

SAPPHIRE

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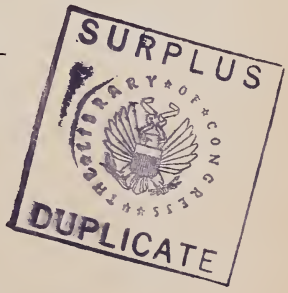
JANUARY TO DECEMBER,

1908.



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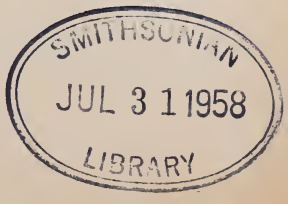

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THE

Philatelic Record.

JANUARY, 1908.

Editorial Notes.

OUR readers will remember that so long ago as August last we reported at considerable length the evidence in connection with the prosecution of Harold Treherne, charged with attempting to obtain money by false pretences by means of stamps bearing forged surcharges. The case was an important one to collectors, inasmuch as it was the first real attempt which had been made to stamp out forgeries since the days of the celebrated prosecution of the Bell Alley gang.

The Treherne Case.

After the prisoner pleaded guilty to these charges, a clever suggestion was put forward that he was the cat's-paw of someone else, and the Court, therefore, to enable the prisoner to give such information as would lead to the principal offenders being brought to justice, determined to postpone sentence.

In the meantime it is pleasing to find that the Inland Revenue Authorities decided to take proceedings against the prisoner for being in possession of illegal dies, and one cannot help but think that the penalty of £15 and costs imposed by the Justices was out of all proportion to the gravity of the offence committed.

Here again perhaps the Justices were misled in regard to the statement regarding the prisoner's age and his not being the leader of the gang. At all events when Treherne came up for judgment at the last Sessions a different complexion was put upon the case. It was conclusively shown that he was several years older than had been represented, and he had utterly failed to put the responsibility upon anyone else's shoulders. We rather gather an attempt was made to do this, but the facts show that the allegations made by the prisoner against third parties were entirely unfounded. The sentence he has received will, we hope, act as a deterrent.

IT has been commonly known, we believe, that the arm of the law is sufficiently strong to put down forged stamps if only proceedings are instituted. The difficulty in all these matters is to get the Authorities to prosecute, and we think we are right in saying in the case to which we have referred, that the Revenue Authorities would not have prosecuted had it not been that the dies were of stamps available for postage to-day. From the Revenue point of view, perhaps this is sufficient for their protection, but from the collector's standpoint it is

The Extermination of Forgeries.

quite as important that protection should be afforded in regard to obsolete stamps, and equally in regard to postage stamps offered for sale, whether they are obliterated or unused. It is important in this connection to observe that in France a well-known stamp dealer has been recently prosecuted for being in possession of used forged stamps of the Republic, and in spite of the plea that he had bought them at the Stamp Bourse as forgeries, that he had a reputation of twenty years standing, and that the stamps were sold more as curiosities rather than with any attempt to defraud, he was subjected to a fine of 50 francs. This may seen a rather harsh judgment to some, but at the same time the public sale or dealing in forged stamps ought to be put down with a strong hand, and the prosecutions which have taken place here, in France, and in Germany, are pleasing signs of the times.

Stamp Jobbers and Exchange Clubs.

The Secretary of the Otterdale Stamp Exchange Club has recently issued a printed leaflet of four pages, being a Report for the year 1907 of the doings of the Club, from which it appears to be still increasing in popularity and prosperity. How often these go hand in hand!

Our object in drawing attention to this Report is to thoroughly endorse and approve of the secretarial policy adopted for some time in this Exchange Club of excluding all sheets which, while increasing very substantially the *apparent* value, add nothing to the attractiveness or *real* worth of the packets in which they are included.

