fought against to its full extent. False gum may generally be detected; there are, however now, frequent cases—and they multiply—when the genuineness of the gum cannot be determined with certainty, and it will probably be impossible in coming years, even with the most extensive research. I therefore urgently counsel all philatelists not to attach too great an importance to the gum."

It will be seen that both gentlemen state that the detection of false gum is practically impossible, but we cannot quite adopt this conclusion. We should rather state the case thus: In certain cases, especially where the general condition of the stamp is not mint, it may occasionally be very difficult to determine as to the gum; but in cases where the *entire condition of the stamp, face and reverse, is in its condition as issued*, the recognition of original gum is comparatively of no great difficulty.

We are at one with Herr Thier in his remark that it is better to attach value to a specimen in fine condition without gum than to a poor one with it, and we are convinced that in many cases too much importance is attached to the gum alone. In the case of many old stamps—say the provisional issues of British Guiana or the first two issues of New South Wales—specimens with full gum hardly ever occur, and the collector who declined such issues without gum might wait until the Greek Kalends before completing his series. In these, and doubtless many similar old issues, the gum was frequently very scantily, or even only partially laid on, and even if original is sometimes of so indeterminate a character as to present but little security against imitation. This latter remark applies also to such stamps as the Prussian Head issue with solid background, of which the 2 sg., blue, is so rare. This is a bold, well-printed stamp, with plenty of colour, and one that well retains its freshness of appearance, while the gum is but a very simple white mucilage; yet we have seen really fine specimens without gum go begging for a fourth of the price paid for a stamp with the gum that otherwise was in no better condition. On the other hand, with such stamps as the first issue of Oldenburg, that often occur penmarked, and some values of which are of great rarity unused, the original gum, if undoubted, is of the greatest importance.

The real truth, therefore, of the matter is that original gum is like condition generally, as to which every collector can set up his own standard. Too much value should not be attached to the presence of the gum unless the other determining factors of condition are all present. A perfect stamp should be as it was on the day of issue, assuming always that it was well printed and correctly perforated. It should be absolutely clean, the colours fresh and clear, the perforations or margins not impinging on the design, and the original gum undisturbed. This is what is understood by the now generally accepted phrase, "in mint condition," but it is hardly felicitous. It may savour of bathos to compare such a humble object as a stamp with the beautiful work of Nature as exemplified in fruit or flowers, but the *bloom* that is their crowning glory really represents that almost indefinite perfection which is the concomitant of true colour and form as applied to a postage stamp.

The Tapling Collection.

By M. P. CASTLE and L. L. R. HAUSBURG.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

NOW that the collection is, happily, permanently displayed to the public it may be deemed advisable to occasionally examine and even criticise some of the component parts thereof, for the benefit of those of our readers who are unable to personally inspect the treasures themselves. We therefore propose from time to time to carefully tabulate the stamps of some of the most interesting countries, and to make such comments thereon, either as to their merits or demerits, as may be of interest or value to those of our readers who are at a distance. In order to be in due position to survey critically, we propose to invite the co-operation of leading specialists, and in the present case—that of New South Wales—no better or more capable choice could have been made than that of Mr. Hausburg, to whom we are indebted for the tabulation of the list of the varieties of New South Wales.

It is obvious that a mere recapitulation of the contents of the cases at the Museum, without some analysis or criticism, would be of little value to the reader, and it should therefore be borne in mind that in our comments we are in no way desirous of "looking a gift horse in the mouth" or in any way detracting from this superb and munificent bequest. Still less are we desirous in any way of impugning the abilities of the late Mr. T. K. Tapling, but in Philately, as in all else, the growth of knowledge and appreciation is but slow. The late Mr. Tapling's career was, sadly indeed, cut off before he had time to fully appreciate entirely the lessons and trend of modern collecting. Always in the very forefront of Philately in his own day, Mr. Tapling would have still held the van; and his collection to-day, had he been spared to continue it, would have almost, if not quite, rivalled *the* peerless one of the world—that of M. La Renotière, at Paris. As it is, one simply marvels that such a mass of great rarities could have been accumulated in so short a time as that devoted to his collection by Mr. Tapling, to be accounted for by his absorption of so many of the then great collections.

The first thing that palpably and promptly strikes the philatelic critic of the twentieth century, in a general examination of the collection, is that *condition*, in its true sense, was but poorly understood in Mr. Tapling's time. In olden days the fact that a stamp was "unused" was accounted the greatest factor; to-day the fact that an unused stamp is in "mint condition" is accounted of threefold importance. It is only well within the last decade that this faculty of true appraisement of condition has been generally developed, and in this latter-day light it must be confessed that in the general condition of its specimens the Tapling Collection is far behind the standard of to-day. In very many cases there are, of course, things of

priceless value, impossible to replace nowadays; but side by side there are very many specimens that would assuredly have been eliminated had the owner been spared. It is therefore with a view of uttering a true and correct appreciation of the collection from a twentieth-century point of view that we have allowed any deprecatory note in our remarks, and not from any lack of a true estimation alike of the superb nature of the collection as a whole and of the noble intentions of the munificent donor.

In the list of specimens following, Roman figures indicate the number of specimens unused, and Arabic figures those that are used.

Frame 594. *Sydney Views.* This frame contains single specimens of each value in all the plates unused, in accordance with the system adopted by Mr. Tapling of placing single fine unused specimens of each main variety first, followed by the issue in its shades and sub-varieties.

1d., Pl. I., brick-red; most probably proof.
1d., Pl. II., very fine, deep carmine, on bluish paper; apparently mint.
2d., Pl. I., fine copy, large margins; late state of plate.
2d., Pl. I., retouched; brilliant copy, apparently mint; deep shade.
2d., Pl. II., very early state; fine colour, but cut rather close.
2d, Pl. III., pale colour, but fine margins.
2d., Pl. III., 1st ret., deep blue; good margins.
2d., Pl. III., 2nd ret., pale colour, but rather stained.
3d., bright yellow-green, on yellow paper; fine margins.

Frame 595. *Sydney Views.*

1d., Pl. I. *Soft yellowish paper;* pale red. III., 5 and pair and single on original, carmine; II., 3 and 2 pairs on original, *pale lake;* mint block of four from top left corner of sheet, with full margins.

This block, though of a pale colour, is superb, but it may be said that except for this block of four none of the 1d., Plate I., unused, are in really fine condition.

1d., Pl. I. *Hard yellowish paper* (?). Very fine pair and single, unused; pair, used.

1d., Pl. I. *Hard bluish wove paper.* VIII., all fine; 1 and 2 pairs on original.

It will be seen that there are more specimens of this, and practically all in fine condition, than of the first condition of the plate. This stamp, however, was in former days the most easily procurable of the Sydney Views in unused condition, and was not unfrequently to be found on the Continent for two or three pounds. It does not vary much in shade, or Mr. Tapling would doubtless have included more copies.

1d., Pl. I. *Ribbed paper.* 1 on yellowish, 1 on bluish.

This is a relatively unimportant variety, as paper showing such ribbing or milling is found on many stamps. *Earliest dates*—Feb. (?), 1850, deep carmine; March 21st, 1850, dull red.

The made-up plate of twenty-five varieties consists mostly of very fine copies, some being in large blocks. These were nearly obtained in Mr. Tapling's celebrated haul from Sydney. Uncut

proof sheet of twenty-five, with full margins, in a brick-red shade. This was, we believe, purchased in London, and is a beautiful and invaluable sheet.

Frame 596.

1d., Pl. II. Hard yellowish wove paper. VIII., 7 and 3 pairs on original. These are in all shades, two of the unused being very fine.

1d., Pl. II. *Laid paper.* None unused; 4 on yellowish, also a pair with double strike on bluish.

The 1d. on laid, unused, has always been a very scarce stamp, but Mr. Tapling was less fortunate than the writers in getting this variety.

1d., Pl. II. *Hard bluish paper;* lake. III., all fine; 12 and 1 pair, and 1 pair on original.

1d., Pl. II. *Deep carmine.* I., very brilliant copy, with large margins.

1d., Pl. II. *Pale carmine.* Mint block of nine, with left-side margin; Nos. 6, 7, 8, 11, 12, 13, 16, 17, 18: that is to say, it includes the varieties no trees on hill, and hill unshaded.

This celebrated block is in superb condition, and without doubt is one of the finest things extant in Australian Philately. A block of nine unused Sydneys, including prominent varieties, can hardly be matched in the world, and we well remember its late owner's pleasure on its acquisition through a well-known London firm.

III., one being variety no clouds; 8 used. Earliest date, August 21st, 1850.

Frame 597.

Plate II. Pale carmine. Made-up plate of the twenty-five varieties, in fine condition, many of them being superb specimens, but not including such big blocks as in Plate I.

It will be seen from the foregoing that the collection is very rich in the 1d. Sydney, which, however, except Plate I. in its early condition, are by no means so rare unused as the 2d. and 3d. values. The least rare was—and really is now, though not always so appraised—the value in pale colour of Plate I. on the hard bluish paper, next to that in relative frequency coming the normal shades of Plate II.; but of this plate the dull lake or "gooseberry" colour and the deep red on laid paper are both of great rarity in this condition. The rarest variety unused of the 1d. is, in our opinion, Plate I., in rich, deep impression and early state of the plate. Specimens of such in mint condition may probably be counted on one hand, or perhaps two, throughout the world.

The summary of the specimens of the 1d. in the collection is as under, and it will be seen that our contention as to the richness of this issue is fully borne out.

	Unused.	Proofs.	Used.
PLATE I.—Plates . . .	22 ...	26 ...	47
PLATE II.—Plate . . .	25 ...	— ...	68
	47	26	115

(*To be continued.*)

William Edmund Image:

AN APPRECIATION.

MR. IMAGE was born at Norwich, and after a sound classical education, began the study of medicine. Unlike most English students, he went to France to take his degree, and for a considerable time resided in the house of M. Dupuytren, the great French surgeon of the day. While living with the Dupuytrens, Mr. Image formed a close intimacy with the son of his host, and the two attended lectures together—among others, those of the eminent Orfila, the most famous toxicologist in Europe. The teaching of the latter had a powerful influence on the English youth; both the subject itself and the mastery of analysis it required to attain proficiency had irresistible attractions for young Image, and he here laid the foundation of much of his after success in life.

In later years he was wont to recall to his more intimate friends memories of his student life in Paris, and various anecdotes told by Dupuytren of the great Emperor and the rollicking humours of the students.

After taking his degree, Mr. Image returned to England, and commenced his profession as a general practitioner at Bury St. Edmunds, where his powers were soon recognised, and he speedily won his way into the front rank of practice.

Endowed by nature with an exceedingly fine frame and a noble look, his sincerity and kindness of heart made him a general favourite, and he was much consulted and looked up to by his brother professional men, and called in to advise in almost every important and complicated case.

Indeed, it soon became a byword in Suffolk and the neighbouring counties that no one could be properly cared for in this life, or duly embarked in Charon's boat for the last voyage, unless attended by Mr. Image.

In forensic medicine, especially poisoning cases, which some sixty years ago were rife in the East of England, his well-known skill and accuracy, his fearlessness in dealing with a case, and his absolute fairness, led to his being invariably sought for on all medico-legal questions arising in the district. He was the acknowledged authority, and so great was the demand for his special talent, that had it not been for home ties (as he has more than once told the writer) he would have sacrificed his country connection and tried his fortune in the larger field of London.

But he was married, and had settled down in Bury, and after a long and prosperous career—during which his family grew up, and he was left a widower—he married Mrs. Mure, widow of Mr. Mure of Herringswell, a Waterloo officer and the Master of the Suffolk Foxhounds.

Mr. Image then retired from active practice, and thenceforth simply

prescribed for his poorer neighbours at Herringswell, and occupied his leisure as a county magistrate, in the cause of hospitals, asylums for idiots and persons of weak mind, and other like benevolent objects. In 1880 he served as High Sheriff of Suffolk, and after the death of his second wife lived a retired life, honoured, respected, and beloved by all, especially the young, to whom his strong life-tide was a great attraction and with whom he delighted to unbend.

And at last the busy life ceased; the years of rest permitted him ended, and full of years beyond most mortals, full of honour with all who knew him, he sank peacefully to rest, leaving behind him a memory which will endure with many as long as their lives last, of a perfect English gentleman, one of the olden time, whose like is scarcely to be found again, but whose influence even now that he has gone lives after him.

It is, however, as a philatelist his acquirements have a special claim in these pages.

Commencing to collect about 1859 in a Lallier's album, Mr. Image in 1861–2 had formed a very fair collection. These were the dark, dim days before the dawn. One did not know what there was to collect, nor how to set about it. Collectors nowadays, with half a dozen comprehensive catalogues and a whole library of literature on the subject to consult, besides the innumerable host of "dealers" and "dealing" collectors, can hardly realise what Cimmerian darkness then prevailed among even the most acute and enthusiastic.

Indeed, the subject, if touched on in ordinary society, was a fertile theme of cheap ridicule, and the collector was very fortunate if his friends refrained from openly doubting his sanity or thinking he had grown into second childhood. Not that there were not even then birds of prey who scented the carcass from afar, and by imitations, forgeries, and absolute falsities tried to feather their nests by unholy gains from the inexperienced.

When the first English catalogue was published by Mr. Mount Brown, the way open to the collector was greatly straightened, and when the acute papers of that great pioneer, Mr. Edward L. Pemberton, began to appear, the few careful and scientific men who had dared to venture on the pursuit were encouraged to continue, and these reaped their reward.

Mr. Image told the writer that till near 1870 he had never been to a stamp-dealer's house or shop, and it is a most remarkable fact that his collection down to that time had been made entirely by correspondence, without any assistance from his friends or any of that "sweet converse" which so greatly prevails among collectors, and stimulates their rivalry while it extends their knowledge.

But so it was, and it was almost incredible to the writer when he saw Mr. Image's book, the first who saw it, except the son of the local postmaster, a poor lad who came to ask advice about his stamps. Somehow it came to the writer's knowledge that Pemberton had sold Mr. Image some rare Australians, and he wrote asking the truth of the rumour; very soon after Mr. Image's reply, he took a journey to Bury to see the *rara avis*, in the shape of an *unused* 6d. orange Victoria, watermark value in single-lined letters, a stamp not then known in any English collection, except in used specimens, and

those few and far between. But there it was—a fine immaculate copy—the latest gem of its fortunate possessor.

In collecting, Mr. Image was acute, critical, rather more prone to distrust than belief, yet open to conviction, and an earnest searcher for what was true and genuine, as might be predicted from his scientific training and judicial mind. His Lallier contained on the first page, bearing the ominous inscription, "The Enemy," a very fine and current forgery of the red 2 soldi (lion) of Tuscany, a forgery which with the yellow and pink Austrian Mercuries, duly postmarked "Pardubitz," cost that generation of collectors many pounds sterling.

To this page, the analogue of his gamekeeper's barn-door, where the vermin were displayed, Mr. Image added many another before he parted with his collection.

His strength chiefly lay in Europeans, and at first the collection was limited to used specimens. Soon after his stamp intimacy with the writer began, unused copies were diligently sought for and acquired in Europe, chiefly from that unfailing source the wondrous stock of M. Moens.

The Colonies of England, especially British Guiana and Mauritius, were well represented, and from the great find at Georgetown, Demerara, Mr. Image obtained, through Pemberton, a magnificent series, now irreplaceable, though limited to one stamp of each value. The writer had the good fortune to get in exchange a 12 cents deep blue circular stamp of 1852, the torn edge of which fitted exactly to one he already possessed, and when joined formed a complete pair, with very large margins; the 4 cents, blue, of 1856 on both papers are also found in excellent examples.

And so the collection progressed and far outgrew the original Lallier's album; and new books of foolscap size, in green morocco, with sumptuous silver edges and locks, by Messrs. Suttaby, of Ave Maria Lane, soon received the accumulated treasures. This of course involved rearrangement of the whole collection, and while this was in progress the writer paid a fortnight's visit to Herringswell, taking all his entire envelopes with him.

These comprised the fruits of the labours of MM. Herpin, De Saulcy, and those of the Chevalier de Volpi (Moens' "Pivol"), besides a great many obtained from Mr. Haslett, and the writer has the pleasure to recall the going through the parcel, which filled two good-sized portmanteaus, with Mr. Image, and presenting him with every duplicate the latter lacked.

Thus the collection acquired the major portion of the grand series of entire envelopes of Thürn and Taxis in both sizes; the Austrian kreuzer and soldi series in both formats, and the remarkably scarce 1s. (yellow) Mauritius foolscap envelope in two varieties.

Russian envelopes were also strong, and United States magnificent. Some few years after, Mr. Image's health caused his collecting vigour to slacken, just as Mr. Tapling was coming to the front as a keen collector.

The writer, as a friend intimate with both, had the pleasure to negotiate the sale of Mr. Image's entire collection to Mr. Tapling, who after his father's death was able to refound and extend his own collection by such a noble purchase.

The principals had reason to congratulate themselves on the transaction.

No dealer or middleman interfered, and the one simply paid his £3,000 net to the other, and received the whole collection in return—a proceeding scarcely possible now, when so many flit round a large collection, attracted as moths to a candle, and when rumours of a transfer take place, begin to look out keenly for a commission or at least a douceur.

In the last number of the *London Philatelist* is briefly stated how, after Mr. Tapling's purchase of Mr. Image's stamps, the collection was strengthened by amalgamation with those of MM. Caillebotte *frères*, and from the two sources the result is seen in the splendid collection now in the British Museum. How by his munificent bequest his stamps afterwards became the property of the nation has often been told, but the sources whence it was mainly drawn are, perhaps, now for the first time distinctly indicated.

The remarkable fact is, that with such few facilities at his command, Mr. Image was enabled to form such a strongly vertebrated backbone of a collection, and avoid the many pitfalls which beset the beginner's steps, though perhaps not so artfully laid as now, but quite as deadly in the more general ignorance on the subject then prevailing.

The exchange of views and comparison of stamps by collectors was in its infancy while the Image Collection was in formation. The only rallying point for years was the meeting of a few in an upper chamber at the Rev. F. J. Stainforth's Rectory House, in Mark Lane, London.

To these Saturday afternoon reunions all collectors were welcome: some five or six usually came—Dr. Viner, who then edited Stafford Smith's *Stamp Collector's Magazine;* Mr. Haslett, who avowedly dealt in stamps; Mr. Mount Brown, to collate the proofs of his catalogue with Mr. Stainforth's album, and occasionally the late Sir Daniel Cooper, were the most constant attendants. From such beginnings and a spirit of *camaraderie*, enhanced by the openly expressed contempt of the *non illuminati*, sprang the Philatelic Society, London; and well does the writer remember the pleasure it gave Mr. Image to attend one of its meetings for the first time; and the surprise and delight of the members present to be introduced to the veteran collector, who had so strongly formed himself alone, and without friendly help, into the accomplished philatelist who could hold his own with any of his cotemporaries.

Truly "there were giants in those days," and while the skill and ability of the present race of collectors have reached a far higher standard than was then dreamt of, we have to look back with admiration and pride at the persevering industry, scientific research, and unfailing sagacity of William Edmund Image, and rejoice that he and his compeers have laid deep and wide the foundations of the science which has since advanced to its present state among collectors and in the estimation of the public.

The Earl of Crawford's Collection of United States Stamps.

IN days of old, when the minor varieties of stamps were as yet not fully ascertained and the issuing countries were comparatively few in number, a collection that contained two or three thousand specimens was considered a rich one. Naturally enough, therefore, the earliest collectors were fain to add to their albums examples of proofs and colour trials of adopted types and essays of designs submitted for approval. In process of time, however, as the pioneers of Philately fell away from the ranks, and as the number of new issues increased, and increased to its present-day colossal figures, the cult of this part of the pursuit found but few followers, and, with the exception of one or two instances, may be said to have fallen into desuetude. The number of varieties of postage stamps extant at the present moment is doubtless not the sole factor in the decay of the collection of these proofs and essays, as the difficulty of their acquisition, without some special or official source, must be patent to everyone. In the instances of the stamps of Great Britain, France, Belgium, and a few other countries, there has always been a fair proportion of proofs, essays, etc., to be obtained, and there exist to-day some collections which embrace a representative selection of all that interesting portion of the life of a stamp prior to its issue to the general public. The superb collection of French stamps of the Comte Durrieu is probably one of the, if not the richest in this respect, but in this country the older collections, which included such an objective, have been one by one dispersed, and in the most modern and highly specialised collections the inclusion of anything but issued varieties is rare indeed.

The Vice-President of the Philatelic Society of London, the Earl of Crawford—though a philatelist of but relatively short standing—viewing Philately from a standpoint different from that of the average modern collector, has demonstrated beyond cavil that in the formation of a highly specialised and scientifically arranged collection, the historical portion must not be ignored. Lord Crawford has, therefore, included in his collection everything that in any way refers to the origin, development, and manufacture of the postage stamp, from the earliest original pen or pencil sketch down to the Plate proof of the finished article immediately prior to its issue to the public.

Possessed with these ideas, and fortunately enabled, through the acquisition of two large and important collections of the stamps of the United States, to secure the necessary specimens, Lord Crawford, if we may use the expression, burst upon the astonished world of collectors, at the recent

meeting of the London Philatelic Society, with a collection that in its richness, its entirety, its research, and its historical interest far surpassed anything that has ever yet been shown in this country or, doubtless, in any other. The members of the London Society have long been accustomed to gaze upon rich arrays of stamps with a satisfaction untinctured by surprise, but we are confident that, in the case of the Vice-President's display, the latter was the predominant feature. To state that the collection of United States stamps is contained in over forty large volumes is but faintly to convey an idea of their contents. Nor was the surprise of those present at the meeting in question confined to the examination of the specimens themselves, but it was equally excited by the marvellous evidences of exhaustive and sustained philatelic work. The elaborate classification, the minute working out of detail, and the voluminous notes which were apparent in every volume elicited, not only a chorus of approval, but profound astonishment that such a mass of scientific and historical arrangement could have been attained by any man in such a comparatively short period as that devoted to Philately by Lord Crawford.

The object lesson of this superb display is clearly, that to make a scientific and really complete collection of postage stamps, not only the issues themselves, but all that relates to their inception, development, and supersession is really requisite. It is not given to everyone to collect on such heroic lines, but when we find a collector possessing the varied abilities requisite to achieve such a task, we may well tender to him our grateful acknowledgments for having placed Philately on a higher basis than it had previously attained. As we have said, the members of the London Society have been accustomed to great displays and splendid scientific effort, but we are confident that, without wishing to be fulsome in our recognition of Lord Crawford's recent display of the United States stamps, one and all of its members will join with us in saying that Lord Crawford has amply demonstrated that the highest scientific development had not hitherto been attained.

It is obviously impossible, within our limits, to give an adequate description of the collection, which, irrespective of the non-issued varieties, included every possible shade, varieties, and blocks in almost every case—the condition of the stamps, whether as to centring or aught else, leaving practically nothing to be desired.

The two great Divisions are, *Stamps handled by the Public*, being Carriers, Postmasters, and General Issues to date, in volumes 1–23; and *Stamps only handled by Officials*, being Official Seals, Registered, Dead Letter, Postage Due, Newspapers and Periodicals, Departmentals, in volumes 24–41.

The full scheme of the arrangement of the collection is as follows, for which we are indebted to the notes kindly supplied by the Vice-President.

Scheme of Classification of the Collection.

(a) *Original design.*

(b) *Die* proof, *state* of the Plate, *finally* approved—this usually in *black*.

(c) Die proofs submitted for colour.

(d) Artist's proof signed in chosen colour (corresponding to our imprimatur sheet).

(e) Plate proof on India paper, very rarely mounted on card; often in various colours, as, I believe, the approved for colour was often made from the *Plate* rather than the Die.

(f) *Plate* proofs printed direct on card in five or six colours. Printed in 1875 for the Philadelphia Exhibition. In the years 1882 and 1892 complete sets of all values were reprinted in this form—and can only be told one from the other by slight differences in the substance of the card.

(g) The issued stamp showing, where possible, (*a*) the surcharge "Specimen," (*b*) ordinary, (*c*) varieties, printing, perforating, etc.

(h) Reprint or reissues or special printings. In case of stamps which had been demonetised 1851–1861, these were *reprints* and were *not* available for postage. Reissues were and are still available for postage. As a general rule they are finer impressions than the general issue, but were sold *without gum*. They were made for exhibition purposes, and were only sold at the office of the third P.M.G. Special printings were made of some issues, during their currency. *Die* proofs and *Plate* proofs were made of these reissues when the contractors were the American Co., therefore the sequence runs—

(i) Die proofs, reprints.

(j) Plate proofs, reprints.

(k) Issued stamp, reprints.

Note.—These reissued stamps are *infinitely* rarer than the general issue; in two or three values 20,000 were printed, in the vast majority only 10,000 were struck off. All that had not been sold in July, 1884, were burnt then by order of the P.M.G. and reported so to Congress.

Lord Crawford writes us that his aim has been, as far as possible, to show—

(a) The use of the Die before its use as a stamp; *e.g.* bank-notes with heads of Franklin and Washington used for 1 c. and 3 c. Issue, 1851.

(b) The *sketch* or *design from which the Die was made.* Of these there are very many submitted, as a rule, by the contractors of the instant.

(c) In the picture stamps of 1869 reduced five types were made and etched of the paintings in the Capitol.

With reference to the engraved work, Lord Crawford contends that it may be classified as follows:—

"(a) Essays; (b) Accepted designs.

"An essay is anything submitted to authority but not approved, or submitted and approved in part only; *e.g.* the head to be used in a different frame.

"An essay or accepted design may be found in various states. These are usually pulled by the engraver to see the effect of his work, and are of excessive rarity, single copies being submitted for approval.

"Practically any *value* may have two sets of essays and proofs, because the frame was engraved by one artist and the head by another, and each at first was treated separately. When approved the mother die of the frame was rocked down to a plate, and the mother of the head rocked on to its proper place. From then began the modifications possible till it was adopted.

"From 1861–6, and again from 1873–6, an immense number of essays were produced, not as essays of *design*, but of paper and of inks. During those years more than fifty patents were taken out in the United States on these subjects. There were some of them used. Dr. Francis', Fletcher's, and others were on sale in limited numbers; also, of course, the double paper set, and also the chemical papers and inks."

Although Lord Crawford modestly disclaims the ability to carry out all the preceding classification in every issue, there were but few issues in which the major portions of his scheme were not represented. It should be borne in mind that, both with regard to the voluminous notes that accompany the collection and to its general arrangement, Lord Crawford expresses his acknowledgments to Mr. John N. Luff's superb *History of the United States Stamps*.

We can but heartily congratulate the Vice-President of the London Philatelic Society upon his brilliantly successful labours, so amply vindicating his election to that office, coupled with the wish that he may yet find leisure and material to exhibit in the like historical form the postal issues of our own country.

Dinner of the London Philatelic Society.



THIS long-established function was once more most pleasantly and successfully carried out on the 19th of this month, when a large number of gentlemen were assembled under the able chairmanship of the Vice-President of the Society, the Earl of Crawford, K.T., the vice-chairs being occupied by Messrs. H. R. Oldfield and T. Wickham Jones. Among others present were Messrs. W. F. Biggs, C. E. Allison, Gaydon, Simpson, G. S. Fowler, C. J. Phillips, W. L. Jones, J. Chapman, Woods, Capt. Beer, I. Craig, W. H. Peckitt, Dr. Byrd-Page, E. H. Hitchens, Lieut. Napier, Douglas Barnes, W. B. Smith, Moore, im Thurn, C. Neville Biggs, H. F. W. Deane, Robert Ehrenbach, Rudolph Frentzel, L. W. Fulcher, L. L. R. Hausburg, Thos. W. Hall, Rudolph Meyer, H. Quare, W. Dorning Beckton, Franz Reichenheim, Gordon Smith, W. Schwabacher, W. T. Wilson, Fred West, R. B. Yardley, E. D. Bacon, Thos. Maycock. The Hon. Sec., Mr. J. A. Tilleard, and Mr. C. E. McNaughtan were unfortunately absent through illness, and the Hon. Vice-President was unavoidably prevented from attending.

The locale of the dinner was a new one, being at the Imperial Restaurant, Regent Street, where a fine room on the first floor was provided, and at 7.30 the company sat down to a dinner that was truly excellent, the successful arrangements in connection therewith being largely due to Mr. Ehrenbach, the new member of the Dinner Committee, who had special charge of this department.

After the usual loyal toasts and that of the Vice-President—received with musical honours—proposed by Mr. Dorning Beckton, who referred to the very thorough manner in which Philately had been taken up and studied by Lord Crawford, the Chairman proposed the toast of "The Society and its Officers," stating that the Society had always been fortunate in its leaders, and mentioning more especially the debt that the Society and himself both owed to his immediate predecessor in the Vice-Presidency. Lord Crawford also mentioned the possibility of another International Exhibition at no distant date.

Mr. Gordon Smith, at short notice, in the absence of the Honorary Secretary very kindly and ably undertook the response, mentioning the forthcoming change in the habitat of the Society, and expressing the hope that through the good offices of the Vice-President the Society might ere long be housed in a manner more fitting to its dignity.

The other toasts were ably given and responded to, and Dr. Byrd-Page during the evening executed some wonderful feats with cards, while Mr. J. Kift successfully sustained the musical features of the entertainment. The evening was adjudged a great success in all respects, as may be judged from the fact that the members did not separate until quite a late hour.

Philatelic Notes.

DISCOVERY OF ANOTHER "POST OFFICE" MAURITIUS.

WE have received the following interesting letter from Messrs. Puttick and Simpson, announcing another and singular addition to the ranks of these highly valued rarities :—

"47, LEICESTER SQUARE, LONDON, W.C.,
7th November, 1903.

"Enclosed we send you an illustration of a very fine 2d. 'Post Office' Mauritius which has recently been put in our hands for sale by auction. It is a very fine unused copy, and was discovered quite by accident in an old collection formed by the owner, when a boy at school, in 1864. It has been lying by all these years, the owner being unaware of its existence. The collection was a small and very poor one, with little else of value in it. It is to be included in our sale on January 12th and 13th next."

The collection in which this superb stamp had lain *perdu* for nearly forty years was brought to a gentleman in London, and was of such a poor and schoolboy order as to barely evoke interest enough to turn over the pages. Amidst such a lot of worthless specimens, to the profound astonishment of its purchaser, was discovered this magnificent stamp, assuredly one of the very finest existing specimens of the "Post Office" among the couple of dozen that, all told, now probably exist. Such a discovery really constitutes one of the romances of stamp collecting, and to the fortunate purchaser must be an episode that combines reality and romance in a most delightful manner.

It is curious how long a rare stamp may remain unsuspected or unrecognised in very ordinary company, but the forty years in this case may well create a record for such a long concealment. A somewhat similar instance has, however, recently come to our knowledge. The remainder of a small collection hailing from the south of France was sold to a dealer in Paris for a few pounds, and its purchaser, on breaking it up, to his amazement found one of the great rarities of the British Colonials therein, of whose existence neither he nor the vendor had been aware. The stamp in question was priced in the book, by its former owner, at two shillings, the price he had paid, and had been round to many collectors while the stamps were on offer, prior to the sale of the remainder of the collection *en bloc!* Truly in this case there was no honour in its own country to this specimen, but it is an ill wind that blows nobody good, and the last two holders of the specimen in question are well content.

Occasional Notes.

THE FISCAL PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

WE are pleased to note the growing success of this Society. In its second annual report appear the following satisfactory paragraphs :—

"The Society ends its second season, having successfully accomplished its original task of cataloguing British Colonial fiscals. The work has been carefully done, thanks to the co-operation of members, but, like other pioneer work, it cannot be supposed to be completed, although it may confidently be hoped that it has laid the foundation-stone of Fiscal Philately.

"Ten meetings have been held during the past season, the average attendance being nine, which is very satisfactory considering there are but few metropolitan members. Much assistance has been given by members sending notes and specimens of stamps. No fixed programme for next season's meetings has been arranged, but the fiscals of Great Britain, Peru, and Switzerland will be taken, and particulars of ensuing meeting will be given in each monthly report. From members unable to be present, the loan of stamps or collections, notes or papers, would be much appreciated.

"The first season ended with a membership of 46. There are now 63 members, making an increase for the year of 17. The receipts have amounted to £13 14*s.* 3*d.*, and the expenditure to £10 10*s.* 7*d.*, thus leaving, with last season's balance of 14*s.*, the amount of £3 17*s.* 8*d.* in hand."

The list of officers of the Society for 1903–4 includes several well-known names in philatelic circles: *Hon. Members*, His Honour Judge Philbrick, K.C., Dr. A. Legrand, J. B. Moens; *President*, W. Schwabacher; *Hon. Vice-Presidents*, H. Kohler, M. Langlois, A. E. Lawrence, A. P. Pearce; *Vice-Presidents*, W. Morley, E. H. Selway. The *Librarian* is L. W. Fulcher, B.Sc., 56, Buckleigh Road, Streatham, S.W.; and the *Secretary*, *Treasurer*, *and Exchange Superintendent*, A. B. Kay, 2, Haarlem Mansions, West Kensington, London, W.

THE LATE M. OSCAR BERGER-LEVRAULT.

THE information as to the death of M. Levrault, announced in this journal in our last issue, was only received at a late hour, and we are now enabled to supplement it by information from the Continental journals and other sources. It appears that M. Berger-Levrault's death took place at Nancy, on September 24th (thus correcting our previous statement), in his seventy-eighth year.

M. Levrault was at the head of a large and important printing and book business, employing several hundred hands, which was for many years carried on at Strasburg. After the Franco-Prussian War M. Levrault, in order to preserve his nationality, removed his business to Nancy, where he

resided until his decease. The possessor of the ribbon of the Legion of Honour, and the holder of numerous foreign decorations, M. Berger-Levrault was a man of considerable distinction, and one of the most highly respected citizens of the town of Nancy.

More than a generation has passed away since M. Berger-Levrault's first catalogue was published, and all that was then dark is now as day; but we who profit by such extended knowledge should always very gratefully remember those who in the dark ages of Philately first let in the rays of scientific examination and classification. M. Berger-Levrault's name should ever be thus associated with those of the very pioneers of Philately—Dr. Legrand, Judge Philbrick, the late Mr. E. L. Pemberton, and others who first raised stamp collecting to an intelligible pursuit. M. Levrault's first catalogue is now very difficult to obtain, but anyone who is enabled to peruse it to-day must marvel at the prescient knowledge displayed by its author more than forty years ago, and his name and memory will be always honoured in the annals of Philately.

PHILATELIC EXHIBITION AT BERLIN.

WE have been favoured with a communication from Dr. H. Lux, of Berlin, announcing that an International Philatelic Exhibition is to be held in Berlin in September, 1904. The project is fathered by an influential group of collectors in the Imperial Capital whose names command respect, and with whose aid an important and successful exhibition may be safely anticipated. The circular announcing the intention to hold the meeting calls attention to the great advantages and impetus given to Philately by the holding of International Exhibitions, and bespeaks the support and co-operation of English dealers and collectors in aid of the enterprise. We are quite sure that this will be readily forthcoming, and that many of our leading collectors will be pleased either to exhibit at or to attend the exhibition.

The Committee, which has done this journal the honour of electing its editor as a member of the Honorary Committee, consists of the following gentlemen, several of whose names are well known on this side of the Channel: Herren Dr. P. Demcker, J. Elster, P. Friedlander, Graef Dr. Grüttefien, G. Hefter, F. Lande, Lieut. Maass, Dr. F. Mallmann, A. Mannheimer, Capt. P. Ohrt, Dr. Paul Pirl, Dr. Roeder, Max Thier, and C. Zennig. Communications should be addressed to Dr. H. Lux, Hauff-strasse 8, Friedenau, Berlin.

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.

GREAT BRITAIN.—*Ewen's Weekly* points out that the 1d. wrappers stamped at Somerset House are in quite a distinct shade from those sold by the Post Office, and that the 1s., green and carmine, *Queen's Head*, "Govt. Parcels," exists with inverted surcharge.

Wrapper. 1d., orange-vermilion.

Government Parcels.

1s., green and carmine, *Queen's Head*, with inverted surcharge.

BRITISH SOUTH AFRICA.—An addition to the list of stationery has been made by the *P. J. G. B.*

It is a letter card, stated to be exactly like our own but for the stamp, which has the usual Arms under an arched inscription and value across the bottom.

Letter Card. 1d, carmine on blue.

CANADA.—A 1 cent wrapper bearing the King's Head has appeared.—*Mekeel's Weekly.*

Wrapper. 1 c., green on cream.

CEYLON.—The King's Head stationery is gradually appearing, and *Ewen's Weekly* has received a 2 c. post card. From the same source we gather that the 4 c. adhesive is now coming over in orange-yellow, in the place of yellow.

Adhesive. 4 c., orange-yellow.

Post Card. 2 c., buff-yellow.

EAST AFRICA AND UGANDA PROTECTORATES.—We have now to make additions to the new set of King's Head stamps, specimens having been seen, though only one or two values have circulated so far.

Adhesives.

1 a., carmine & grey-black;	ordinary size;	CA;	14.
2½ a., ultramarine	,,	,,	
3 a., grey-green and brown	,,	,,	
4 a., black and grey-green	,,	,,	
5 a., yellow-brown and grey-black	,,	,,	
8 a., pale blue and black	,,	,,	
3 r., black and grey-green;	large size;	CC;	14.
4 r., emerald and grey-black	,,	,,	
5 r., carmine ,,	,,	,,	,,
10 r., ultramarine ,,	,,	,,	,,
20 r., grey ,,	,,	,,	,,
50 r., red-brown ,,	,,	,,	,,

Registration Envelope. 2 a., pale blue.

INDIA.—Additions to the King's Head set are made by *Ewen's Weekly.*

Adhesives.

12 a., brown on red;	wmk. Star;	perf.	14.
1 r., carmine and green	,,	,,	
2 r., yellow-brown & carmine	,,	,,	

Official.

1 r., carmine and green, surcharged $\frac{\text{On}}{\text{M}}$ H S, in black.

Nabha.—Messrs. Whitfield King and Co. send us further five values of the set with King's Head for general use.

Adhesives.

4 annas,	olive,	King's Head type.
6 ,,	bistre-brown	,,
8 ,,	violet	,,
12 ,,	brown on red	,,
1 rupee,	carmine & green	,

JAMAICA.—A King's Head wrapper is listed by *Mekeel's Weekly.*

Wrapper. ½d., green on cream.

LEVANT (BRITISH POST OFFICE).—Messrs. Whitfield King and Co. have received the 2s. 6d. King's Head stamp of Great Britain,

surcharged "12 piastres," in black, for use here.

Adhesive.

12 piastres, in black, on 2s. 6d., lilac; wmk. Anchor; perf. 14.