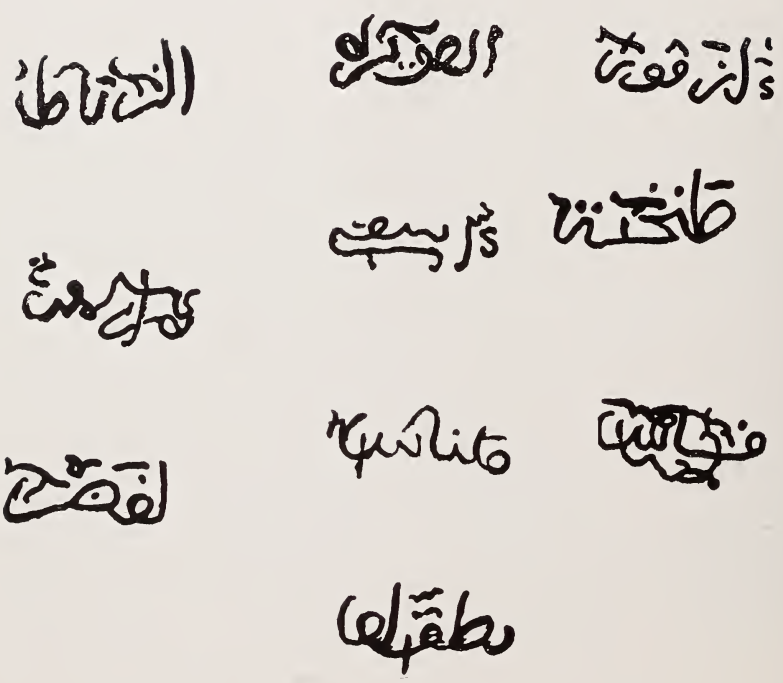
Would it not be much better if all Exchange Clubs did this, or refused membership altogether to the stamp "jobbers" who contribute these sheets? How frequently have we known sheets priced up to £200, or even more, returned to their owners with stamps only the value of a few pence removed. As the Secretary truly points out in his Report "a certain number of stamp 'jobbers' are apparently under the impression that a valuable sheet, no matter how absurdly the stamps are overpriced, somehow entitles them to special consideration."

Plate II.


SERVICE DE COURRIERS
25
MAZAGAN A MAROC
POSTE
MAZAGAN
MARAKECH
5
CENTIMOS
10
25
50
1
PESETA
20

PLATE I.





RABAT.	MOGADOR.	AZIMUR.
MARRAKESH	SAFI.	TANGIER.
ALCAZAR.	MEKINEZ.	FEZ.
	TETUAN.	

Morocco.

By George B. Duerst.

MOROCCO or Marocco, called by the natives Maghrib-el-Aksa, meaning the extreme west, is an empire or sultanate occupying the north-west extremity of Africa. It is bounded by the Atlantic on the west, the Mediterranean on the north, Algiers on the east, and the desert in the south. The area is from 250,000 to 300,000 square miles; the southern frontier being rather shadowy, it is impossible to fix an exact figure. At the Straits of Gibraltar the distance is only nine miles from Spain. The Atlas mountains, reaching 12,000 to 13,000 feet in height, extend right through the country from west to east. Between the mountains and the coasts there are table lands and plains; some of them possess great fertility. The rivers are unimportant; they dry up very often in summer, although they are torrents in winter. They are not easily accessible from the seas, as most of them have considerable sandbanks at their mouths. The coast offers very few good harbours; the most frequented are Tangier, Tetuan, Laraiche, Rabat, Saffi, Casablanca, Mazagan, and Mogador. The climate in most parts is pleasant and temperate, although the summer heat in many places is insufferable.

The minerals found include gold, silver, copper, iron, and lead. Amongst the trees found are the date, walnut, olive, cork oak, cedar, and a few gums. Oranges, lemons, apricots, almonds, melons, etc., grow in profusion. The crops include wheat, maize, millet, beans, etc. The principal exports are wheat, maize, wool, hides, cattle, eggs, gums, and fresh fruit. Another branch of the export trade is the well-known Morocco leather and the articles made from it; also carpets, embroidered stuffs, pottery, and cloth caps called fez. Trade is carried on in the interior by caravans over well-beaten routes, chiefly *viâ* Tafilet and Twat, and they travel as far as the Soudan. The natives exchange cotton cloths, tea, sugar, salt, and hardware, for gold dust, ostrich feathers, gums, slaves, etc.

The foreign trade is carried on by sea, and there are regular lines of steamers from Liverpool, London, Marseilles, Hamburg, Cadiz, and Gibraltar. At Tangier nineteen steamship lines land, at Mogador seven.

The population is about six to eight millions, and consists of:—

I. Berbers, the original inhabitants, generally agriculturists.
II. Arabs, immigrated between the seventh and eleventh centuries, generally inhabiting the plains.
III. Moors, the descendants of the conquerors.
IV. Jews.
V. Negroes and their posterity of every shade.

The religion is a strict form of Islam, much purer than with the Turks.