MALTA.—Another value of the King's Head set has reached Washington from Berne.

Adhesive. 4d., dull brown and black; CA; 14.

MAURITIUS.—On page 89 we chronicled a 4 cents, Arms type, grey-green and purple.

Messrs. Whitfield King and Co. send a specimen, and write:—

"The 4 c. Mauritius stamp has been printed in error in reversed colours, the stamp being in green and the value in violet, instead of *vice versâ;* 90,000 of these stamps were sent out, and they are to remain on sale until this quantity is exhausted, when the new 4 c. stamp, on yellow paper, will again be put into use."

ST. KITTS-NEVIS.—Some post cards in the type of the new adhesives have been illustrated by the *M. C.*

Post Cards. ½d., green on cream.
1d., carmine ,,
1d. + 1d. ,, ,,

SEYCHELLES.—A 12 cents Registration envelope of the King's Head type is announced by the *M. C.*

Registration Envelope. 12 cents, blue.

SIERRA LEONE.—To the list of values of the King's Head issue, given on page 17, must be added a 2s. value, which has been generally overlooked.

Adhesive. 2s., green and blue; CA; 14.

SUDAN.—*Ewen's Weekly* informs us that "the Post Office at Khartoum being short of stamps of 5 millièmes, surcharged a certain number of 5 piastres at the end of September."

Some stationery is also chronicled.

Adhesive.

5 mill. on 5 pi., brown and green; wmk. Rosette.

Envelopes of Egypt, surcharged like the first issue of Sudan adhesives.
1 mill., brown.
2 ,, green.

Post Card.

4 mill. on 5 mill., carmine, with inverted surcharge.

TRINIDAD.—The 4d. value of the Britannia type in new colours reaches us from Messrs. Whitfield King and Co.

Adhesive.

4d., green, value in blue, on buff; CA; 14.

EUROPE.

BELGIUM.—*La Cote Rêelle* states that towards the end of 1902 a sheet of 70 c. parcel post stamps, dark blue, with figures in black and with the value printed on the back, was issued to the Post Office at Gand-sud. About ten had been issued before the error was noticed, and the remainder were thereupon returned to headquarters and destroyed.

The *Soir*, of Brussels, says that postage stamps of a new design are under official consideration.—*Ewen's Weekly.*

BOSNIA.—Another value has been added to the issue with the numerals in black.

Adhesive. 30 heller, brown, value in black.

BULGARIA.—The 15 stot. has been surcharged for use as a 10 stot.; the overprint is practically in the same type as that employed in 1901 for the same purpose, but there is no bar underneath. It is applied at the foot of the stamp, midway between the corner numerals.—*Philatelic Record.*

Messrs. Whitfield King and Co. send a specimen.

Adhesive.

"10", in black, on 15 stot., lake and black.

CRETE.—Messrs. Whitfield King and Co. write us:—

"We have received an interesting letter from the gentleman who, since the establishment of the independence of Crete up till 10th September last, filled the position of Director of Cretan Posts, having been formerly Postmaster of Athens. He informs us that as a consequence of his efforts for the last two years, all surcharged stamps existing in the island, including those of Crete, as well as those used in the French, Italian, and Austrian post offices, were withdrawn from circulation on October 1st. The surcharges in question indicated Turkish money, which has been non-existent in Crete for three years. These surcharges, as our correspondent states, wounded the patriotic feeling of the Cretans; their country being now entirely autonomous, is no longer under the dominion of the Ottoman Empire. The withdrawal of these surcharges, so far as the Cretan Post Office proper is concerned, will bring to that institution an added profit of 7,000 francs per annum. This is the true history of the reappearance of the high values of French Crete stamps without surcharge, which had gone to a fancy price."

FRANCE.—Mr. Franz Reichenheim has kindly sent us the dates of issue of the following lately issued French stamps:—

15 c., rose, type "Mouchon" retouched; 18th Dec., 1902.
15 c., olive, Sower; 1st April, 1903.
25 c., blue ,, 28th ,, ,,
10 c., rose ,, 6th May ,,
20 c., brown-purple, Sower; 30th June, 1903.
30 c., lilac ,, ,, ,,

GERMANY.—Messrs. Senf Bros. write us as follows:—

"In the September number of the *London Philatelist* you mention under 'New Issues' that the new German Official stamps are stated to exist in about thirty different sets. This is an error, as there are not thirty different sets so existing, but thirty postal authorities, of whom you will find a list in No. 11 of our magazine, who are paying a yearly indemnity to the Imperial Post, for which the latter forwards all their correspondence exempt from postage. Only one State—Prussia (the twenty-first in the list)—has issued a stamp to check the postage expended in the course of one year, and this stamp (Zählmarke) exists in the denominations of 2, 3, 5, 10, 20, 25, and 50 pfennig. We take the liberty of informing you of the above, as collectors might be misled by the remark in your paper."

We gather from a further courteous communication received from Herr Theodor Haas that these stamps are not in any sense an official series, but only control stamps, and that they do not frank letters at all. They seem therefore to be beyond the scope of the ordinary collector.

HUNGARY.—*Ewen's Weekly* lists a set of Postage Due stamps.

The description is as follows:—

Oblong, with large figures of value in centre, in black on plain white ground; "MAGYAR KIR POSTA." and "FILLER" above and below, introduced into the framework in small capitals.

1 f., green and black; perf. 11½.
2 f. ,, ,, ,,
5 f. ,, ,, ,,
10 f. ,, ,, ,,
12 f. ,, ,, perf. 11¾ × 12.
20 f. ,, ,, ,,
50 f. ,, ,, ,,
100 f. ,, ,, ,,

ITALY.—Dr. Diena informs the *M. J.* that the 2 lire Postage Due label, with figure in *magenta*, has been issued in the kingdom of Italy. It has hitherto only been seen overprinted for Eritrea.

Postage Due. 2 lire, blue and magenta.

RUSSIA.—We have to add the 4 kop. stamp to the set on *vertically* laid paper.

Adhesive.
4 kop., carmine, on *vertically* laid paper.

WURTEMBERG.—The 5, 10, and 20 Official envelopes at present in use have been supplemented by two new values.—*Ewen's Weekly.*

Official Envelopes. 3 pf., brown on white.
25 pf., orange on yellow.

AMERICA.

ARGENTINE REPUBLIC.—The *M. C.* chronicles the following envelopes and post card:—

Envelopes.
15 c., blue (embossed type), with *grey* interior.
15 c. ,, (current ,,) ,, ,,
Post Card. 6 c., blue (current type) on cream.

COLOMBIAN REPUBLIC.—*Antioquia.*—The *M. J.* has received a 1 peso stamp bearing the portrait of a gentleman, labelled "Zea." The stamp is described as of long, narrow shape, and inscribed "1903 COLOMBIA DEPARTAMENTO DE ANTIOQUIA", with value in words at foot.

Adhesive. 1 peso, sepia; perf. 12.

Cauca.—The 20 c. provisional chronicled on page 204 exists, according to the *M. J.*, both pin-perf. and imperf.

Medellin.—We have received two stamps issued here, which *are* for local postage, as they are inscribed "CORREOS URBANOS MEDELLIN," and bear what appears to be a local coat-of-arms in the centre. They are produced by the local firm that provided the Antioquia labels.—*M. J.*

20 c., red-brown; *perf.* 12.
40 c., violet ,,

COSTA RICA.—We understand from the *M. J.* that the current set has had three new values added to it.

A set of Postage Due stamps is stated to have been prepared or issued, but no particulars as to designs, etc., of the latter are yet given.

Adhesives.
4 c., lilac, with portrait of José M. Carras.
6 c., olive-yellow and black, with portrait of Julian Volio.
25 c., ultramarine and blue, with portrait of Eusebio Figuero.

(*Mekeel's Weekly* gives the colour of the 25 c. as lilac and brown.)

SALVADOR.—We find that the set of Officials lately issued contains both a 13 c. and a 15 c. stamp.

Officials. 13 cents., brown.
15 ,, yellow-brown.

UNITED STATES.—We have been shown a "Specimen" copy of the new 2 cent stamp. It has a full-faced portrait of George

Washington, slightly larger than on the stamp now in use, but apparently taken from the same picture. Above the portrait are "UNITED STATES—OF AMERICA—SERIES 1902." Below it, on a ribbon, "1732—WASHINGTON—1799." At the bottom appears "POSTAGE—TWO CENTS." At each side is the numeral "2", in a small pointed oval. The oval at the left is surrounded by laurel leaves, and that at the right by oak leaves. The background represents the national shield, of which four stars are seen in the upper part and portions of the stripes at the sides and bottom.—*A. J. P.*

OTHER COUNTRIES.

DUTCH INDIES.—The 5 c. post card, illustrated in January, 1902, is chronicled in reply form.—*M. C.*

Post Card. 5+5 cents, carmine on rose.

The 10 c. and 30 c. of the set of adhesives chronicled on page 294, vol. xi., have been received from Messrs. Whitfield King and Co.; the other values have yet to reach this side.

FRENCH COLONIES.—*Indo-China.*—A provisional has to be noted for this colony.

Provisional. "15", in black, on 25 c., blue.

New Caledonia.—A commemorative issue of some twenty-two varieties has been reported for this colony.

We do not think it would interest our readers were we to give further particulars.

FRENCH POST OFFICES ABROAD.—*China.*—It is reported that the 15 c., carmine, has been surcharged with a large figure "5", in black.

Provisional.

"5" on 15 c., carmine, "Mouchon" type.

Crete.—It is stated in several quarters that the five stamps listed on page 67, surcharged in piastres, have been withdrawn, the stamps being now issued without the surcharge.

Hoi-Hao.—Three stamps have to be added to the set listed on page 180, Messrs. Whitfield King and Co. having received a supply.

Adhesives.

15 c., grey; black surcharge.
75 c., black on yellow; black surcharge.
5 fr., lilac ,,

LEVANT (*Russian*).—More Russian stamps have been overprinted in piastres for use here, and specimens reach us from Messrs. Whitfield King and Co.

Adhesives.

2 pias. on 20 k., blue and red; black surcharge.
5 ,, 50 k., purple and green; red ,,
7 ,, 70 k., brown and orange; blue ,,
10 ,, 1 r. ,, ,, ,, ,,

All on *vertically* laid paper.

PHILIPPINE ISLANDS.—The *Metropolitan Philatelist* reports that the 1 c, 2 c., and 50 c. of the current U.S.A. stamps have been surcharged for these islands. Cancelled specimens have already been seen in Boston.

Adhesives. 1 cent, green and black.
2 ,, carmine and black.
50 ,, orange and black.

SOMALI COAST.—In the new set the colours of the 30 c. remain unchanged, except that the carmine frame is slightly deeper in shade.—*M. C.*

Messrs. Whitfield King and Co. write:—

"The current 5 francs stamp now appears with the border in yellow instead of orange; the latter appears to have been an error, it being the same colour as the 1 franc stamp."

TUNIS.—The current set of Postage Due stamps has been increased by two high values, and we have to thank Messrs. Whitfield King and Co. for specimens.

Postage Due. 2 fr., carmine on pale green.
5 fr., black on pale yellow.

Philatelic Societies' Meetings.

The London Philatelic Society.

Council for the Year 1903-1904.

President—
H.R.H. The Prince of Wales, K.G., etc.
Vice-President—The Earl of Crawford, K.T.
Hon. Secretary—J. A. Tilleard.
Hon. Treasurer—C. N. Biggs.
Hon. Assistant Secretary—H. R. Oldfield.
Hon. Librarian—L. W. Fulcher.

E. D. Bacon.	L. L. R. Hausburg.
M. P. Castle, J.P. (*Hon. Vice-President*)	
C. J. Daun.	C. E. McNaughtan.
R. Ehrenbach.	F. Reichenheim.
T. W. Hall.	Gordon Smith.

THE first meeting of the season 1903-4 was held at Effingham House, Arundel Street, Strand, on Friday the 23rd October, 1903, at 7.45 p.m.

Members present: The Earl of Crawford, K.T., E. D. Bacon, Herbert R. Oldfield, R. B. Yardley, Rudolph Meyer, H. G. Palliser, C. McNaughtan, C. Neville Biggs, Franz Reichenheim, Rudolph Frentzel, W. V. Morten, L. L. R. Hausburg, Robert Ehrenbach, L. S. Wells, M. P. Castle, William Silk, jun., T. Maycock, Thos. Wm. Hall, W. Schwabacher, Edward J. Nankivell, L. W. Fulcher, J. A. Tilleard.

Visitors: Stanley M. Castle, M. Bevis.

The chair was taken by the Vice-President, and it was resolved that the minutes of the last meeting, having already been published in the *London Philatelist*, should be taken as read.

It was further resolved that during the present session the meetings should be held fortnightly, as heretofore.

The Hon. Secretary reported the death since the last meeting of the following members of the Society:—Mr. J. B. Painter, on the 13th August, 1903; and Mr. W. E. Image, on the 26th September, 1903; and a resolution expressing regret and condolence with the relatives of the deceased members was unanimously passed.

The Hon. Secretary also reported that the Council had removed the name of one of the hon. members of the Society from the list of members.

The meeting then proceeded to consider the election of the following gentlemen, who, after ballot, were declared duly elected members of the Society:—The Honourable F. G. Hamilton Russell, proposed by the Hon. Secretary, seconded by the Hon. Assistant Secretary; Mr. Robert F. Mertens, proposed by Mr. F. Breitfuss, seconded by Mr. M. P. Castle; Mr. Henry J. Crocker, proposed by Mr. E. Stanley Gibbons, seconded by Mr. M. P. Castle.

After the formal business the Vice-President gave a display of the stamps of the United States of America, preceded by some preliminary remarks. The stamps themselves were contained in some twenty albums, and comprised a very large number of original sketches, die and plate proofs, showing the various stages in the preparation of the plates, and were accompanied by numerous historical facts.

A vote of thanks to the Earl of Crawford for his notes and display was proposed by Mr. E. D. Bacon, seconded by Mr. M. P. Castle, and carried unanimously; and the proceedings terminated at a somewhat later hour than usual.

Herts Philatelic Society.

THE first general meeting of the season 1903-4 was held at Anderton's Hotel, Fleet Street, E.C., on Tuesday, October 20th, 1903, at 7 p.m.

Present: Messrs. F. Reichenheim, L. E. Bradbury, W. G. Cool, R. Frentzel, C. R. Sutherland, S. Chapman, A. B. Kay, A. H. L. Giles, L. W. Fulcher, R. Meyer, K. Wiehen, H. Thompson, D. Thomson, W. T. Standen, J. B. Neyroud, H. Wills, T. W. Hall, R. H. A. Deere, W. A. Boyes, A. G. Wane, T. H. Harvey, and H. A. Slade.

Mr. Franz Reichenheim was elected as Chairman.

The minutes of the meeting held on April 21st, 1903, were read and signed as correct.

The following were duly elected as ordinary members of the Society:—Mrs. Bradley, Dr. T. H. Fox, A. Craig, J. A. F. Moncrieff, H. J. Shelton, C. P. Sisley, Gorden G. Smith, C. S. Dudley, E. W. Wetherell, E. J. Patterson, S. F. Annandale, and T. Hargrave Harvey.

The resignation of Mr. A. Griffiths was accepted with regret.

As Mr. W. B. Avery found it impossible to give a display of his stamps of Ceylon and Straits Settlements before the Society on November 17th, the date of the November meeting was postponed until November 24th.

The cordial thanks of the Society were passed and recorded in the minutes for a handsomely bound copy of *Les Vignettes Postales de la France* (F. Marconnet) presented by the Chairman.

Mr. Thomas William Hall then read a paper on "The 1861 and 1863 Issues of Colombia." The paper was accompanied by a display of Mr. Hall's well-known collection of these stamps and by photographs to further illustrate his remarks. A hearty and unanimous vote of thanks was

passed to Mr. Hall for his interesting and instructive display and paper, to which he briefly responded. Exchange and discussion followed, and the meeting terminated at 9.10 p.m.

A SPECIAL meeting was held at Anderton's Hotel, Fleet Street, London, E.C., on Tuesday, October 27th, 1903, at 7 p.m.

Present: Messrs. L. E. Bradbury, W. G. Cool, R. Frentzel, F. Reichenheim, W. Schwabacher, W. Simpson, C. R. Sutherland, T. H. Harvey, R. Meyer, W. Morley, J. B. Neyroud, A. G. Wane, C. J. Daun, C. S. Dudley, A. H. L. Giles, W. Jacoby, D. Thomson, D. Field, L. W. Fulcher, F. W. Mellor, H. Thompson, K. Wiehen, A. B. Kay, W. V. Morten, C. E. Fagan, H. A. Slade, and one visitor.

The chair was taken by Mr. C. E. Fagan.

No formal business was transacted, and the meeting, which was specially called for an Exhibition of the Stamps of Great Britain by the members, was declared open. A most successful and enjoyable evening was the result, the members having evidently made up their minds to merit the prominent position they hold in the philatelic world.

Among the most noticeable exhibits were the following:—

Mr. E. Heginbottom: A fine selection of Mulready envelopes with a caricature, postally used; a large range of shades of the 2d., blue (no lines); the 2s., blue, and 2s., brown; 8d., orange, and 10d., brown (1865-7); a fine lot of the high values of the 1867 and 1883 issues, included the 10s., cobalt, and also of Telegraph stamps. A splendid assortment of Officials, especially the I.R.'s and the O.W.'s. All these were used.

Mr. C. Stuart Dudley: A fine sheet of 1d. blocks in all states of printing; series of high values in blocks of four (the 5s. being shown in a block of eight); a single 10s., cobalt; a frame containing the medal by Wyon (from which the Queen's portrait on our first adhesive was taken), and a Mulready envelope used on the first day of issue.

Mr. Walter Morley: A fine sheet of 10d., octagonal, a couple of Prince Consort essays (one with Archer perforation), and an exhaustive collection of fiscals.

Mr. Chas. J. Daun: A fine lot of high values, unused, including a pair of £5, orange.

Mr. Karl Wiehen: A good general collection, including a pair of 9d., green, Government Parcels, and a fine copy of the 12 piastres on 2s. 6d., bleuté, Levant.

Mr. A. H. L. Giles: A nice lot of Mulreadys and octagonals, with some of the recent issues, including the 2½d. used during the Egyptian War of 1882, with "Army Post Office" cancellation.

Mr. J. B. Neyroud: A good show of the 2d., blue, no lines, in numerous shades; 2d., blue, white lines, with the ivory head (including a strip of ten, used); octagonals; 2s., brown, lightly postmarked Officials; with a very fine pair of ½d., green, O.W., Queen's Head; and a superb 1s. Board of Education.

Mr. D. Thomson: English used abroad, including the 2d., 1880, used at Constantinople, and the 4d. with the rare "G" postmark used at Gibraltar; and some curiosities of perforation and printing in recent issues.

Mr. D. Field: Specimens, on original covers, of the serpentine and roulette perforations, and two copies of the 1s., green, 1862 issue, with diminutive "K" in corners.

Votes of thanks were passed to the Hon. Sec. for organising the Exhibition, to the various members who brought or sent exhibits, and to Mr. Fagan for acting as Chairman.

The meeting terminated at 9 p.m.

H. A. SLADE,
Hon. Sec. and Treasurer.

INGLESIDE, ST. ALBANS, *Oct. 31st*, 1903.

Manchester Philatelic Society.

President—W. DORNING BECKTON.

THE 195th meeting, being the first of the new session, was held at the Grand Hotel on Friday evening, September 25th. The President took the chair, and there were fifteen other members present.