Morocco in Roman times formed part of Mauritania and about A.D. 43 was incorporated in the Roman Empire. In the latter part of the seventh century the Arabs spread over North Africa and conquered the country. The Mohamedan religion was introduced and a branch of Mahomet's family—the Idrîsis—contemporaries with Haroun-al-Rashid —were the rulers. Before the Arabs the Vandals came over from Spain, but hardly any traces of their conquest can be found. Amongst later dynasties were the Almoravides, Almohades, etc. The present dynasty is the ninth, and was founded in 1648. Slavery was abolished in 1814 and piracy in 1817.

The present ruler is the Sultan Abdu-l'aziz, meaning, "Servant of the Most Mighty." In the papers his name is generally spelt Abdul-Aziz. The Sultan, or Emperor as called by the Europeans, is absolute in the strictest sense, but the general system is as corrupt as it can be.

The troublesome times the country is passing through at present will have one good result, and that is, that as soon as order is re-established a regular and better form of government will take the place of the old disorder. The people may then look forward to reaping the fruits of their labour much more confidently than they can do now, and the fertility of the land and geniality of the climate, aided by the enterprise and money of Europeans, will in time to come make the country prosperous and rich.

Before the foreign nations established post-offices in the ports and capitals, Morocco had, and has now, its own postal service. The service was quite safe, because the penalties for stealing or losing letters were extremely severe, but very slow and still more irregular. The rapid rise in the revenue of the foreign post offices indicates that a frequent and quick service was necessary and would pay. Letters sent by the native postal service are obliterated with an octagonal die containing an inscription in Arabic, which reads in the first line, "el machuth," in the second, the name of the town, say Tetuan, and in the third, "bielah," *i.e.*, "Tetuan which is protected by God." Such dies exist for the following towns: Rabat, Mogador, Azimur, Morocco or Marakech, Saffi, Tangier, Alcazar, Fez, Mequinez, Tetuan, and Laraiche. The dies are impressed in light and dark blue, light and dark violet, lilac, red, rose, grey, black, and green.

The illustrations herewith will give my readers the means of identifying the various towns. The first illustration gives the whole die and the remainders the writing of the names of the towns only.

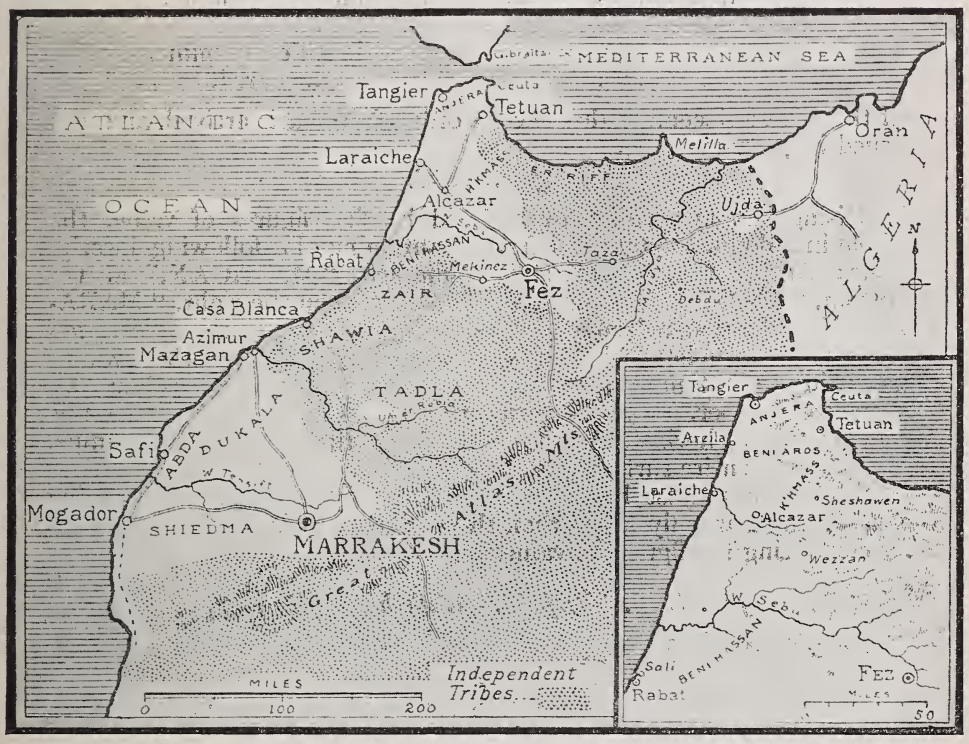
In order to make it easier for my readers to follow the various postal routes, which I shall take in chronological order, a little map of the country is given on the opposite page.

I. Line. Mazagan to Morocco.

The distance between the two towns is about 125 miles.

Morocco, or in Arabic "Marakech," was founded in 1072, and was in the fourteenth century a flourishing town with, it is said, a population of 700,000 inhabitants; now there are about 60,000. It is 1,500

feet above the sea level, nearly six miles in circumference, surrounded by walls and towers, which, however, are in a ruinous condition. Near the palace is the "Mellah" or Jewish quarter, nearly one and a half miles in circumference. The other quarters are the "Kasbah" for the governing body and the "Medina" for the Moslem population.



Mazagan is a fairly safe harbour on the Atlantic. The town has a population of about 10,000.

This is the first private post which issued special stamps, and is said to have existed for years before. For the purpose of having a better control, I. Brudo, the son of the French Vice-Consul, issued a stamp in 1891 of the value of 25 centimes, as this was the rate charged for a single letter over any distance. This service was also for the towns of Mogador, Rabat, Casablanca, and Laraiche, all being coast towns on the Atlantic and close to Mazagan. Letters arriving from these towns were taken over and forwarded to Morocco.

1891.

Large figure of value on horizontally lined ground within a broad oval containing the words, "Service de Courriers" at the top, and "Mazagan à Maroc" at the bottom. The corners are filled in with horizontal lines. Printed in colour on white wove paper. Perf. 11.

25 centimes ... ... carmine-red.

Nov., 1892.

In November, 1892, the postage was reduced to 10 centimes, and as the new stamps were not ready, the remainders of the 25 centimes stamps were surcharged "10 cents," at first in blue and later in black. Perf. 11.

10 cents.	on	25c.	... ...	blue on carmine.
10	,,	25c.	... ...	,, red.
10	,,	25c.	... ...	black on carmine.
10	,,	25c.	... ...	,, red.

At the end of December the new set ordered in Paris arrived, and was issued in January, 1893.

Jan., 1893.

Rising sun and palms over shield bearing figures of value, the whole in a double rectangular frame containing the following inscriptions: At the top, "POSTE," on the left, "MAZAGAN," at the bottom, "CENTIMOS" or "PESETA," and on the right, "MARAKECH," the native name for the town of Morocco. In the top corners (I on the left and B on the right) the initials of the owner's name, in the bottom corners figures of value. Printed in colours on white wove paper. Various perforations. Some of the values of this issue have faint horizontal or vertical lines in the colour of the stamps, covering the entire surface.

Two stones must have been made for this issue, the first being much more carefully done than the second. This can be easily seen by comparing the figures of value. (*See illustration.*)

Jan. 1893. Perf. 10. With horizontal lines.

5 centimos	...	...	pale green, green.
10 ,,	...	...	blue.
25 ,,	...	...	light rose, rose.
50 ,,	...	...	pale violet, mauve.
1 peseta	...	...	light yellow, yellow.

The next year the postage was reduced from 25 centimos to 20 centimos, and while awaiting the fresh value the green 5c. stamp was surcharged 20 centimos in two lines.

March, 1894. Perf. 10. Horizontal lines.

20 centimos, black, on 5 centimos, pale green, green.

March, 1895.

A fresh supply of 10c. stamps was needed and arrived together with the new 20 centimos value.

Perf. 11. Horizontal lines.

10 centimos	...	...	...	pale blue.
20 ,,	...	...	...	brown.

Perf. 11. Vertical lines.

10 centimos	...	...	...	pale blue.

Perf 13½. Vertical lines.

5 centimos	...	...	...	pale green, green.

All the above were printed from the first stones made. The illustrations will show clearly the curved 5's, the 1 and 0 in 10 being of equal length, and the upstroke of the 1 in the peseta value missing.

1897. Perf. 11½. Without lines.

5 centimos	...	...	...	pale green.
10 ,,	...	...	...	blue-slate.
20 ,,	...	...	...	brown.
25 ,,	...	...	...	pale rose.
50 ,,	...	...	...	pale lilac.
1 peseta	...	...	...	yellow on yellowish tinted paper.

Variety: Imperforate horizontally.

10 centimos	...	...	...	blue slate.

This issue is printed from the second stones; the 5's have a straight top, the 1 in the peseta value has an upstroke, and the 1 and 0 in 10 are not on the same level.