The resignations were accepted, with regret, of Mr. H. Beckitt and of Mr. Heineken, who has left England.

After some comments by the President upon the syllabus of the session, an exhibition was given of stamps, limited to twelve by each member, catalogued by Messrs. Stanley Gibbons at £1 or under. Many of the displays included stamps most difficult to find in good condition, that of Mr. Beazley, which contained excellent specimens of the 1d. St. Lucia (Star) and the 96 c. Hong Kong, attracting special attention.

The President was supported by seventeen members at the meeting on October 9th, when Mr. L. L. R. Hausburg gave a display of Tasmania, illustrated by his well-known collection, which appealed to many present in that it seemed to strike the happy medium between limited specialism and bloating.

Mr. W. B. Kirkpatrick was elected a corresponding member.

The 197th meeting took place on October 23rd. The President was in the chair, and there were fourteen other members present.

Messrs. Walter Scott and J. H. Shelton were elected corresponding members.

The Hon. Librarian reported the gift to the library of two volumes of the *Australian Journal of Philately* and various parcels of publications, and also of Messrs. Senf's new Catalogue by the publishers.

Mr. Munn gave a display of the later issues of Belgium, which showed the interest which can be derived from comparatively modern and inexpensive stamps. He also showed a block of three unsurcharged ½ anna British

East Africa used in Uganda owing to a shortage in the supply of surcharged stamps.

The President took the chair at the 198th meeting, on November 6th, when thirteen other members also attended. After a brief historical and geographical account of the Fiji Islands, and a reference to the Fiji Times Express, he gave a display, with notes, of the stamps themselves. In his opinion the earlier issues were the work of Messrs. De La Rue, being uniformly perforated 12½, the introduction of a No. 10 machine in 1879, and its use sometimes with the previous one, accounting for the combinations in the perforations of the later stamps.

G. FRED H. GIBSON,
Hon. Secretary.

FAIRFIELD, CRUMPSALL.

Scottish Philatelic Society.

President:
John Walker.
Vice-President:
Andrew Henderson.
Hon. Sec. and Treasurer:
T. A. M'Intyre, 43, Nile Grove, Edinburgh.

The meetings of the Society will be held at 12, York Buildings, Edinburgh, during session 1903–4, thereafter at 5, St. Andrew Square, Edinburgh.

SYLLABUS OF MEETINGS, 1903–4.

1903.
Oct. 12. Annual General Meeting.
Nov. 9. Display, with Notes: "Holland and Colonies." Mr. John Walker.
,, 30. Annual Dinner.
Dec. 7. Display: "Cape of Good Hope." Mr. J. Sievwright.

1904.
Jan. 11. Display, with Notes: "British Colonies in North America." Mr. Andrew Henderson.
Feb. 8. General Display.
Mar. 7. "A Plea for our Postal Fiscals." Mr. Robert Kerr.
April 11. "New Zealand: Recent Issues." Mr. William Bonnar.

Suburban Stamp Exchange Club.

FOUNDED 1892. NUMBER OF MEMBERS, 309.
NO ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION. ENTRANCE FEE, 2S.

FOUR packets circulated every month. Average aggregate value, £2,200.

Packets not kept in circulation longer than thirteen weeks; sheets returned and balances adjusted with the least possible delay.

None but responsible philatelists are eligible; non-contributors are allowed to see packets.

The Club is a capital medium for the disposal of duplicates, and for the acquisition of medium and rare varieties at reasonable prices.

For full particulars, copy of rules, etc., apply to Secretary.

H. A. SLADE, *Secretary.*

INGLESIDE, ST. ALBANS.

The Collectors' Club.

351, FOURTH AVENUE, NEW YORK.

THE ninety-eighth meeting of the Board of Governors was held at the Club-house on Monday evening, October 12th, 1903. Present: Messrs. Andreini, Dewing, Morgenthau, Rich, Scott, and Perrin.

The resignations of Messrs. Benjamin, Douglas, Castle, Frey, Hawkins, Hussman, and Phillips were read and accepted with regrets.

The Treasurer's report, showing a cash balance in bank of $115.31, exclusive of reserve fund, was read and approved. The Treasurer reported that Mr. Kennedy had purchased a share of stock from the Club, and is now a stockholder instead of a subscribing member.

The application of Mr. W. H. Manning, having been posted the required length of time, was balloted upon, and he was declared to have been unanimously elected a subscribing member of the Club.

ANNUAL MEETING.

THE eighth meeting of the stockholders and seventh annual meeting of the Club was held at the Club-house on Wednesday evening, October 14th, 1903.

The meeting was called to order at 8.40 p.m. by President Andreini. The following members answered to the calling of the roll: J. M. Andreini, P. F. Bruner, E. M. Carpenter, L. W. Charlat, C. B. Corwin, W. W. Dewing, N. Dieschbourg, Chas. Gregory, B. von Hodenberg, A. Holland, L. M. Homburger, D. R. Kennedy, J. A. Klemann, A. Krassa, John N. Luff, J. C. Morgenthau, Albert Perrin, Jos. S. Rich, J. W. Scott, Jas. H. Stebbins, jun., P. Stypman, Geo. R. Tuttle.

The reading of the minutes of the preceding meeting of the stockholders was dispensed with.

The reports of the following officers and committees were read and accepted: The President, the Treasurer, the Secretary, the House Committee, the Amusement Committee, the Auditing Committee, the Literary Committee, the Membership Committee, and the Biography Committee.

There being no other business before the meeting, the election of Governors was in order, and there being but one ticket, the Secretary was instructed to cast one ballot for the Club, which was announced by the President as follows:—

Governors to serve until October, 1906: P. F. Bruner, Jos. S. Rich, J. W. Scott. To serve until October, 1904: M. H. Lombard. The Chairman thereupon declared Messrs. Bruner, Rich, Scott, and Lombard duly elected.

ALBERT PERRIN, *Secretary.*

Correspondence.

PHOTOGRAPHY AND WATER-MARKS.

To the Editor of the "London Philatelist."

DEAR SIR,—If you will permit me, I should like to say a few words in reply to the letter in your September number on the subject of finding watermarks by photography. I say "finding," as I think the word "discovering" was misread in my last letter.

Not having had the privilege of reading Mr. Upcott Gill's book, I was not aware that the method used by him was the same as that with which I have been experimenting. If I have put forward as new any method *which he put at the disposal of philatelists* in 1897, I ask his pardon, and claim as my excuse the want of an index to philatelic literature.

I am old-fashioned enough to think that all discoveries, wrinkles, or short cuts, however insignificant, which tend to make our pet science attractive and easy, should be put at the disposal of all, and not retained by those who find them for their own private use.

The aim of true philatelists is to further in every way in their power the cause of their science, and to do their utmost to smooth the path of the tyro, so that he may become the sooner a useful member of the fraternity. In this we have the worthy examples of the painstaking philatelists who publish the results of their labours from time to time in your own pages for the benefit of others and for the cause.

Perhaps the gentleman who signs himself "A Member P.S.L." could oblige us with the information whether Mr. L. Upcott Gill, in his book *Postage Stamps and their Collection*, explained how to find watermarks by the method in question, and if his illustrations were referred to as results so obtained, or if he merely obtained the results for the purpose of illustration, and left his readers to find the watermarks by other methods.

I apologise for encroaching on your valuable space, but I feel that after the letter referred to I am entitled to make explanation to Mr. Upcott Gill for appearing to take credit for the method which "A Member P.S.L." states he used in 1897.

I am,
Yours faithfully,
WM. A. R. JEX LONG.

[In answer to Mr. Jex Long, we may inform him that in Mr. Upcott Gill's work there is no definite instruction in *Postage Stamps and their Collection* for specially *finding* watermarks by the use of photographic paper, but on p. 150 the illustration of the "large N S W" watermark is referred to as a print from the ½d. wrapper of Victoria of 1885, as the "watermark is seldom to be seen very distinctly in the case of the stamps." At the same time, it is to be noted that watermarks do not always appear to be made manifest by this plan. (See S. G. *M. J.*, Sept., 1903, plate, for examples of this.) The method is also referred to in *Chums*, vol. for 1897, and, indeed, is one of those "discoveries" that in one form or another have been stumbled upon by the investigating mind.—ED.]

The Market.

NOTE.—*Under this title will be inserted all the information that may refer in any way to the financial aspects of Philately*, e.g. *the sales or values of stamps, the state of the Market, Trade publications, etc.*

MESSRS. PLUMRIDGE AND CO.

Sale of October 20th and 21st, 1903.

* Unused.	£	s.	d.
British Central Africa, 1895, 1d. on 2d., green, a fine vertical pair, the lower stamp being doubly surcharged	3	0	0
Cape of Good Hope, 1874–80, the error THE.EE. pence on 4d.	2	8	0
Ditto, Mafeking, set of nineteen complete	9	10	0
Ceylon, 1858, no wmk., on bluish, ½d., lilac, a superb strip of three	7	0	0
Ditto, 1861, Star, clean-cut, 8d., brown	4	7	6
Great Britain, 1840, 2d., deep blue, horizontal pair,* but with almost imperceptible crease across	4	12	6
Ditto, 1855–7, emblems, 6d., deep lilac, a horizontal imperf. pair, fine and very rare	6	6	0

	£	s.	d.
New South Wales, laureated, 8d., yellow	4	0	0
New Zealand, 1864, N Z, 6d., red-brown, roulettes all round	6	0	0
St. Vincent, Star, 5s., rose,* full gum	7	0	0
Ditto, 1d. on half 6d., blue-green*	3	0	0
Ditto, One Penny on 6d., yellow-green	2	12	0
Saxony, 3 pf., red	4	0	0
Tonga, 1896, Half-penny on 7½d. on 2d., a fine used pair	2	0	0
Victoria, 1850, 1d., brown-red,* with gum	4	0	0
Collection in Oppen's (1,872 stamps)	15	0	0

* * *

MESSRS. PLUMRIDGE AND CO.

Sale of November 3rd and 4th, 1903

* Unused.

British East Africa, 1890, ½, 1, and 4 a.,* mint	3	17	6
British South Africa, 1891, 8d. on 1s.,* ditto	1	12	0
Niger Coast, one half-penny on 2½d., S.G. No. 53, horizontal pair	2	0	0
Seychelles, 15 c. on 16 c., twice surcharged,* mint	1	12	0
Ditto, ditto, inverted surcharge,* ditto	2	0	0
Sungei Ujong, Star, Crescent, and S in oval on 2 c., brown, CA, pair,* mint	1	16	0
Zanzibar, 1895, ½ A., green, the "Zanzidar" error	1	18	0
Ditto, 3 a., broken P for N	1	15	0
Collections, etc.: 1,921 (English), £70; 3,517 (Colonials), £20.			

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MESSRS. VENTOM, BULL, AND COOPER.

Sale of October 22nd and 23rd, 1903.

* Unused.

British South Africa, Buluwayo Provisional, 1896, 3d. on 5s., orange-yellow, block of four,* mint	3	10	0
Ditto, ditto, horizontal pair,* mint	2	0	0
Ditto, ditto, a single specimen,* mint	1	0	0
Ditto, ditto, two used specimens	1	7	0
Ditto, 1st issue, £5, sage-green	1	5	0
Ditto, ditto, £10, 5s., and 2d., on piece	2	12	6
Cape of Good Hope, woodblock, 1d., red . £2 and	2	12	0
Ditto, 1853–64, 1s., yellow-green, block of four	2	2	0
Ditto, CA, 5s., orange-yellow	1	5	0
Seychelles, 1893, provisional, 12 c. on 16 c., with surcharge inverted,* mint	4	0	0
Swazieland, ½d., grey, error "Swazielan," and 2d., olive-bistre, error "eland," both used together on piece	2	4	0
Canada, 1852–7, 6d., purple, on thin paper,* part gum	2	18	0
Newfoundland, 4d., carmine-vermilion	4	0	0
Nevis, 1883, 6d., green	3	7	6
St. Lucia, 1st issue, 1d. and 4d., unused, and 6d., used	2	8	0
St. Vincent, 1869, 4d., yellow*	1	16	0
Trinidad, 1861, 1s., indigo, rough perf.*	9	0	0
Ditto, 1863, 1s., bright mauve, perf. 13	1	16	0
New South Wales, Sydney, 2d., plate 2 . £2 6s. and	2	0	0
Ditto, ditto, 2d., plate 3, fan with six segments	2	2	0
Ditto, 1890–8, 5s., mauve, and 20s., ultramarine,* mint	3	17	6
Queensland, 1st issue, 6d., green, imperf.	1	17	6
Tasmania, 1st issue, 1d., blue	2	17	6
Victoria, 1st issue, 2d., lilac, with fine background, used on entire	3	12	6
Ditto, another fine specimen on entire	3	0	0

This catalogue is comprised mainly of remainders and mixed lots.

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MESSRS. VENTOM, BULL, AND COOPER.

Sale of November 5th and 6th, 1903.

* Unused.

Great Britain, 1d., black, block of twelve,* mint, with top margin, slightly creased	10	5	0
Ditto, 1d., red, plate No. 132, block of six,* mint, with side margin	3	12	6
Ditto, 1887, 3d., brown on orange,* mint	1	16	0
Ditto, 8d., brown-lilac,* mint	3	3	0
Ditto, 2s. 6d., lilac on blue,* ditto	2	4	0
Ditto, 10s., grey-green, Maltese cross,* mint, very rare	11	0	0
Ditto, £1, brown-purple, three crowns,* mint, with bottom margin	5	0	0
Gibraltar, 1st issue complete,* mint	4	4	0
Ceylon, Rs. 2.50, lilac-rose	2	0	0
Selangor, surcharged with Crescent, Star, and "S" in oval in red on C and CA 2 c., brown, block of four,* mint	3	15	0
British Bechuanaland, 1st issue, surcharged in red and in black, ½d. black,* mint	2	17	6
Ditto, surcharged "Protectorate" 2s., green*	3	15	0
Ditto, 2s. 6d., green	4	4	0
Ditto, 5s., green,* mint	5	15	0
Ditto, 10s., green,* mint	9	15	0
British East Africa, 1st issue, surcharged on stamps of Great Britain, ½, 1, and 4 a., used on entire envelope with a 1 a., green, of 1890–1	3	0	0
Ditto, provisional, surcharge in violet with a handstamp, 1 a. A.B. on 4 a., brown	4	10	0

	£	s.	d.
British South Africa, 1891, provisionals, set of four * with gum	4	4	0
Cape of Good Hope, 1882, provisional, ½d. on 3d., claret, wmk. C and CC, extremely light cancellation	3	15	0
Gold Coast, 20s., green and red,* mint	7	10	0
Lagos, 2s. 6d., olive-black	2	12	6
Ditto, 5s., blue	4	4	0
Zululand, 5s., carmine	2	15	0
New Brunswick, 1s., violet	10	0	0
Barbados, 1d. on half 5s.	3	10	0
British Honduras, 50 c. on 1s., grey,* mint	2	10	0
Grenada Postage Due, 1d. on 8d., grey-brown,* mint	3	0	0
Montserrat, CA, 4d., blue	2	8	0
Nevis, 1883, 6d., green,* part gum	4	0	0
St. Vincent, 1871–2, small Star, 6d., blue-green,* mint	2	6	0
Ditto, 1878, clean-cut, 6d., pale yellow-green *	1	18	0
Ditto, Star, 5s., rose-red,* mint	10	0	0
Ditto, 1d. on half 6d., blue-green	3	17	6
Ditto, ½d. on half 6d., yellow-green, pair *	2	10	0
Ditto, One Penny on 6d., ditto	2	4	0
Ditto, 4d. on 1s., vermilion	8	0	0
Tobago, CC, 6d., stone *	2	8	0
Ditto, CA, 6d., ditto,* mint	3	12	6
Trinidad, 1896, 10s., green and ultramarine,* mint	2	4	0
Virgin Islands, perf. 15, 6d., rose*	2	12	6
New South Wales, Sydney View, 1d., red, plate 1,* mint, very slightly creased one side	18	10	0
Collections: 2,390 (Colonials only), £21; 6,442, £16; 3,247, £10 10s.; 8,000, £16.			

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MESSRS. PUTTICK AND SIMPSON.

Sale of October 13th and 14th, 1903.

* Unused.

	£	s.	d.
Great Britain, 1847–54, octagonal, 1s., bright green,* mint	5	0	0
Ditto, wmk. small Crown, perf. 14, 2d., blue,* no gum	4	10	0
Ditto, ditto, another, ditto, but a little off centre	3	10	0
Ditto, 1855–57, 4d., carmine, small Garter,* but reperforated at top	5	0	0
Ditto, 1880, 2s., brown,* left top corner perf. missing	3	3	0
Ditto, 1887, 3d., brown on orange,* mint	1	5	0
Ceylon, imperf., 8d., brown, a little close at left, but large margins on other three sides	9	9	0
Ditto, ditto, 9d., lilac-brown, large margins, lightly cancelled	3	17	0
Ditto, ditto, 2s., blue, fine margins, lightly cancelled and superb	9	10	0
Ditto, ditto, CC, 2d., emerald, block of four,* mint	6	10	0
Ditto, ditto, CA, 24 c., purple-brown,* mint	6	5	0
Philippine Islands, 1854, 10 c., pale rose *	2	18	0
British Bechuanaland Protectorate, 1888, 2s., green,* mint	2	10	0
Ditto, ditto, 2s. 6d., green,* mint	4	0	0
British Central Africa, 1895, £1, orange,* mint	2	16	0
British East Africa, 1895, 5 a., black on blue,* mint	3	0	0
Cape of Good Hope, triangular, 1s., dark green, pair,* mint	8	0	0
Ditto, woodblock, 4d., light blue	3	10	0
Ditto, ditto, 4d., dark blue,* repaired	4	10	0
Ditto, ditto, 4d., dark blue, used	6	0	0
Lagos, 1874, wmk. CC, perf. 12½, 1s., orange, value 16½ mm., superb pairs,* mint £3 12s. 6d. and	4	0	0
Mauritius, 1876, ½ d. HALF PENNY, in red, on 9d., violet, part gum *	2	15	0
Transvaal, 1878, "V.R. Transvaal," 6d, blue on blue, block of six,* mint, two stamps have very small defects, others very fine	10	10	0
Nevis, 4d., yellow, litho,* mint	3	3	0
St. Vincent, 1880, provisionals, 1d., in red on half of 6d., blue-green, pair,* with gum	11	10	0
Ditto, a single copy, ditto	3	10	0
Brazil, 600 reis, italics	4	0	0
Mexico, a large and exceedingly fine specialised collection in twelve books, containing a large number of the early issues surcharged with the various district names and numbers, etc., mostly in very fine condition (3,200 stamps)	31	0	0
Tasmania, 1892–99, £1, green and yellow,* mint	8	0	0
Western Australia, 1857, 2d., brown on red,* no gum	3	3	0
Ditto, ditto, 2d., brown on red, roulette,* no gum	7	7	0
Ditto, 1872–8, wmk. CC, perf. 14, 4d., carmine, vertical pair,* mint	3	0	0

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MESSRS. PUTTICK AND SIMPSON.

Sale of October 27th and 28th, 1903.

* Unused.

	£	s.	d.
Gibraltar, 1886, 1s., bistre,* part gum	1	12	0
Ditto, 1889, Nov., 10 c., carmine, the rare error with value omitted, mint, but minute tear at left *	9	10	0
Great Britain, 1840, 1d., black, "V.R.," * with gum	7	15	0
Ditto, ditto, 2d., deep blue, without lines, a pair, with side margin and inscription,* no gum	8	10	0
Ditto, 1862, 3d., carmine-rose, plate 3, with white dots,* with gum, perfs. cut short at top	4	15	0

	£	s.	d.
Great Britain, 1873–80, 6d., pale buff, plate 13, rather heavily cancelled, rare stamp	6	10	0
Ditto, 8d., brown,* mint	2	12	0
Ceylon, 8d., brown, imperf.	8	5	0
Ditto, 1s. 9d., green, imperf.,* part gum	3	0	0
Ditto, ditto, used	2	14	0
Ditto, 8d., brown, Star, rough perf.	3	0	0
Ditto, 8d., yellow-brown, Star, rough perf.	2	10	0
Ditto, 2s., blue, Star, rough perf.,* no gum	2	17	0
Ditto, 1883–4, C A, 24 c., purple-brown*	9	0	0
Labuan, 1879, CA, sideways, 12 c., carmine	3	7	6
Ditto, 1880, 6 in red on 16 c., blue	5	10	0
Ditto, ditto, 8 in black on 12 c., carmine,* mint	2	15	0
Cape of Good Hope, woodblock, 1d., scarlet	4	0	0
Ditto, ditto, 1d., blue, error, small margins, but a very fair copy of this rarity	36	0	0
Ditto, 4d., pale blue, variety with retouched corner	5	0	0
Ditto, 4d., red, error, small margins, but a very fair copy of this rarity	41	0	0
Mauritius, "Post Paid," 1d., orange, early medium, cleaned	7	0	0
Ditto, ditto, another used, small margins	5	5	0
Ditto, ditto, 2d., blue, early medium	4	15	0
Ditto, ditto, 2d., blue, the error "Penoe," large margins, lightly cancelled, and a superb copy	13	5	0
Ditto, 1859, large fillet, 2d., dark blue, small margins, and a little damaged	7	10	0
New Republic, 1887, undated, £1, violet on straw, a vertical *tête-bêche* pair, mint, but one is very slightly thinned*	6	5	0
St. Helena, 1884–95, wmk. C A, ½d., emerald, with double surcharge,* with gum	4	4	0
Canada, 12d., black, skilfully repaired	13	0	0
New Brunswick, 1851, 6d., yellow, superb	3	7	6
Ditto, ditto, 1s., red-lilac, scarce shade, an exceedingly fine copy, with large margins and lightly cancelled, used, on entire original with a 3d., red	10	0	0
Ditto, 1860–3, 5 c., brown,* Connell	21	0	0
Newfoundland, 6½d., scarlet,* small margins	5	10	0
Ditto, 1s., scarlet, minute tear	8	0	0
Ditto, 1s., orange, cut into	6	15	0
Nova Scotia, 1s., cold violet, large margins and lightly cancelled, a superb copy	14	0	0
Nova Scotia, 1s., violet, good margins, very slightly thinned in one small place	7	5	0
Ditto, 1s., purple, small margins	4	8	0
Nevis, C A, 6d., green	3	10	0
St. Vincent, 1866–9, no wmk., perf. 11–12½ × 14–16, 1d., rose-red	3	10	0
Ditto, 1880, wmk. Star, 5s., rose,* mint	13	0	0
Ditto, ditto, provisionals, ½d, in red, on half of 6d., yellow-green, a fine pair,* mint	4	10	0
Ditto, ditto, "One Penny" on 6d., yellow-green	2	5	0
Ditto, ditto, 4d., on 1s., vermilion,* without gum	8	0	0
Tobago, 1879, CC, £1, mauve,* mint	8	0	0
Ditto, 1882–4, C A, 6d., stone,* mint	3	12	6
Trinidad, 1852–60, litho, 1d., pale blue	3	10	0
Ditto, perf. 13, 6d., emerald,* no gum	2	2	0
Ditto, the "Lady McLeod" local, 1847, blue, penmarked on entire original, but damaged at top	7	7	0
Turks Islands, 1873–79, wmk. Star, 1s., lilac, minute nick at left side	7	5	0
Ditto, 2½ on 1d., red, Type 10	4	0	0
Ditto, 2½ on 1s., lilac, Type 6	2	17	6
Ditto, 4 on 1s., lilac, Type 16,* no gum	2	12	6
Virgin Islands, ditto, 1s., crimson border, the error with figure of Virgin omitted, without gum,* no perfs. at top	19	10	0
British Guiana, 1850, 4 c., yellow, cut octagonally, on piece of original, a little cut into at bottom, but a fine copy	20	0	0
Ditto, ditto, 12 c., pale blue, cut octagonally, on small piece of original, a little cut into at left	5	5	0
Ditto, ditto, 12 c., blue, cut round, good margins, lightly cancelled and very fine, on small piece of original	9	0	0
Ditto, 1856, 4 c., magenta, little repaired	6	5	0
Ditto, 1862, 4 c., blue, No. 6, no roulettes	4	7	6
British Honduras, 1888, wmk. CC, perf. 12½, 3 cents on 3d., brown, very fine and exceedingly scarce, with Expert Committee's Certificate	6	0	0
New South Wales, Sydney, 2d., plate 2, "Crevit" omitted	4	4	0
Victoria, 1864, 1d., green, wmk. 6,* mint	4	0	0
Ditto, ditto, 1d., green, wmk. 8, mint	3	10	0
Ditto, 1868, 5s., blue on yellow	3	7	6

This catalogue is much above the average.

THE

London Philatelist:

THE MONTHLY JOURNAL OF

THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY, LONDON.

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The Berlin Philatelic Exhibition of 1904.

AS announced in the last number of this journal, it is intended to hold an International Philatelic Exhibition in the capital of the German Empire during the ensuing summer. We have now received further particulars of the scheme, giving a schedule of the various classes of competition and other information (which will be detailed in our next issue). The date for holding the exhibition is August 25th, and it will remain open for ten days until September 4th. A splendid locale has been secured, a very influential committee has been formed to carry out the onerous duties, and it may safely be assumed that this exhibition will in no way fall behind those that have already been held in other capitals.

Great Britain has already held three International Philatelic Exhibitions, and others similar in character and scope have taken place in Austria, America (Chicago), France, and Italy. Of the other great Powers of the world, Germany and Russia are the only two that have not followed suit, and Germany will now be free from that reproach. The philatelists of the other great countries will therefore heartily welcome the fact that Germany has fallen into line, and we are convinced that the utmost goodwill and co-operation will be forthcoming from this country in order to ensure every success for our *confrères* in Berlin. We shall be pleased to use our humble efforts in this direction, and intending exhibitors or inquirers will be afforded in these columns every information that may reasonably be expected.

In order, however, to ensure competition from this country, it is requisite that—as we have done in our own exhibitions—good and solid inducements to compete should be held out. It should be remembered that, from a philatelic point of view alone, Great Britain and her colonies represent about one-third of the stamps of the globe in number, and that in importance, value, and interest combined they would probably represent two-fifths.

There should therefore be given both number and variety of competitions or classes under this head, in which case we imagine there will be no lack of eager aspirants for the honour of winning the gold and silver medals of the Berlin Philatelic Exhibition.

The date fixed is a singularly appropriate one, when the world and his wife are holiday-making, and when the summer heat is waning. Under such conditions Berlin will be found to be a charming rendezvous; there will be a cosmopolitan and interesting philatelic life in that handsome capital, and those of us who are enabled to pass a week there will undoubtedly have a very pleasant experience to look back upon.

The word "exhibition" has in our own metropolis been latterly again breathed, then whispered, and then spoken, and it has been lamented that it is already seven years since the last one was held. It is clear, however, that the Berlin Exhibition will hold the field for 1904, and a ten years' interval, *i.e.* 1907, may perhaps satisfy the exhibitory aspirations of those who have not yet shared in the labours of promoting and carrying out a philatelic exhibition. Those who *have* fulfilled these arduous tasks will with greater grace resign themselves to a further probation of masterly inactivity for three years.

Notes on the Stamps of France, 1849–1900.

By FRANZ REICHENHEIM.

A Paper read before the Philatelic Society, London, on 4th December, 1903.

THE *Annuaire des Postes de l'Empire Français ou Manuel du Service de la Poste des lettres*—a book which corresponds with our *Post Office Guide*—reports on page 6 of the 1858 edition:—

* "L'idée ingénieuse de l'affranchissement préalable des lettres au moyen d'un papier vendu à l'envoyeur avait été usitée en France il y a plus de deux siècles.

"En 1653 un Maître des Requêtes, nommé de Velayer avait obtenu un privilége ou don du roi, pour pouvoir seul établir des boestes dans divers quartiers de Paris, et avait ensuite establi un bureau au Palais ou on vendait pour un sou pièce certains billets imprimez et marquez d'une marque qui lui estoit particulière. Ces billets ne contenaient autre chose sinon—

"'Port payé le . . . jour du mois de . . . l'an 1653' (ou 1654).

"Pour s'en servir, il fallait remplir le blanc de la datte du jour et du mois auquel vous écriviez à votre ami et les faire jeter ensemble dans la boeste. Il y avait des gens qui avaient ordre de l'ouvrir trois fois par jour, et de porter les billets ou ils s'addressoient. Outre le billet de port payé que l'on mettait sur la lettre pour la faire partir, celuy qui escrivoit avoit soing, s'il vouloit avoir response, d'envoyer un autre billet de port payé enfermé dans sa lettre."

* Cité d'après Pélisson par Mr. Pierre Clement dans son *Appréciation des conséquences de la réforme postale.*

Translation :—

"The ingenious idea of franking letters by means of a piece of paper sold to the sender was in use in France nearly two centuries before 1st January, 1849. In 1653 a Mr. de Velayer, a reporter on petitions presented to the Senate, was granted a privilege or a royal charter for putting up letter-boxes in different quarters of Paris, and for establishing an office in the Palace, where a certain kind of printed little labels were sold for a sou each. These little labels only contained the words :—

"'Postage paid the . . . day of the month of . . . in the year 1653' (or 1654 respectively).

"The sender of the letter had only to fill in the date and the month, and to post the letter together with the label fixed on it in one of the letter-boxes. These boxes were cleared three times a day, and the letters carried to their respective destinations. If the sender wished to prepay the reply, he could do so by enclosing another of the said labels in his letter."

These private postage stamps seem to have been in existence only for two years, according to the above-mentioned wording of the labels, and the issue of the first Government postage stamps was authorised by the law of 24th August, 1848.*

"*Article* 5.—The Postal Administration is authorised to sell at the price of 20 c., 40 c., and 1 fr. each stamps or crests, which, if fixed on a letter, are a sufficient proof that the postage fee has been paid."

The other articles contained new postage rates for inland letters, this time calculated according to the weight of letters, and regardless of the distance they had to be carried. For the purpose of acquainting the general public with the new postage rates and the way of franking letters by means of stamps, a notice,† dated October, 1848, was posted up all over France, saying that "stamps" or "crests," or "stamped crests" (timbres ou cachets ou timbres-cachets)—the word "postage stamps" (timbres-poste) was not used till later—"of 20 c., 40 c., and 1 fr., printed in red, blue, and black, would be issued on 1st January, 1849."

From the wording of this notice it looks as if it was first intended to issue

20 c. in red,
40 c. in blue,
1 fr. in black ;

but no proof can be brought forward, if it was the intention, or why the stamps were definitely issued in other colours.

Altogether the public did not get accustomed so easily to the new way of franking letters by means of postage stamps, and although by decree of 16th December, 1848, another half an hour was allowed for posting letters

* Published in No. 242 of *Le Moniteur Universel*, Journal Officiel de la République Française, of 29th August, 1848 :—

"*Art.* 5.—L'administration des Postes est autorisée à faire vendre au prix de 20 centimes, 40 centimes, et 1 franc des timbres ou cachets dont l'apposition sur une lettre suffira pour en opérer l'affranchissement."

† Exact copy of this notice is to be found on page 15 of Louis Leroy's *Histoire du timbre-poste Français*. Paris, 1891.

bearing stamps in time for the mails, the sale of stamps remained comparatively very low up to 1st July, 1853, when a premium of 5 c. was allowed on postage for prepaid letters posted and to be delivered in Paris,* which considerably increased the sale of postage stamps. Another considerable rise is noticeable after 1st July, 1854,† when all the rates for prepaid inland letters were considerably reduced against those for unpaid letters. That this premium had a great influence on the sale of postage stamps is shown by the Official Report, published on page 3 of *Annuaire des Postes*, etc., 1856 edition.

STAMPS SOLD.

	Value.	Number.
1849 . .	4,446,766 frc. 36 c. ...	21,232,665
1850 . .	5,021,060 „ 74 c. ...	21,523,175
1851 . .	5,934,722 „ 50 c. ...	25,848,113
1852 . .	6,602,765 „ 64 c. ...	28,589,540
1853 . .	7,213,599 „ 37 c. ...	31,254,226
1854 . .	17,098,535 „ 43 c. ...	83,359,350
1855 . .	28,533,395 „ ...	148,433,000

It is not so universally known, and was for the first time published in the *Philatéliste Français*, Nos. 93 and 94 of February and March, 1902, and translated into English in *The Philatelic Record* of May, 1902, that there exist two sizes of

1850. 10 c., bistre,
15 c., green,
25 c., blue,
40 c., orange;

and of the Paris Print of 1870–3, drawn from the 1849–50 plates—

20 c., blue,
10 c., bistre on rose (small figures),

the one measuring

$22\frac{2}{5}$ mm. in height
$18\frac{1}{2}$ mm. in width

the other measuring

22 mm. in height
$18\frac{1}{4}$ mm. in width

} from one outside line of the stamp to the other.

The stamps in the smaller size are very rare.

The remaining values—

1849–50. 20 c., black,
1 fr., in all the different shades,
1870–3. 10 c., bistre,
40 c., orange,
15 c., bistre (small figures),
25 c., blue,

are only found in the larger size.

I have carefully gone through a large stock of the 1862 reprints of the 1849–50 issue, which one of the London dealers kindly placed at my

* Law of 7th–10th May, 1853. † Law of 20th–25th May, 1854.

disposal, but was unable to detect any one in the smaller size amongst more than 600 specimens of the different values (about 250 specimens of the 40 c., for instance). However, I am not in a position to assert that the 1862 reprints were drawn only from the plates in the larger size.

The 1 fr. stamp was first issued in orange-vermilion, but it seems that only the first lot was printed in this particular shade, for there are specimens known in brick-red, postmarked February, 1849, and in red-brown, postmarked March, 1849.

The first official document known referring to the alteration of colour of this value is a circular signed by Mr. E. J. Thayer, Postmaster-General from December, 1848, to December, 1853, dated December 1st, 1849, and addressed to the Postmasters all over France, a specimen of which I am laying before you :—

Administration Générale des Postes.

Renvoi à l'administration des timbres-postes* à 1 fr. imprimés d'une nuance claire, et pouvant se confondre avec les timbres nouveaux à 40 centimes en couleur orange.

" PARIS, *le 1er Décembre*, 1849.

" Monsieur,

" L'administration des Postes a, dans le mois de Décembre dernier, approvisioné plusieurs bureaux de postes de timbres à 1 franc imprimés en couleur rouge de nuance beaucoup plus claire que celle des timbres de même catégorie, mais d'un tirage postérieur. La différence légère qui existe dans la nuance des uns et des autres a pu jusqu'à ce jour ne présenter aucun inconvénient, cependant les timbres à 40 centimes dont l'émission est prochaine, ayant été imprimés en couleur orange d'après une décision de M. le Ministre des finances, j'ai craint que la nuance de ces derniers timbres fût confondue avec celle rouge claire des premiers timbres-poste à 1 franc, et devînt par suite un motif d'erreurs préjudiciables aux intérêts du trésor.

No. 1.
Couleur rouge claire.



No. 2.
Couleur rouge foncée.



" En conséquence, j'ai décidé que les timbres à 1 franc de couleur rouge claire conforme au modèle ci-contre No. 1, seraient renvoyés à l'administration, qui les remplacera immédiatement par des figurines d'une teinte plus foncée conforme au No. 2.

" Les directeurs auront à examiner avec attention la couleur des timbres à 1 franc qui forment leur provision, et à me renvoyer sous la forme de chargement, ceux qui seulement se trouveraient d'un rouge pâle, c'est-à-dire pareils quant à la nuance, au modèle No. 1 précité.

" La sortie momentanée de ces figurines ne devra donner lieu à aucune

* Note the "s" at the end of the word "postes."

opération de comptabilité sur le livre-journal No. 797 bis, l'Administration devant les remplacer immédiatement. Néanmoins il sera pris note exacte par les directeurs de l'envoi fait à l'Administration, afin de pouvoir expliquer, dans le cas d'une vérification de caisse, l'absence tout exceptionnelle de leurs timbres à 1 franc.

"Je compte sur l'exactitude des directeurs et le zèle des inspecteurs pour assurer l'exécution de ces dispositions nouvelles.

"Recevez, Monsieur, l'assurance de ma considération distinguée.

"Le Directeur de l'Administration Générale des Postes,

"E. J. THAYER."

Translation :—

General Post Office.
All stamps of 1 franc printed in light red to be returned at once to G.P.O., owing to the liability of their being mistaken for the new 40 centimes, printed in orange-red.

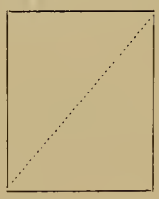
"PARIS, 1*st December*, 1849.

"SIR,

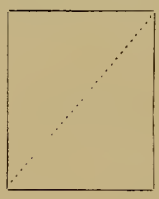
"The General Post Office supplied several post offices in December last with stamps in face value of 2 franc, printed in a reddish shade, but much lighter than that of the stamps of the same value, supplied later.

"The slight difference which exists between the one and the other shade was of no inconvenience up to the present time; but as there will now soon be issued stamps in value of 40 centimes printed in orange, according to an order of the Minister of Finance, I fear the latter stamps may be confounded with the light red 1 franc stamps of the first issue, and the similarity of colour be the reason of errors injurious to the interest of the Treasury.

No. 1.
Light red shade.



No. 2.
Dark red shade.



"I therefore order that the stamps of 1 franc corresponding in shade with light red specimen No. 1, herewith attached, shall be returned at once to the General Post Office, which will replace them immediately by stamps corresponding in shade with the much darker specimen No. 2, also herewith attached.

"The Postmasters have therefore carefully to examine the shades of the stamps of 1 franc they have in stock, and to return only those which they find in a light red shade, *i.e.* like the specimen No. 1, under a separate charge sheet.

"The entrance of the return of these stamps is not to be made in the Journal No. 797*a*, as the G.P.O. has to replace the returned stamps immediately; but the Postmasters have to make a note of the quantity they return, so that they are able to account for the exceptional absence of a certain number of 1 franc stamps in case an inspection takes place in the meantime.

"I rely upon the exact fulfilment of these new orders being carried out by the Postmasters and Inspectors.

"I am, Sir,

"Your most obedient servant,

"E. J. THAYER, P.M.G."

Besides the 1 franc in orange-vermilion, brick-red, red-brown, and carmine, a quantity of these stamps in a light orange shade was discovered after Mr. Hulot's death (who manufactured the stamps for the French Government) among his papers, and sold to a Mr. Vervelle in 1895. Stamps in the "Vervelle" shade were never issued, and are without gum.

The 40 c., orange, although authorised by the law of 24th August, 1848, were not issued till 3rd February, 1850. The sixth and seventh stamps of the last row of the sheet show the variety of wide (*allongé*) "4," the one (No. 6) on both sides, the other (No. 7) on the left side only.