International jealousy here steps in, and as the postal service instituted by the French Vice-Consulate seemed to be a paying concern, the Italian Consular-Agent opened a similar service, and in order to go one better, issued at once two sets of stamps, one for the franking of ordinary mail matter and one for unpaid letters. The latter set was used no doubt for letters arriving from oversea at Mazagan, to be then forwarded to Morocco. By an arrangement with the British Consul, these stamps were sold at the British Post Office in Mazagan.

(To be continued).

Notable Philatelists.

W. R. Lane Joynt.

BEING enabled in the last number to give some notes on the "Leinster Collection," it is in the fitness of things that this well-known Irish collector, who may be termed the custodian (a happy choice from more standpoints than one, as he stands 6ft. 3in. in his stockings) of that Collection should be the Notable Philatelist of the month.

Mr. Lane Joynt by profession is a barrister-at-law, having received his education at Windermere College, where he commenced to collect stamps in 1869, continuing his collection during his residence at Bonn, where he finished his education. The gems of this general collection were the 10c. Chili, error of watermark, 20.

He had soon to give up generalising and took to specialising, his choice falling upon Great Britain and some Colonies, and the United States, of which Great Britain and Victoria are his prime favourites, his volumes of unused British being the finest in Ireland.

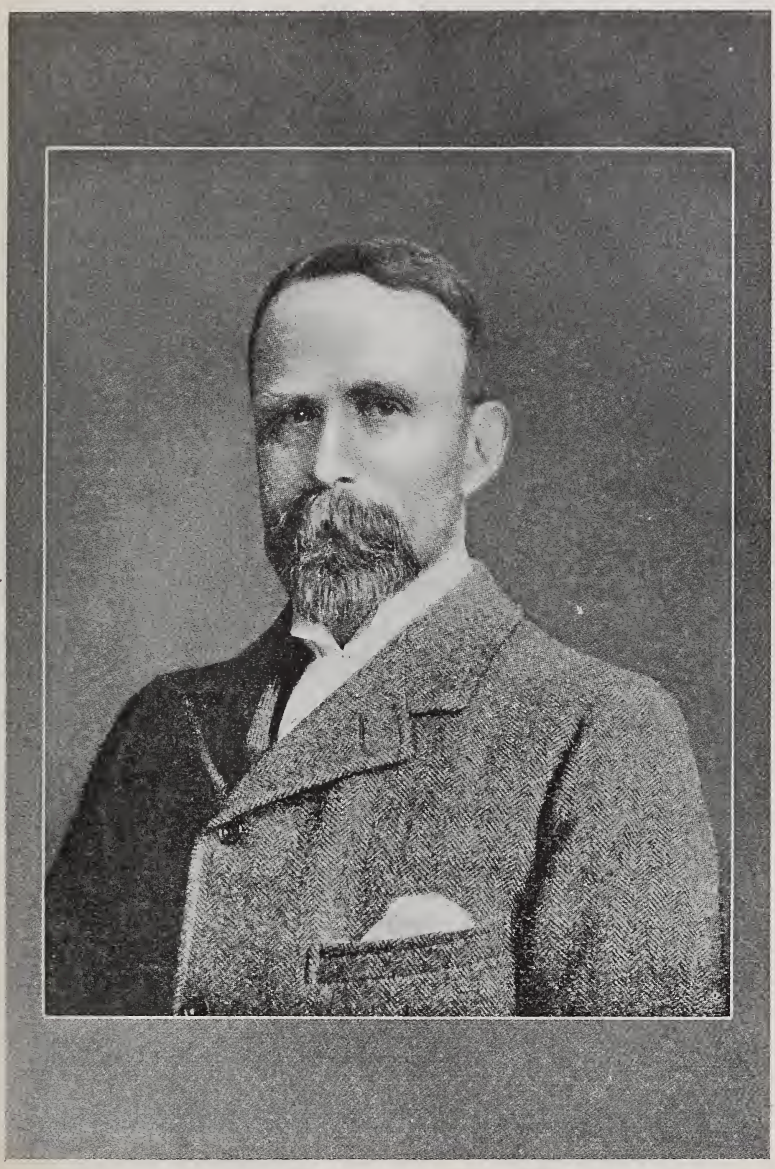
He is one of the few who champion the collection of "specimens," his argument being that as they are early impressions they show the first state of the plate and the first shade of colour printed.

In these days of "Limericks," it is interesting to recall Mr. Lane Joynt's success in a competition organised by the South African Stamp Company. The nature of the competition was to guess the amount to be realised at three consecutive auctions of a well-known firm of London auctioneers, and the prize a Cape wood-block, one penny, error of colour.