As the black colour of the 20 c. proved itself to be very inconvenient, especially as slightly obliterated specimens could easily be cleaned and pass again as unused, it was decided by the Post Office Authorities on 9th March, 1849, and approved of by the Minister of Finance on 19th March, 1849, that the colour of this value should be altered to blue. The new stamps were ready, when the law* of 18th May, 1850, came out, raising from 1st July, 1850, among other rates the postage fee for inland letters from one post office to another from 20 c. to 25 c. To be prepared for any emergency, Mr. Hulot surcharged the new 20 c., blue, with "25" in red; but as he was able to manufacture sufficient 25 c. stamps by 1st July, 1850, the whole stock of surcharged ones was burnt. There exist a few used specimens of the 20 c., blue, and it is very probable that a sheet of this value actually found its way into the stock of the 25 c. of the same colour and was issued.

A stamp of 50 c., mentioned in Article 15 of the same law, was not issued, as this value could easily be made up by two stamps of 25 c.

As the same law fixed the postage rate for local letters in Paris at 15 c., and for local letters in a country district at 10 c., it also authorised the issue of stamps in these two values, and from 1st July, 1850, until the issue of these values (15 c. on 23rd July, 1850, and 10 c. on 12th September, 1850) the postage rate for those letters had again to be paid in cash over the counter, if the sender wished to prepay the postage.

A peculiarity of French stamps is the existence in some issues of so-called *tête-bêche* pairs, especially appearing in all the values of the first issue (1849–50), with the exception of the 40 c., and all those values of Paris Print of 1870–2, which were printed from the old plates (1849–50), again with the exception of 40 c.

* Published in No. 142 of *Le Moniteur Universel*, of 22nd May, 1850:—

"Titre V.

"*Art.* 13.—A partir du 1 Juillet, 1850, etc.

"*Art.* 15.—Les prix de vingt et quarante centimes, fixés par l'art. 5 du décret du 24 Août, 1848, pour la vente des timbres ou cachets destinés à l'affranchissement d'une lettre, seront de vingt-cinq et cinquante centimes à partir de la même date.

"Le Ministre des Finances est également autorisé à émettre et à faire circuler des timbres-poste au dessous de vingt-cinq centimes, pour l'affranchissement des correspondences."

Marconnet* is of the opinion that Mr. Hulot, in making up the moulds for the electro-plates, inserted intentionally some of the clichés upside-down, as a kind of control mark, to be able to recognise forged sheets made by any other procedure; other searchers—for instance, our friend Westoby†—are of the opinion that it was "purely a fad" of Mr. Hulot.

Against Marconnet's idea speaks the fact that the sheets of 40 c. of 1850 do not contain any *tête-bêche* pairs. If Mr. Hulot put them into the earlier and later printed values as a kind of control mark, why did he not do so in the sheets of this particular value?

But it is very funny that the essays, as well as the stamps of 1849–50, with the exception of the 40 c., contain the same number of *tête-bêche* pairs in each sheet, and the reprints of the same issue, made in 1862, for which no such control mark was necessary, do not contain any, but the *tête-bêche* pairs appear again in the same number and in their old places on the sheets of the 10 c., 15 c., 20 c., and 25 c. stamps of 1870–2, taken from the same plates after the respective clichés in each plate were inserted again upside-down.

Of the 15 c., green, only one *tête-bêche* pair is known to be still in existence, a used vertical specimen, dated Paris, 11th March, 1852, in Ferrari's collection. Of the 1 fr., orange-vermilion, no *tête-bêche* pair is known to be still in existence, and only one specimen each of the same value in brick-red and in the "Vervelle" shade still exists (the latter also in Ferrari's collection).

Besides the *tête-bêche* pairs of 1849–50—

10 c., bistre	5 pairs	in each double sheet of 300 stamps
15 c., green	1 pair	„ „ „
20 c., black	1 „	„ „ „
25 c., blue	1 „	„ „ „
1 fr., orange-vermilion	3 (?) pairs	„ „ „
1 fr., Vervelle	3 (?) „	„ „ „
1 fr., brick-red	3 (?) „	„ „ „
1 fr., brown-carmine	3 (?) „	„ „ „
1 fr., carmine	3 (?) „	„ „ „

and of 1870–2 (Paris Print)—

10 c., bistre
15 c. „
20 c., blue
25 c. „

The same number, and appearing on the same places as on the respective sheets of 1849–50, but those of 10 c. and 20 c. disappear in February, 1871.

there exist the following values in *tête-bêche*:—

1853.	20 c., blue; imperf.	4 pairs	in each double sheet of 300 stamps
	80 c., carmine „	1 pair	„ „ „
	80 c., rose „	1 „	„ „ „
	‡1 fr., carmine „	2 pairs	„ „ „
1862.	20 c., blue; perf.—		
	At first 4 pairs, later	3 „	„ „ „
	80 c., rose; perf.	1 pair	„ „ „
1863.	4 c., grey „	1 „	„ „ „

* *Les Vignettes Postales de la France et de ses Colonies*, par F. Marconnet. Nancy, 1897.

† *The Adhesive Postage Stamps of Europe*, by W. A. S. Westoby. London, 1898.

‡ The reprints of this value, also made in 1862, contain the two *tête-bêche* pairs.

All these different values of 1853–63 did not contain any *tête-bêche* pair when the plates were made up first, and their sudden appearance is due in these cases to carelessly inserting by-and-by some fresh clichés in place of worn or broken ones. This alteration of some clichés is proved best by the fact that the sheets of 20 c., imperf., of 1853, contain four pairs, inserted only a few weeks before the same stamps were issued in a perforated state—this accounts for the rarity of *tête-bêche* pairs of 20 c., blue, imperf.—and the sheets of 20 c., blue, perf., made, of course, from the same plates as the 20 c., blue, imperf., contain four pairs in the beginning, and later on only three pairs after a few new clichés were inserted again.

The first issue was superseded by the issue of two values (25 c., blue, on 12th August, 1852, and 10 c., bistre, on 3rd December, 1852), showing Napoleon's Head * and the inscription "REPUBLIQUE FRANC." The letter "B" underneath the head—standing for the engraver's name, Barré—was not on the matrix, but on the secondary dies, from which the plates were made, as it does not appear on the two next issues, made from the same original die, after the inscription "REPUBLIQUE FRANC" was altered into "EMPIRE FRANC."

It was certainly intended to issue all the necessary values with Napoleon's Head and the inscription "REPUBLIQUE FRANC," but the political events followed each other so rapidly that, according to the people's vote of the 21st and 22nd November, 1852, and the Decree of 2nd December, 1852, the inscription "EMPIRE FRANC" had to be substituted for "REPUBLIQUE FRANC," and the first two values (10 c. and 1 fr.) of the new series of Empire stamps made their appearance on 17th August, 1853.

Among the stamps of the 1853–60 issues there sometimes appears the variety of lined ground in the medallion round the head, a variety which is oftener found in the 1862–73 issues, with the exception of the stamps printed in Bordeaux.

These lines are either vertical, horizontal, or diagonal, and their appearance is simply due to the reason that the colour is only reproduced evenly by any process of printing when the plate (steel, copper, zinc, glass, etc.) has almost imperceptible lines or scratches cut on the surface, the grooves thus created facilitating the absorption of the colour, whereas colour applied to an even surface leaves blank spaces and spoils the brilliancy of the colour.

The reproduction of these almost imperceptible lines on the stamps is only visible on copies drawn from entirely new plates or newly inserted clichés, and disappears very soon through the wear and tear of the plates.

I explained before that *tête-bêche* pairs were created by carelessly inserting some fresh clichés into the plates of some values of 1853-63 issues, and in inspecting, for instance, the *tête-bêche* pair of 1863, 4 c., grey (Napoleon's Head with the laurel wreath), in my collection, you will find that the one stamp shows traces of vertical lines, the other none whatever.

The earliest stamp showing such lines (vertical) I came across is a specimen of the 1854 20 c., blue on white paper, imperf.

Of the same stamp on white paper some specimens are found with a double outer line at the bottom of the stamp, and of the same value on

* Authorised by the law of 3rd January, 1852.

white and on blue paper another minor variety exists showing a broken "E" in the word "POSTES," thus reading "POSTFS."

For books, circulars, etc., the law of 4th Thermidor, of the fourth year of the old Republic (4th July, 1796), and the Decree of 5th March, 1823, contained postage rates of 1, 2, 4, and 5 c., according to measurement, and the law of 25th June, 1856, the same scale according to weight, if prepaid. These postage fees had always to be paid over the counter, and the packets were marked with a little hand-stamp [PP] (*port payé*, postage paid), as no corresponding postage stamps were in existence until a 5 c. was issued on 4th November, 1854, and a 1 c. stamp on 1st November, 1860 (both imperf. and showing Napoleon's Head without the wreath). The first 2 c. and 4 c. stamps were not issued until the end of December, 1862, and 13th September, 1863, respectively (perforated and showing Napoleon's Head with the wreath).

Nearly all the values of 1853–60 are found privately perforated 7 or rouletted in different ways. On 8th January, 1861, a stationery firm, Susse Frères, in Paris, took out a patent for perforating stamps, and perforated them in large perforations (eight holes up the vertical and seven holes on the horizontal sides) for their customers without any charge, contenting themselves with the usual discount of 2 per cent. on the face value which the Government allowed licensed stamp retailers;* but as the Government reduced the discount to 1 per cent. on 18th December, 1861, it did not pay Susse Frères any longer, and they stopped perforating any more stamps, inasmuch as their machine had an accident about the same time. They sold it to Mr. Maury, who repaired it and continued perforating single stamps or small blocks for collectors; but one can easily distinguish the genuine "Susse" perforation from that made by Maury, who was unable to repair the machine so well that the holes on either the vertical or the horizontal side were placed exactly opposite each other or came out as round as before. The "Susse" perforation on the 80 c., carmine, which was superseded by the 80 c., rose, before Mr. Susse started perforating stamps, is always forged.

Of the rouletted ones, the following varieties are known:—

1. Percés en ligne,
2. „ arc,
3. „ scie,

and, following Yvert et Tellier's latest special catalogue,†

4. Percés en piqûre dite de Clamecy (dents en pointes allongées).

These kinds of roulette were made by hotels, large offices, railway offices, etc., and in "percés en ligne" even by the Postal Administration in some offices in Paris and provinces early in 1862; but the latter soon stopped doing it, as Mr. Archer threatened them with legal proceedings for infringement of his patent, taken out in England and in France, and the postal authorities put the matter into the hands of Mr. Hulot, who ordered a perforation machine from England making a perforation gauge 14 horizontally by $13\frac{1}{2}$ vertically. From the time the French stamps were officially issued in this perforation (October, 1862) the sheets, which were printed in two panes of

* Decree of 3rd June, 1854.

† *Catalogue des Timbres de France et des Colonies Françaises*, par Yvert et Tellier. Amiens, 1903.

150 stamps (in fifteen rows of ten) each, had to be cut in two halves before being passed into the perforation machine.

Among the stamps of 40 c., orange, imperf., of 8th September, 1853, I came across a variety of a more open "4" in the right-hand corner (illustration No. 1); and of the same value, perf. (7th October, 1862), specimens are found with a wide "4" in the right corner (illustration No. 2), on white as well as on orange paper.

The next issue, showing Napoleon's Head with the laurel wreath, is the first issue of French stamps not made in one design, but consists of three different types.

Type I., for 1 c., 2 c., 4 c.
„ II. „ 10 c., 20 c., 30 c., 40 c., 80 c.
„ III. „ 5 fr.

On some of the stamps of 20 c. and 30 c. a variety is found showing a thin white line on the left side of the value on the right side, and on some specimens of the 80 c. a white line in the same place as well as on the right side of the left value. Marconnet attributes it to a retouch or an accident of the die, but I think it is due to a slight defect in the adjustment of the pieces composing the lower band. The reproduction of these lines on the stamps disappears by-and-by nearly contemporarily with that of the horizontal, vertical, or diagonal lines in the medallion, with the exception of the 80 c. stamps. Here the defect must have been a little more noticeable, and the surface did not get so easily smoothed through the wear and tear of the plates. I only came across a very limited number of specimens of this value which did not show any traces of the white line between the word "POSTES" and the figure "80."

Of the 5 fr. stamp one can distinguish three types, not only two, as most of the catalogues and handbooks give (illustration No. 3):—

Type A. "5" made in two lines, and upper dash is curved.
„ B. "5" made in two lines except upper dash, which is in one line and straight.
„ C. Similar to Type B, but upper dash is thinner and pointing upwards.

The imperforated specimens of this issue are stamps which Mr. de Rothschild procured from the postal authorities in this state, used himself, or gave to his friends.

The Franco-German War and the reinstitution of the Republic were the cause of two different issues of French stamps nearly at the same time, one printed in Bordeaux and the other printed in Paris. As up to the outbreak of the war all the French stamps were manufactured by Mr. Hulot in Paris, and no fresh supply could be sent out from the besieged capital, the representatives of the Government at Tours signed a contract with the Director of the Mint at Bordeaux, Mr. Delebecque, on 3rd November, 1870, to manufacture new stamps, and to furnish 4,000 sheets at 300 stamps each daily, beginning from 13th November, divided into nine values of Postage stamps and one of Unpaid Letter stamp, according to requirements. The most urgently needed value was the 20 c., and the first attempts were made by Mr. Archange

Dambourgez, one of the designers of the firm Augé Delisle, of Bordeaux, to copy the 20 c. of 1849 by way of photographs and transfer to stone, then by engraving on wood, and at last he succeeded by drawing the design by pen upon a lithographic stone (Type I.); but the transfer proved itself so difficult that this way of printing was soon given up, and a matrix made on stone by Mr. Leopold Yon in a new type (Type II.), and the same way adopted for all the other values. Later on a new matrix was made in Type III., the inscriptions in Type II. being too minute. There exists a variety in Type III., the point of bust being 1 mm. from the pearl circle, and this variety appears on a sheet of 300 stamps 140 times.

It is still doubtful whether a separate engraving was made for each value besides the 20 c., or whether each value was made by means of a transfer from one original. There was certainly another die used for the 20 c. stamp as for the remaining values, as besides other differences in design, this value is the only one which does not show the engraver's name, Yon, in the vine leaf just above the grapes.

The paper on which this issue was printed was the same as that of the previous issues, and could be obtained as before from the paper mills of Mr. Lacroix, at Angoulème.

Some of the French handbooks chronicle an especial variety appearing on some stamps of all the values of this issue, namely, a white outer line round the coiffure, beginning on the wreath of the corn ears and going down to the neck, thus separating the head from the dark ground. This line should appear on all the stamps, and was made to make the head appear *en relief*, but soon disappeared through wear and tear of the plates. It is found, for instance, regularly on the 40 c., yellow-orange, which were first printed in this shade (illustration No. 4).

Another variety I found is a wide "4" on some specimens of the 40 c., orange (illustration No. 5).

As no perforation machine could be obtained at Bordeaux, the stamps had to be officially issued in an imperforated state, but some post offices and private offices managed to perforate or roulette, unofficially, small quantities.

There are specimens known—

1. Perforated 13.
2. Percés en lignes.
3. With perforation called "d'Avallon"* (similar to that called "Clamecy" on 1853–60 issue).

The manufacture of these stamps continued till 18th March, 1871, and after the conclusion of peace the stock of stamps was partly sent to post offices all over France, even to Monaco, to be used up, and partly destroyed; but those stamps which remained in the hands of the public have never been demonetised, and still retain their franking power.† The dies and matrix transfers were destroyed on 12th August, 1871.

The other contemporary issue was printed in Paris. Although an order was sent to all post offices on the eastern side of France to send all their stock of stamps up to Paris as soon as the enemy had arrived within a couple

* *Vide* Yvert et Tellier's Catalogue.

† *Vide* Stanley Gibbons' *Monthly Journal* of 30th June, 1902, p. 245.



1

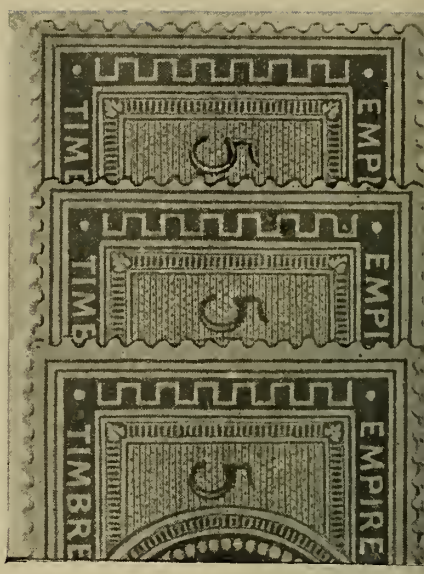


2

A

B

C



3



4



5



A B C

6

Face page 284.

of days' march of their offices, and a large quantity of stamps thus accumulated in Paris, the Republicans insisted upon the immediate issue of a new series of Republican stamps, and Mr. Hulot received the order to print stamps from the old 1849–50 plates, which he still possessed.

Besides the perforation there are other differences found between the values of 1870 and 1849–50, which were reissued in the same colours as before.

Owing to the short time during which the stamps of

10 c., bistre, issued 11th October, 1870
20 c., blue „ „ „
40 c., orange „ December, 1870

had to be manufactured, to the machines being now driven by steam instead of by hand, and to the wear and tear of the plates, the print does not appear so clear; and owing to the re-engraving and inserting new clichés, the figures of value, especially the "40," show many varieties. We are able to distinguish three types at least of the figure "4" on the stamps of 40 c. of 1870.

A, small "4." Illustration No. 6.
B, large "4" „ „
C, wide "4" „ „

Varieties A and B are found either in one corner or both corners, whereas variety C is found only either in the left corner (with variety A on the right), or in both corners on the same places as in the 1850 issue.

I especially draw the attention of collectors to the differences between Types C and B. In Type C, the rare one, the diagonal and perpendicular lines of the figure "4" nearly meet, the angle formed by the diagonal and horizontal lines is acute, and the diagonal line is quite straight and of equal thickness throughout; whereas in Type B the perpendicular line is much shorter and stops at a comparatively large distance before reaching the diagonal line, the angle is greater, and the diagonal line is a little curved and becomes a trifle thicker at the top.

Of all the three values specimens exist on which the shading of the cheeks is in lines instead of in points, and on which the Greek border, which is double on the stamps of 1849–50, is single and broken.

As during the Franco-German War many post offices could not be regularly supplied with stamps, the Postmaster-General, Mr. Rampon (gazetted 10th September, 1870), issued an order to all post offices in December, 1870, to economise their stock of stamps by using a little oblong hand-stamp P. P. (*port payé*, postage paid)* for letters, for which postage was paid over the counter, and by bisecting stamps and even using quarters.

There are known—

10 c., bistre, of 15th November, 1867
10 c. „ Paris Print of 1870
40 c., orange, of August, 1868
} bisected diagonally and vertically, and used for the half of their respective original values.

80 c., rose, of February, 1868, cut into four quarters, and each quarter used as 20 c.

* The same which was used for books, circulars, etc., before 1 c., 2 c., 4 c., or 5 c. stamps existed (*vide* p. 292).

After the war the French Government tried to make good the expenses of the war by imposing many new taxes and raising, among others, also the postage rates. The law of 23rd July, 1871 (voted 25th August) fixed the rates for letters up to a certain weight posted and to be delivered within the same district at 15 c. instead of 10 c., and for letters from one district to another at 25 c. instead of 20 c., and registration fee at 25 c. instead of 20 c. These rates necessitated the issue of 15 c. and 25 c. stamps, and the same were also drawn from the old 1849–50 plates, and issued perforated on 1st September, 1871 (15 c. in bistre, 25 c. in blue); of the latter stamp, specimens are found showing 25 on one side and 20 on the other side.

As the stamps of 10 c., bistre, issued on 11th October, 1870, were suppressed, owing to their similarity in colour with the 15 c., and the old stamps of 5 c. (Napoleon's Head with the laurel wreath) being nearly exhausted, the Government was obliged to provide either 5 c. or other 10 c. stamps especially for New Year cards, sent in open letters at the rate of 10 c. Not having any die for 5 c. stamps with the Head of the Republic ready, they used the die of 5 c. of 1862 with Napoleon's Head, and reissued these stamps again perforated, but this time on the azure paper of the 25 c., as they could not procure so quickly green paper, and surcharged about three millions 10 c., bistre (Napoleon's Head with the laurel wreath), with "10" in blue, to be prepared for any emergency, and to prevent this value being confounded, if issued, with the new 15 c. stamp in the same shade. The surcharged stamps were never issued; the 5 c., green on azure, perforated, and showing Napoleon's Head without the laurel wreath, were put into circulation shortly before Christmas, 1871, and replaced by stamps in the design of the Republic in June, 1872.

The other values, authorised by the above-mentioned law, were subsequently issued :—

2 c., red-brown, on 10th May, 1872
4 c., grey, in July, 1872
80 c., rose, in September, 1872
30 c., brown, in October, 1872
1 c., olive, in December, 1872

and the 15 c., bistre, of 1st September, 1871, replaced by a similar stamp, but with larger figures of value, on 19th March, 1874.*

The same law also authorised the issue of a 50 c. stamp, adding that its shade would be decided upon later, but this value was never printed.

As post cards were issued for the first time in France on 15th January, 1873, without any impression of value, but with an adhesive stamp fixed on them, a new 10 c. stamp was required to simplify the franking by one stamp instead of two 5 c. stamps. This new value was drawn again from the old 1849–50 plates, this time in bistre on rose paper, perforated, and issued on the date mentioned. It was replaced by a similar stamp, but with larger figures of value, in March, 1875. In making up the new plates for this last-mentioned stamp, one cliché of the 15 c. of 19th March, 1874, was inserted by mistake, but exchanged as soon as it was found out, and the respective stamps were called in.

* This date is given in Mr. Lemaire's *La Côte Réelle*, 2e Serie, No. 6, of 20th December, 1902, in an article entitled "La Date d'émission des timbres Français," corrected according to his latest researches.

On 15th September, 1874, an International Congress was opened at Berne, and an International Postal Union founded. The contract between twenty Governments was signed on 9th October, 1874, fixing equal postage rates for letters between the countries concerned. The entrance of France into the International Postal Union was approved of by her Parliament, and new and cheaper postage rates for inland and foreign letters fixed accordingly by the law of 3rd August, 1875.

During the discussion of the Budget for 1875 a member of Parliament asked the Government to change the type of the postage stamps, and the Minister of Finance, by Decree of 5th July, 1875, called upon artists to send in designs for new stamps, "which should not bear any political character."

The selected design was that of Mr. Sage, which was adopted with a slight alteration, the figure of value being placed in a cartouche instead of being inscribed direct on the globe.

Le Journal Officiel of 5th May, 1876, publishes that the stamps of 80 c. of September, 1872, should be suppressed, and the following values issued in the new design :—

1 c., green
2 c. „
4 c. „
5 c. „
10 c. „
15 c., grey-lilac
20 c., brown on pale yellow
25 c., ultramarine
30 c., cinnamon
40 c., red on pale yellow
75 c., carmine
1 fr., olive
5 fr., lilac

But as there was still a great number of stamps of the previous issues in stock, the 40 c., for instance, was not issued until March, 1878.

With regard to the two types found on the stamps in the "Sage" design, the explanation is a very simple one. When the engraving was completed, some impressions were taken with gutta-percha. These impressions were to be used to make the moulds for the clichés which were in Type I. ("N" under "B"); but after a certain number of moulds were taken the die cracked, and the engraver, Mr. Mouchon, was obliged to re-engrave the left part of the die, which was broken. He did copy it as near as he could, but in comparing the left sides of both dies one can find many more differences * than the position of the lower inscription relatively to the upper one. Mr. Lemaire explains the latter, that the engraver did not think it of any great importance whether the lower inscription was narrower and placed further to the left than before, thus placing the letter "N" under "U."

The first values—

15 c., grey-lilac
5 c., green
30 c., cinnamon

were issued in Type I., the first on 20th June, the other two on 11th July, 1876. It is absolutely certain that the following value, 25 c., ultramarine, was issued

* Description of them to be found in *Revue Philatélique Belge* for April, 1903, and in Mr. Th. Lemaire's *La Côte Réelle*, 2e Serie, No. 11, of 28th February, 1903.

the same day (20th July, 1876) in Type I. and in Type II., as according to the above-mentioned article Mr. Lemaire has seen two separate specimens, one in Type I., the other in Type II., both postmarked 21st July, 1876. This value was not only issued in sheets containing stamps in one type only, but also in sheets showing both types *se tenant*, of which I am laying a specimen before you. I regret that the date of cancellation is not legible, although I have had it photographically enlarged.*

With the exception of—

10 c., black on lilac,	Type II.,	issued	January, 1877
10 c. „ „	„ I.	„	February, 1898
40 c., red on pale yellow	„ II.	„	March, 1878
40 c. „ „	„ I.	„	1st June, 1878†
50 c., rose	„ II.	„	7th March, 1890
50 c. „	„ I.	„	June, 1899

all the other values, which exist in both types in the same colour, were issued in both types, each type on separate sheets, contemporarily, or first in Type I. and later in Type II.

From 1878 till 1898 only the second type was used for all the different issues; but as after a lapse of twenty years the plates were worn to a great extent, they were obliged to fall back on the plates in Type I. for some values, viz.:—

10 c., black on lilac, issued February, 1898
5 c., yellow-green „ 15th February, 1899
50 c., rose „ June, 1899
2 fr., brown on pale blue, issued 19th April, 1900

The 5 c., yellow-green, was also issued in sheets only containing stamps in Type II. contemporarily with those in Type I., and there also exist a very limited number of sheets of this stamp, as well as of the 10 c., black on lilac, of February, 1898, containing both types, the first, second, fifth, and sixth panes being of Type II., the remaining eight panes of Type I.

Since 1876 the sheets were printed in double sheets of 150 stamps each, arranged in six blocks of twenty-five stamps each, the blocks being divided horizontally by a blank space equal to the height of a stamp, vertically by a blank space equal to the width of about half a stamp. The spaces between the blocks and the margins of the sheets were tinted in the same colour as the ground colour of the stamps.

Since 1892 the margins of the sheets were only tinted to the extent of about one inch, and the horizontal spaces between the blocks crossed by a thick bar in the colour of the stamps, to prevent forgers using the blank spaces between the blocks, or the margins of the sheets, for their fakes.

Since 1891 a single number was added between the second horizontal rows of each block, indicating the year of print of the respective sheet, "1" standing for 1891, "2" for 1892, and so on.

On the foot of each sheet of 150 stamps three, four, or five figures, standing

* I should be very pleased if any collectors or dealers would be so good as to furnish me with the dates of obliteration of similar specimens, care of The Philatelic Society, Effingham House, Arundel Street, Strand, London, W.C.

† Only a comparatively small quantity was issued.

close together, are found, containing at least one "0"; for instance, "105," indicating day and month of printing, "1" meaning the first day, "5" the fifth month, the "0" in the middle only standing for the separation of the two other figures, or "1005" meaning 10th May, "28011" meaning 28th November. The letters or other numbers standing separately are control marks.

Since 1876 Mr. Hulot ceased to print the stamps for the French Government, and the Bank of France was entrusted with it. In July, 1880, the Government opened their own manufactory in the Rue d'Hauteville, and moved it to the Boulevard Brune in 1895.

There could be easily mentioned many more interesting items about the numerous alterations of colour, the issue of new values, minor varieties, etc., in this design, which was in use for the print of all the stamps from 1876–1900, and of which some values are still on sale at nearly all the post offices in France; but, postponing any further notes to another paper, which I hope to have the pleasure of reading before the Society next season, I would only like to mention a new discovery *re* the 20 c., blue, perforated, of 1876, a stamp which was prepared, but never issued.

Nearly all the catalogues mention the 20 c., blue, Type II., of 1876, perforated, as an original stamp.

Well, gentlemen, this stamp is always a "Granet" reprint with forged perforation, measuring $13\frac{1}{2}$ horizontally by 14 vertically, instead of 14 horizontally by $13\frac{1}{2}$ vertically, and gummed by hand-brush.

My suspicion about this stamp was raised about nine months ago, when, during my visit to Berlin, I was able to purchase from a usually very reliable dealer a specimen of the 20 c. in Type I., Prussian blue on slightly blued paper, perforated, which he guaranteed as a genuine stamp. As I had never seen this stamp before, and the catalogues always use the very vague expression "blue," I had been of the opinion that the originals in Type I. were also printed in dark blue on white paper, and at the same time as those which one frequently finds in Type II.; but after having noted through my specimen that the originals in Type I. were prepared in Prussian blue on slightly blued paper, I could not understand what reason the French Government had to prepare the same stamp first in Type I., Prussian blue on slightly blued paper, to destroy the whole lot of 200,000 specimens, and to prepare the same value again in Type II., dark blue on white paper, at another time, after this value was definitely issued in brown on pale yellow in October, 1876, according to the above-mentioned notice in the *Journal Officiel* of 5th May, 1876.

On returning to London I compared very carefully my two specimens—Type I., Prussian blue on slightly blued paper, and Type II., dark blue on white paper—and found that the two specimens were not quite equally perforated. This discovery, and the remark in Marconnet's book (p. 56) that the originals in Type I., "blue on azure," as he calls them, were left imperforated, made me believe that there was something wrong with either of the two stamps. After having searched in vain the literature about it, I wrote a line to Mr. Jules Bernichon, in Paris, whom we all recognise as one of the greatest authorities on French stamps, and, explaining my suspicions, asked his opinion. Mr. Bernichon replied very kindly to several of my letters, informing me, with the authority to publish it:—

"1. Marconnet's remark is not quite correct.

"2. The originals of the stamp in question in Type I. were printed in Prussian blue on slightly blued paper, and perforated 14 horizontally by 13½ vertically, and are extremely rare.

"3. This stamp was reprinted by order of Mr. Granet in 1887 in dark blue on white paper in Type II., and left imperforated.

"4. The stamps in Type II., dark blue on white paper, perforated, which one usually finds, are 'Granet' reprints with forged perforations, measuring 13½ horizontally by 14 vertically.

"5. The 20 c. in Type I., Prussian blue on greenish paper, and imperforated, were probably printed at the same time as—

1 c., black on azure.	Type II.;	imperforated
2 c., red-brown on yellow	„	„
3 c., grey	„	„
3 c., ochre on yellow	„	„
4 c., plum on azure	„	„
10 c., black on violet	„	,
15 c., blue on bluish	„	„
20 c., maroon on yellow	„	„
20 c., red on green	„	„
25 c., black on red	„	„
25 c., yellow on saffron	„	„
25 c., ultramarine on bluish	„	„
35 c., violet on yellow	„	„
5 fr., mauve	„	„

but it is not certain whether all these stamps were prepared to be issued, whether they are reprints, or whether they were destined for the Colonies, but were certainly never issued.

"6. The 'Granet' reprints are sometimes found gummed by a hand-brush and not by machine, perhaps officially, perhaps by some unauthorised person. Their gum is not so evenly applied as to those stamps mentioned under No. 5, and has a brownish to brown tint, whereas the gum of the above-mentioned stamps is absolutely smooth and white."

I may add that the—

1870–5.	1 c., olive-green
Paris Print.	2 c., red-brown
Imperforated.	4 c., grey
	5 c., yellow-green
	10 c., bistre
	10 c., bistre on rose, small figures of value
	15 c., bistre „ „
	20 c., blue
	25 c. „
	40 c., orange
	80 c., pale rose

1876–8.	1 c., 2 c., 4 c., 5 c., 10 c., green
Type I.	15 c., grey-lilac
Imperforated.	20 c., brown on yellow
	30 c., cinnamon
	40 c., red
	75 c., carmine
	1 fr., bronze-green

belong to the same category as those mentioned under No. 5.

All these imperforated stamps can be easily distinguished by the tint of the paper, and by the shade of the stamp, from those stamps which may exist originating from sheets or parts of sheets accidentally issued in an imperforated state, and differ in many points from the existing values of Colonial stamps, "Granet" reprints, 1849–50, or Bordeaux issues respectively.

Philatelic Notes.

THE LAST "POST OFFICE" MAURITIUS.

MESSRS. PUTTICK AND SIMPSON write us hereon as follows with regard to our remarks upon this important discovery (page 269):—

"With reference to your note as to the 'Post Office' Mauritius that we have in our hands for sale. May we point out that this was not purchased by a London gentleman? We had it direct from the hands of the original owner, and removed it ourselves from the collection it was in."

The description in the catalogue of the sale, January 13th and 14th, thus describes the stamp:—

"1847, 'Post Office,' 2d., blue, unused; one of the very rarest stamps in the world, only four or five unused copies being in existence. The above copy was recently discovered in a little collection made by its present owner, Mr. James Bonar, of Hampstead, when a boy at school in 1864, and although without gum, is in every respect a very fine copy with good margins all round."

The specimen is illustrated, and has an entire page devoted to it. The stamp is absolutely superb, its sale by auction unique, and it is safe to predict that the price attained will form a record at stamp auctions for many years to come.

SYDNEY VIEWS, TÊTE-BÊCHE.

IT might be thought from the above that the spirit of Christmas-tide had pervaded our columns, and that a little seasonable fiction was being presented for our readers' delectation. It is, however, the truth and nothing but the truth—stranger than fiction. Mr. Fred Hagen, of Sydney, has discovered an envelope with two specimens of Plate II. of the 2d. Sydney in medium worn state, printed *tête-bêche*, and they are duly illustrated in the

Australian Journal of Philately for November. The explanation is that, as recounted in Dr. Houison's work, the sheet of these stamps consisted of forty-eight stamps in two panes, the sheet being turned round to receive the second impression from the plate. However this may be, the fact remains that the stamps are relatively printed upside-down, and are therefore *tête-bêche.* In this respect they resemble the first issues of Moldavia and Finland, but the *tête-bêche* is obviously not of the same importance as where, as in the case of France, it occurs in the sheet itself. It is, however, a most interesting discovery, and once more demonstrates the never-failing interest attaching to the early Australian issues.

Mr. A. F. Basset Hull, who gives a description of this "find" in the forenamed journal, adds the following interesting information :—

"This unique pair (for I believe it to be absolutely without a known parallel) franked a letter 'O.H.M.S.' and endorsed 'Col. Treasury, 30th July, 1850.' The postmarks are 'Sydney—JY. 30, 1850—New South Wales,' and 'Melbourne—AU. 8, 1850—Port Phillip.' The stamps are from the stage of the plate generally known as 'Plate II.,' and are medium or slightly worn impressions. They are placed horizontally on the cover. The right-hand stamp, with the value label facing the right margin, corresponds with No. 1 on the reconstructed plate. The left-hand stamp, which has its value label facing the left margin, and consequently its top label facing the top label of the other stamp, corresponds with No. 12 on the reconstructed plate. At first sight Mr. Hagen thought the discovery meant that there were more than the accepted number of twenty-four types on at least one of the plate stages. . . .

"It will be seen that one sheet was submitted, and that sheet contained forty-eight stamps, or just double the number of impressions that we know were on the original plate. The explanation appears to me to be that two impressions were taken from the plate on the one sheet of paper. After the first impression had been taken, the paper was taken out of the press, turned round, and a second impression taken on the unoccupied part of the paper. This would account for the one impression being printed upside-down as regards the other, and also for No. 12 on the plate being immediately under (or over) No. 1. Doubtless in most cases the two impressions were severed before being placed on sale at the Post Office, but the pair under review being from the supply used by an important Government Department, was probably cut straight from the 'double' sheet, the two impressions being so close together that it was considered unnecessary to sever them. Had this pair been at the disposal of the original 'platers' of the views, I am inclined to think it would have very considerably delayed and hampered them in the labours which they brought to such a successful conclusion. It would have at once led them to believe that there were more than two rows on the plate, and caused them to despair of ever reconstructing a plate!"

Occasional Notes.

TO OUR READERS.

OWING to pressure on our space, we are compelled to hold over until next month the continuation of the article upon the Tapling Collection, several Reviews, Philatelic Societies' Minutes, Auction Reports, etc.

SUBSCRIPTIONS TO "LONDON PHILATELIST" FOR 1904.

OUR readers, other than the members of the Philatelic Society, London, who are subscribers to this journal, and whose subscriptions expire with the present number, will receive enclosed a Form of Renewal.

Early attention will oblige in order to avoid delay in the posting of the January, 1904, and following parts.

BINDING—FINAL NOTICE.

MEMBERS and subscribers desiring to have their copies of volumes i. to xii. bound, can do so, in stock style, half marone morocco, gilt top, price Seven Shillings each volume, which price includes cost of return post, carefully packed in cardboard box.

Copies from abroad will be Eight Shillings each, which includes return by Registered Book Post, carefully packed.

All copies to be so bound must be sent in accompanied by remittance, and addressed, "MR. A. CHURCHILL EMERSON, Effingham House, Arundel Street, London, W.C."

N.B.—No copies can be received for binding at above prices after the end of *February*, and the bound volumes will be posted *about* the end of March.

NEW ISSUES.

IT will be seen from our novelty columns that there is a distinct falling off in the quantity of new issues to be recorded this month, particularly noticeable in those of the British Possessions. It is to be hoped that the lull is not merely temporary, as there are already enough for the most omnivorous collector. There remain, however, a good few colonies where the King's Head may yet be to the fore again; but let us hope that these once issued there will be no more changes during the many years that His Majesty may be spared to reign over us. This is a hope—a pious aspiration—but in no sense is it a prediction!

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 SOMALILAND.—A new printing of certain *Queen's Head* values of the provisional set is chronicled by *Ewen's Weekly*.

The stamps are distinguished from the first printing through having the surcharge at foot instead of at top, and are of special interest in sheets as they are from a new setting.

Adhesives.

Queen's Head Indian stamps, overprinted at foot instead of at top.

2½ a., ultramarine.
6 a., pale olive-brown.
12 a., brown on red.
1 r., carmine and green.
2 r., yellow-brown and carmine.
3 r., green and brown.
5 r., violet and ultramarine.

CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.—The new 3d. King's Head stamp expected reaches us from Messrs. P. L. Pemberton and Co. and Whitfield King and Co., and we find the colour to be magenta and not aniline red.

Ewen's Weekly lists a new post card.

Adhesive.

3d., magenta wmk. Anchor; perf. 14.

Post Card.

1d., carmine, King's Head.

INDIA.—*Nabha.*—The *P. J. of India* states that the 4 and 8 annas and the 1 rupee of the King's Head issue have appeared with the "Service" overprint.

Officials.

4 annas, olive, King's Head type.
8 ,, violet ,, ,,
1 rupee, carmine and green, King's Head type.

Gwalior.—The 2½ annas, *blue*, *Queen's Head*, surcharged for use here, reaches us from Messrs. Whitfield King and Co.