His strong antipathy to recent issues is best indicated by his own words :—

"I loathe modern issues. I loved the good old first issues when they were not diffiult to obtain, and I love them still, even those that have remained common. Modern stamps are not worth collecting, they lack historical interest. The period during which experiments were being carried out on stamps, with a view to perfecting the manufacture, the easiest means of separating the pieces, and the safest devices to prevent forgery and cleaning, has the greatest attraction for the zealous collector. It was on the early issues that these experiments were made, and a collection of them necessitates copious marginal annotations by the owner, without which a collection, no matter how rich in specimens, lacks the individuality of the maker, and consequently, completeness. For these reasons the British Isles and Victoria are my special favourities."

As a relaxation from philately, he devotes himself to sport, being a first-rate marksman, having represented Ireland in the contest for the "Elcho Shield" on nineteen occasions, besides taking part in most of the international matches against the Americans during the last twenty years. He has once been long-range rifle champion of Ireland, and seven times revolver champion.



W. R. Lane Joynt.



The earliest information as to New Issues will be much appreciated by us, and will be duly credited to the correspondent, or firm, sending it. Our foreign subscribers can materially help us in this direction. When possible, a specimen should accompany the information, and be addressed to

G. Fred. H. Gibson, *Fairfield, Crumpsall, Manchester.*

The British Empire.

Antigua.—Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. report the issue of the 2½d. all blue, recently listed.

Bermuda.—Mr. W. H. Peckitt forwards a copy of the 2d. orange and grey, which has now been issued, but informs us that he understands there is no immediate prospect of the 4d. pictorial being put on sale.

Cayman Islands.—*Ewen's Weekly* reports two more provisionals, both formed by overprinting the current 5s. value. The surcharge is roughly hand-stamped in black.

Adhesive.

½d. on 5s. red and green.
1d. ,, ,,

Cyprus.—Mr. W. T. Wilson sends us a specimen of the 5p. mentioned last month; it has just been issued.

Great Britain. Morocco Agencies.—Mr. W. H. Peckitt informs us that no 30 centimos on 3d. has been issued for use here, nor is such a value anticipated.

Hong Kong.—Mr. W. H. Peckitt sends us a specimen of the 6c. violet and orange-red to which we recently referred.

India.—We are indebted to the *Monthly Journal* for the following lists of new issues for the various States. Incidentally, their informant states that the 2½a. King's Head has not been overprinted for use in Gwalior; this is incorrect.

Chamba :— *Adhesives.*

½a. pea green. (Postage and revenue).
1a. carmine. ,, ,,

Official stamps.

½a. pea green. (Postage and revenue).
1a. carmine. ,, ,,

Gwalior :— *Adhesives.*

1a. carmine. (Postage and revenue).
2r. carmine and yellow-brown.
3r. brown and green.
5r. ultramarine and violet.

Official stamps.

½a. pea green. (Postage and revenue).
1a. carmine. ,, ,,

Jhind :— *Adhesives.*

½a. pea green. (Postage and revenue).
1a. carmine. ,, ,,

Official stamps.

½a. pea green. (Postage and revenue).
1a. carmine. ,, ,,

Nabha :— *Adhesives.*

½a. pea green. (Postage and revenue).
1a. carmine. ,, ,,

Official stamps.

½a. pea green. (Postage and revenue).
1a. carmine. ,, ,,

Patiala :— *Adhesives.*

½a. pea green. (Postage and revenue).
1a. carmine. ,, ,,

Jamaica.—*Ewen's Weekly* chronicles the 2½d. value upon multiple watermark paper.



Adhesive.

Wmk. CA and Crown multiple.
2½d. blue and black.

Papua.—We have now seen the 2d. with the small overprint. Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. also send us the ½d. and 4d. of the permanent type; these are practically identical with the same values of the old set, except that the name at the top reads "Papua," in lieu of "British New Guinea."



Adhesives.

Overprinted "Papua" in small type.
2d. violet and black.

Wmk. Crown and A. Perf. 11.
½d. green and black. Permanent type.
4d. brown and black. ,, ,,

St. Lucia. — We learn from various sources that the 1d. and 2½d. values in single colours have now been issued.

Adhesives.

1d. carmine. Wmk. CA and Crown multiple.
2½d. ultramarine. ,, ,,

South Australia.—We understand that the 10s. green, large "Postage," recently chronicled, has not been issued. This value was confused with the 10d. of the same type; hence the error.

Straits Settlements. Federated Malay States.—*Ewen's Weekly* states that the 2 dollars has been issued upon multiple watermark paper.

Adhesive.

Wmk. CA and Crown multiple.
2dol. green and carmine.

Victoria. — The 5s. value has now appeared on the new paper.

Adhesive.

Wmk. Crown and A. Perf. 12½.
5s. carmine and blue.

Foreign Countries.

Austria.—Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. send us specimens of the new commemorative set listed below. We illustrate three of the more striking designs.







Adhesives.

1h. grey .. .. .. Karl VI.
2h. blue-violet .. .. Maria Theresa.
3h. red-violet .. .. Joseph II.
5h. green .. .. Franz Joseph I. (1908).
6h. yellow .. .. Leopold II.
10h. rose-red .. .. Franz Joseph I. (1908).
12h. red .. .. .. Franz I.
20h. brown .. .. Ferdinand I.
25h. blue .. .. .. Franz Joseph I. (1908).
30h. olive .. .. ,, (1848).
35h. grey-blue .. .. ,, (1875).
50h. green .. .. Franz Joseph I. (Marshal's uniform).
60h. red .. .. .. Franz Joseph I. (on horseback).
1k. violet .. .. Franz Joseph I. (Order of Golden Fleece).
2k. olive and red .. Castle of Schönbrunn.
5k. violet and yellow Hofburg.
10k. brown, blue & gold Franz Joseph I.

Crete.—The *Monthly Journal* chronicles the 1 lepton in a new shade and on slightly toned paper.

France.—Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. send us a 20c. of the Sower type printed in brownish purple.

Adhesive.

20c. brown-purple.

Italy.—Mr. W. T. Wilson and Dr. Diena send us a specimen of the new 25c. It is very similar in design to the current 15c., but shows the profile to left.

Adhesive.

25c. blue.

Paraguay.—Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. send us the 2c. of 1904 overprinted "Habilitado en 5 centavos" in four lines, in black, with bar at foot.

Adhesive.

5c. on 2c. pale green.

Switzerland. — *Ewen's Weekly* lists another value in the design shown below, and also certain values of the current set upon granite paper.



2c. yellow.

Adhesives.

20c. orange on granite paper.
25c. blue ,,
30c. deep brown ,,
40c. grey ,,
50c. green ,,
1f. carmine ,,
3f. bistre ,,

Notes and News.

Manchester Philatelic Society.

The 263rd meeting was held in the rooms of the Geographical Society on Friday evening, January 10th, the President in the chair.

The resignation of Dr. R. F. Chance, who has left Manchester, was accepted with great regret, and with a warm expression of appreciation of his past services.

It was decided to apply for membership of the Philatelic Literature Society.

Mr. R. B. Yardley gave a display of the stamps of Trinidad, which was thoroughly appreciated by the members. In the course of his notes on the stamps, Mr. Yardley drew attention to the special interest attaching to a collection of the stamps printed by Perkins, Bacon & Co. as a group, and the benefit derived from the study of such a group in determining the sequence in which certain notable shades common to the stamps in the group were issued.

Imperial Stamp Exhibition, 1908.

IMPORTANT.

In reference to the forthcoming Exhibition of Colonial Stamps to be held under the auspices of the Junior Philatelic Society at Caxton Hall, Westminster, on March 12th, 13th, and 14th, of this year, it does not appear to be generally known that the Exhibition Committee is relying largely upon the voluntary donations of all stamp collectors interested in order to cover the very heavy expenses involved in such an undertaking.

As the admission is entirely free to all visitors, there are only two sources of income open to the Committee, and little more than one half of the total expense will be covered from the hire of the trade stalls.

Up to the present the voluntary donations only amount to some £27, and this sum will have to be very considerably increased if the Exhibition is to be carried through without a heavy deficit.

The Exhibition will doubtless be one of the greatest value in the making of new collectors and in stimulating the interest of young collectors and beginners. At the same time it will not be without its value to and effect upon the senior collectors.

We may point out that the exhibition was embarked upon by the general desire of stamp collectors in London and the provinces, owing to the huge success of the previous Exhibition held by the Junior Philatelic Society in Exeter Hall three years ago.

It behoves collectors, therefore, who have the interests of Philately at heart, to show some substantial interest in the work of the Exhibition Committee in the form of a donation towards the expenses of an Exhibition, which is being conducted on a plan well calculated to be of high importance in the development and progress of our mutual hobby.