The 3 pies, *carmine*, ordinary, with the *Queen's Head* and with *inverted surcharge*, has been submitted to the *P. J. of India* and found to be genuine.

Adhesives.

3 pies, carmine, *Queen's Head;* with *inverted surcharge.*
2½ annas, *blue*, *Queen's Head.*

NEW ZEALAND.—Messrs. Bright and Son have shown us the 2½d., ultramarine, of 1882–97, perf. 12½ all round.

Adhesive.

2½d., ultramarine, of 1882-97; perf. 12½.

STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.—*Johor.*—A new provisional has appeared, and *Ewen's Weekly* tells us that the overprint is much heavier than in the 3 on 4 c. and 3 on 10 c. The bar of the surcharge is printed this time, and the overprint is done very neatly; no varieties nor broken letters have been found.

Provisional.

50 cents, in black, on $3, purple and blue.

EUROPE.

FRANCE.—A letter card of 25 c., with stamp of the latest "Mouchon" type, has appeared.—*M. C.*

Letter Card.

25 centimes, dull blue on rose.

HUNGARY.—The set of Postage Due stamps listed on page 274 is not complete; a 6 filler value must be added.

Postage Due.

6 filler, green and black; perf. 11½.

ITALY.—Some high values of Postage Due stamps are chronicled in *Ewen's Weekly*.

We are told that these stamps were issued on the 1st of July, 1903, are of the same type as those of 1884, and are to serve specially for money orders, the stamped money order cards being suppressed.

Postage Due. 50 lire, yellow.
100 ,, blue.

SWEDEN.—To the current set must be added an 8 öre stamp.

Adhesive.

8 öre, purple; wmk. Crown; perf. 13.

AMERICA.

ARGENTINE REPUBLIC.—A small line in stationery is recorded.

Wrapper.

4 centavos, green on yellowish, with stamp of the unembossed type.

CHILI.—Messrs. P. L. Pemberton and Co. send us the 30 cents., orange-red, of 1901, surcharged in fancy type, in black, "DIEZ" at top and "CENTAVOS" at bottom.

Provisional.

10 cents. on 30 c., orange-red, of 1901.

COLOMBIAN REPUBLIC.—*Bolivar.*—The lately issued 50 c., purple, exists, states *Ewen's Weekly*, imperf. as well as pin-perf.

Adhesive.

50 c., purple; wove paper (?); imperf.

Boyaca.—Here again it is interesting to find from the *Philatelic Record* that the two high values listed on page 248 come both perf. 12 and imperforate.

Santander.—We have received the provisional stamp which we noted in September. It is formed from an oblong label, with the Arms of Colombia at left and an inscription at right in four lines:—"REPUBLICA DE COLOMBIA — TIMBRE — Departmento de Santander — CINCUENTA 50 CENTAVOS." Across this label is printed "Provisional—Correos de Santander," in two lines, in *black*. The overprint was evidently set up to cover a block of ten stamps, in two vertical rows of five; the second stamp in the second vertical row shows an error, "Corceos" instead of "Correos," in the surcharge.—*M. J.*

COSTA RICA.—The description of the three new stamps given on page 274 is hardly correct.

Specimens reach us from Messrs. Whitfield King and Co. as listed below.

The *M. C.* chronicles a 3, 5, and 20 c., but it is possible a mistake may have been made.

The new Unpaid Letter stamps are also to hand from our Ipswich friends, and are of simple design. A circular band, inscribed "CORREOS DE COSTA RICA—CENTIMOS," encloses a pattern of engine-turning, upon which are printed large numerals in *black*; at foot is the word "MULTA," in a straight label; the spandrels are filled in with engine-turning.

The three new stamps of the portrait type are reported surcharged "Oficial," and the *M. C.* lists some stationery.

Adhesives.

4 c., magenta and black, with portrait of José M. Cañas.
6 c., olive-green and black, with portrait of Julian Volio.
25 c., lavender and brown, with portrait of Eusebio Figueroa.

No wmk.; perf. 14.

Officials.

As above.

Postage Due.

5 c., slate-blue; figure in black.
10 c., brown ,, ,,
15 c., bright green ,, ,,
20 c., carmine ,, ,,
25 c., ultramarine ,, ,,
30 c., dark brown ,, ,,
40 c., sage-green ,, ,,
50 c., magenta ,, ,,

No wmk.; perf. 14.

Envelope.

5 c., slate-grey on bluish.

Registered Envelope.

20 c., dark rose on white.

Post Cards.

2 c., carmine-rose on pink.
2 c. + 2 c. ,, ,,

Messrs. Whitfield King and Co. write:—

"Our correspondent in Costa Rica has pointed out that in the current 10 c. stamp there is an error in spelling the name under the portrait, which should be 'BRAULIO,' and not 'BRANLIO.' This mistake is to be corrected by altering the plate, and a fresh supply of stamps has been ordered in the corrected spelling."

GUATEMALA.—It is reported that the recent surcharges, 25 centavos on 6 c., 150 c., and 200 c., exist in red as well as in black.

Adhesives.

25 centavos, in red, on 6 c., pale green.
25 ,, ,, 150 c., blue.
25 ,, ,, 200 c., yellow.

MEXICO.—The 10 centavos in the new colours is chronicled with the Official overprint.

Official. 10 centavos, blue and orange.

PANAMA.—This new republic has lost no time in issuing a set of provisionals.

According to *Mekeel's Weekly*, the map

issue has been given a horizontal overprint in two lines in capital letters, "REPUBLICA DE —PANAMA."

Thus far the 2, 5, 20 c., and 1 p. regular adhesives and the Registration stamp have been surcharged. The 2 c. is in black, the remainder in carmine.

Adhesives.

2 centavos, rose; black surcharge.
5 ,, blue; red ,,
20 ,, violet ,, ,,
1 peso, brown ,, ,,

Registration Adhesive.

20 c., blue and brown; red surcharge.

PARAGUAY.—The set of seven stamps chronicled on page 91 has had a short life, it would appear.

Messrs. Whitfield King and Co. send us the 1 c. and 5 centavos of a similar design to the earlier issue, but with the date "AÑO 1903" at *top* and "Centavos" at bottom, instead of "Centavos / 1903" at bottom.

A full set is expected to follow later, doubtless with the Official surcharge as well.

Adhesives.

1 centavo, yellow-green; no wmk.; perf. 11½.
5 centavos, deep blue ,, ,,

UNITED STATES.—We have to thank Messrs. J. M. Bartels and E. P. Reynolds, jun., for early specimens of the new 2 cents stamp, fully described on page 274.

We consider it a decided improvement on its predecessor.

Adhesive.

2 cents, carmine; perf. 12; wmk. U.S.P.S.

Messrs. Bright and Son have discovered and shown us a used specimen of the 2 cents, rose-pink, of 1895, which has the right-hand triangle *without any lines of shading*, and will be known in future as variety "D" in the catalogues.

OTHER COUNTRIES.

AUSTRIAN LEVANT.—Three more values of the Austrian stamps have been received by the *M. J.* with surcharges in "Centimes," etc., for use here. All are on granite paper, and the two lower values have the shiny bars.

Adhesives.

25 c., in black, on 25 h., ultramarine; perf. 13.
50 c. ,, 50 h., pale blue ,, 13.
1 fc. ,, 1 kr., deep rose ,, 12½.

COREA.—From several quarters we hear of a new issue, and the illustrations given show the stamps to be of large size and good design.

In the centre is a Falcon enclosed by a circular band inscribed "POSTES IMPERIALES DE COREE" at left and native characters at right. Small circles in the lower corners contain the value in European figures and letters.

Some post cards are also added.

Adhesives.

2 rin, grey.
1 ch., purple-brown.
2 ,, green.
3 ,, orange.
4 ,, rose-red.
5 ,, light brown.
6 ,, lilac.
10 ,, blue.
15 ,, red on straw.
20 ,, purple-brown on straw.
50 ,, red on green.
$1, lilac on lavender.
$2, purple on orange.

Post Cards.

1 c., green on greenish.
1 c. + 1 c. ,, ,,
4 c., red on rose.
4 c. + 4 c. ,, ,,

FRENCH COLONIES.—*Guadeloupe.*—We read in the *Philatelic Record* that the 60 c. and 1 fc. Postage Due stamps have been both altered in value to 30 c.; black surcharge.

Postage Due.

30 c. on 60 c., brown on buff.
30 c. on 1 fc., rose ,,

Martinique.—A provisional Parcel Post adhesive is listed by *Ewen's Weekly.*

Adhesive.

5 fcs. on 60 c., Taxe.

Senegal.—We have received from Messrs. Whitfield King and Co. the 40 c., red on straw, of 1892, surcharged "5," and the original value cancelled with a thick bar. The overprint is in black.

Ewen's Weekly informs us that the 50 c. rose, 75 c., violet on orange, and 1 fc., olive, are to be overprinted with the figure "10," and the quantities are to be 20,000, 30,000, and 15,000 respectively, the number of the "5" on 40 c. being 40,000.

Provisional.

"5" on 40 c., red on straw; black surcharge.

FRENCH POST OFFICES ABROAD.—*Alexandria.*—The 10 c. French post card, surcharged "Alexandrie," in black, is chronicled by the *M. C.*

Post Card.

10 c., red on pale green.

China.—The 30 c., brown, of 1894, Type 11, has been converted into a Postage Due stamp. The surcharge "Chine" and "A Percevoir" in two lines is in black.—*Ewen's Weekly.*

Later information from the same source gives four more varieties of these provisionals.

The last four are surcharged diagonally (not in two lines as before). The overprint is carmine on the three first, and in violet on the last.

Postage Due.

30 c., brown ; surcharged as above.
5 c., yellow-green; allegorical group ; Type 1.
10 c., carmine (Mouchon).
15 c., blue ; allegorical group.
30 c., brown ,, ,,

Levant.—A letter card is reported.

Letter Card.

1 piastre on 25 c., blue on rose.

Morocco.—Owing to a temporary exhaustion of the 5 and 10 c. postage stamps, four hundred of the 5 c. and two hundred of the 10 c. Unpaid Letter stamps were recently surcharged "P P" (Port payé). The surcharge is placed sideways.—*Philatelic Record.*

Adhesives.

5 c., blue, Postage Due, surcharged "P P" in black.
10 c., brown, Postage Due, surcharged "P P" in black.

PERSIA.—A lot of provisionals have been issued here. The following description we have taken from the *M.J.*:—

"The 5 and 10 krans stamps of the issue of 1894 (Nos. 152 and 153 in the Catalogue) have been converted into various other values, by means of overprints, which effectually disfigure those gorgeous labels. Diagonally across the stamps, from lower left to upper right, are printed the words 'POSTES PERSANES,' between double lines; over this (also diagonally) is the date '1903' surrounded by ornaments, and below are Persian characters accompanied by similar ornaments. Across the foot of the stamp is the new value in ordinary figures, and the 'Chahis' in roman type, or '*Krans*' or '*Tomans*' in sloping *sans-serif* letters. All this is in one colour, and as if that were not sufficient, Persian characters, also denoting, we believe, the new value, are struck in the second colour quoted in our list, immediately below the Shah's portrait."

4 chahis, in *red* and *black*, on 5 krans.
8 ,, *green* and *red*, on 5 krans.
16 ,, *orange* and *green*, on 5 krans.
3 krans, in *blue* and *lake*, on 5 krans.
4 ,, *brown* and *green*, on 5 krans.
2 tomans, in *red* and *orange*, on 5 krans.
3 ,, *black* and *lake*, on 5 krans.
2 ,, *blue* and *black*, on 10 krans.
3 ,, *green* and *blue*, on 10 krans.

PHILIPPINE ISLANDS.—The *Metropolitan Philatelist* informs us that in addition to the three values listed on page 275, the 5, 13, 15 cents and $1 of the current U.S.A. stamps have been surcharged for use here.

The 3, 6, and 8 cents, and the $2 and $5, have not yet been supplied.

RUSSIAN LEVANT.—The *M.C.* informs us that the 70 k., brown and orange, used for the surcharge "7 piastres," is of the issue with "thunderbolts," although this variety has not been issued unsurcharged in Russia itself.

The Market.

MESSRS. PUTTICK AND SIMPSON.

Sale of November 10th and 11th, 1903.

* Unused.	£	s.	d.
Great Britain, 1847–54, octagonal, 6d., dark violet,* mint, a little close at top	3	10	0
Ditto, 10d., brown,* part gum	2	17	6
Ditto, 1854–7, wmk. Small Crown, perf. 14, 2d., blue,* no gum	7	0	0
Ditto, ditto, ditto, but a little off centre	3	0	0
Ditto, 1878, wmk. Cross, 10s., grey,* mint	10	10	0
Ditto, 1880, 2s., brown	2	0	0
Ditto, 1884, wmk. Crowns, £1, purple-brown,* mint	3	17	6
Ditto, 1888, wmk. Orbs, £1, ditto,* ditto	10	10	0
Russian Levant, 1865, 2 k., brown and blue	3	5	0
Ditto, ditto, 20 k., blue and red	3	3	0
Spain, 1865, 12 c., inverted centre	3	5	0
Ceylon, 4d., rose, imperf.	9	0	0
Ditto, 8d., brown, ditto	12	10	0
Ditto, 9d., ditto, ditto	2	15	0
Ditto, 1s. 9d., green, ditto	3	5	0
Ditto, 2s., blue, ditto	4	17	6
Ditto, 8d., brown, clean-cut perf.	3	3	0
Ditto, 8d., yellow-brown, rough perf. £3 and	3	15	0
Ditto, 9d., bistre, ditto*	3	7	6
Ditto, 1s., violet, perf.,* nearly full gum	8	5	0
Ditto, 2d., emerald-green,* block of four, mint	6	0	0
Ditto, ditto,* single copy, ditto	1	12	0
Ditto, CC, 5d., purple-brown,* pair, mint	5	0	0
Ditto, Service, set of seven,* ditto	2	12	0
Labuan, 1879, 12 c., carmine	3	5	0
Ditto, 1880, 6, in red, on 16 c., blue,* mint	5	0	0
Ditto, ditto, ditto, used	4	8	0
Ditto, 1885, 2 cents in caps on 16 c., blue*	3	15	0

	£	s.	d.
Philippines, 1854, 10 c., pale rose, fine pair	4	4	0
Cape of Good Hope, triangulars, 1s., dark green, pairs* £4 15s. and	5	0	0
Ditto, ditto, 1863–4, 1d., carmine, block of eight,* mint	7	0	0
Ditto, ditto, ditto, 4d., dark blue, block of eighteen,* ditto	15	5	0
Ditto, ditto, ditto, ditto, block of eight,* ditto	9	0	0
Ditto, ditto, ditto, 1s., emerald, pairs, ditto . £7 15s. and	6	15	0
Lagos, 1s., orange, value 16½ mm.,* ditto	4	6	0
Ditto, 2s. 6d., olive-black,* ditto	4	4	0
Ditto, 5s., blue,* ditto	6	0	0
Ditto, 10s., lilac-brown,* ditto	10	0	0
Orange River Colony, 1900, V.R.I., 6d., carmine, 1st printing, the very rare error with figure of value omitted, used, and very fine, on entire original, with normal type *se tenant*	14	10	0
United States, 1861–6, 24 c., slate, a superb block of nine, mint, a scarce shade and very rare in blocks*	3	3	0
St. Vincent, 1s., vermilion, 11–12½,* mint	5	10	0
Ditto, 5s., lake, Star,* ditto	8	0	0
Ditto, ½d. on half 6d., yellow-green, pair	4	0	0
Colombian Republic, 1863, 50 c., red, error, a little cracked in the right top corner, but good margins and lightly cancelled, very rare	12	5	0
Victoria, 1850, 2d., lilac, fine background	5	7	6
Ditto, 1862, 3d., blue,* mint	2	0	0
Collections: 7,419, £76; and 4,798, £32.			

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MESSRS. PLUMRIDGE AND CO.

Sale of November 16th to 18th, 1903.

* Unused.

	£	s.	d.
British Guiana, 1850–1, 12 c., pale blue, a superb copy, cut square, on entire	11	0	0
Cape of Good Hope, triangular, 1s., deep green, pair,* mint	8	0	0
Ditto, Mafeking, set of nineteen	9	15	0
Ceylon, 4d., rose, imperf.	10	0	0
Fiji, 1874–5, fancy V.R., 2d., in black, on 6d.*	6	15	0
Ditto, 1891–2, 6d., rose, printed both sides, uncatalogued variety.	2	0	0
Great Britain, 1840, 2d., pale blue, fine,* no gum	3	0	0
Ditto, 2d., deep blue,* with almost imperceptible crease across	3	10	0
Ditto, 1857, Large Crown, perf. 16, white paper, 1d., rose-red, mint block of four*	13	0	0
Mauritius, 1848, 2d., deep blue, early state	4	17	6
New South Wales, 1855, 8d., yellow, imperf.	4	0	0
St. Vincent, 1874, 11 to 12½ × 15, 1s., violet-rose*	6	0	0
Ditto, One Penny on 6d., yellow-green	2	2	0
Spain, 1852, 2 reales, on piece	3	0	0
Switzerland, Vaud, 4 c., fair copy	4	15	0
Tuscany, 2 soldi	5	17	6
Victoria, 1858–61, rouletted, 2s., green, a pair on entire, roulettes showing on the three sides	5	10	0
Ditto, 5s., red and blue, without blue line under Crown, perf. 11½,* with gum	2	5	0

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MESSRS. VENTOM, BULL, AND COOPER.

Sale of November 19th and 20th, 1903.

* Unused.

	£	s.	d.
Great Britain, 1881, 1d., lilac, with impression at back,* mint	3	0	0
Cyprus, CC, ½, 1, 2, 4, and 6 pias.*	3	15	0
Gibraltar, 1st issue, complete*	3	3	0
Afghanistan, 1289, 6 shahi, purple	2	15	0
Ditto, 1293, value on tablet, 1 r., purple*	2	12	0
Ceylon, 2s., blue, imperf.	4	6	0
Ditto, 4d., dull rose, Star, clean-cut perfs. off centre	3	0	0
India, 1st issue, ½ anna, *red**	8	5	0
Labuan, 1885, provisional, "2 CENTS" on 16 c., blue*	4	15	0
Straits Settlements, 8 in red on 8 c. on 12 c., purple-brown, strip of three	2	17	6
Gambia, 1s., green,* mint	2	0	0
Gold Coast, 20s., green and red,* ditto	6	12	6
Natal, 1st issue, 3d., rose	1	3	0
Zanzibar, on British East Africa, 1 anna, carmine-rose, horizontal pair,* with double surcharge.	3	12	6
Ditto, 5s., carmine,* full gum	2	10	0
Newfoundland, 1s., carmine-ver., cut into at bottom	5	7	6
British Guiana, 1862, 2 c., Pearls, full roulettes	4	0	0
Ditto, ditto, 1 c., Grapes, little defective	7	0	0
Dominica, 1886, provisional "One Penny" on 6d., green, used on entire envelope with eight other values, extremely rare in this state	46	0	0
St. Vincent, "ONE PENNY" on 6d., yellow-green,* with gum	2	18	0
Ditto, 4d. on 1s., vermilion,* with gum	11	0	0
Trinidad, 1d., blue, lithographed, on cartridge paper	2	15	0
Ditto, lithographed, 1d., red, used on entire with a 4d., pin-perforated	4	0	0
Ditto, 1896, 10s., green and ultramarine,* mint	2	0	0
Virgin Islands, 1899, 4d., brown, error "FOUR PENCF," used on entire with the two ½d. errors and another	5	10	0