We append an official list of the first donations received, and hope that many of our readers will do their best to swell this list to proportions worthy of the great body of stamp collectors.

Donations may be sent care of the Editor of this Journal, or direct to the Honorary Secretary of the Exhibition, Mr. Herbert F. Johnson, 44, Fleet-street, E.C.

Donations small or large will be gladly welcomed and duly acknowledged.

	£	s.	d.
Stanley Gibbons (per E. J. Phillips)	5	0	0
H. Clark	3	3	0
Manchester Philatelic Society	2	2	0
Humphrey Bennett	1	1	0
W. Darwen	1	1	0
Douglas Ellis	1	1	0
L. L. R. Hausburg	1	1	0
H. L. Hayman	1	1	0
H. J. Lee	1	1	0
Fred J. Melville	1	1	0
E. M. Gilbert Lodge	1	1	0
J. D. Ragg	1	1	0
F. Reichenheim	1	1	0
Dr. Fred W. Abbott	0	10	6
G. B. Browne	0	10	6
S. Chapman	0	10	6
W. Allen Harmer	0	10	6
H. Lee	0	10	6
R. Shepherd	0	10	6
J. W. Heath	0	10	0
W. H. Tarrant	0	10	0
L. W. Crouch	0	5	0
E. A. Leigh	0	5	0
Vivian Miles	0	5	0
Leon de Raay	0	5	0
A. J. Seth	0	5	0
W. Tunstall	0	5	0
S. R. Turner	0	5	0
A. H. L. Giles, R.N.	0	3	0
Miss A. Cassels	0	2	6
Horace Heywood	0	2	6
Miss E. Newman	0	2	6
E. A. Smart	0	2	6
Mrs. E. Thatcher	0	2	6
Geo. E. Wells	0	2	6
C. T. Frances	0	2	0
E. H. F. Salt	0	2	0
R. White	0	1	0
	£27	16	0

The Right Hon. Sydney Buxton, M.P., Postmaster General, has consented to open the Exhibition.

Herts Philatelic Society.

A general meeting was held at No. 4, Southampton Row, London, W.C., on Tuesday, December 17th, 1907, at 6.30 p.m. The President took the chair. The minutes of the meeting held on November

19th, 1907, were read and signed as correct. Dr. W. Dewey Duncombe and Mr. F. G. Peplow were elected ordinary members of the Society.

The following donations were received, and duly acknowledged at the meeting by votes of thanks:—For the Library—Books and publications from the President, the Vice-President, M. Jules Bernichon, Mr. D. Field, and the Berliner Philatelisten Club; for the Society's Collection—Stamps from the President, Messrs. Frentzel, Giles, Golodnoff, Read, Boyes, and the Hon. Secretary; for the Society's Forgery Collection—Forgeries from the Vice-President and Mr. Bradbury.

Mr. Harvey Clarke then gave a display of his collection of the stamps of Ceylon, accompanied with explanatory notes. The collection, which is deservedy celebrated for its completeness, and for the philatelic knowledge that is displayed in its arrangement, was examined with keen interest by the members, and earned to the full the vote of thanks that was proposed by Mr Wills, seconded by Mr. Standen, and carried with acclamation.

Mr. Clarke suitably replied, and the proceedings terminated at 8.30 p.m.

Scottish Philatelic Society.

The usual monthly meeting of the above Society was held at 26, Frederick Street, Edinburgh, on 9th December, 1907, at 8 p.m., with an average attendance of members. The following were duly elected members of the Society, viz., Mr. A. Melvin and Mr. A. R. Lindsay, both of Edinburgh. The Honorary Secretary gave a short report *re* movements of the various packets in circulation, sales to date comparing well with those of same periods of last year.

The Displays of the meeting were undertaken by the President and Colonel Corker. The fine Indian collection (with notes) belonging to the President was greatly admired, while the greatest interest was evinced in the superb collection of Kashmir stamps formed by Colonel Corker. The following notes, kindly supplied by Colonel Corker, regarding these difficult stamps may prove of interest to collectors of this not so well understood country.

The Kashmir stamps exhibited had been collected during the last 10 years in Kashmir, in India, and at home, and embraced most of the known specimens. Amongst the circular issues were several specimens on native envelopes and very clearly postmarked of certain black ½ anna, sometimes regarded as forgeries. There were blocks of the stamps occasionally classed as remainders, but they were mostly on old native paper, and some bore the impress of an old Kashmir office mark dated 1866—that is, in the Hindu System 1923. In this group was included some fifty specimens of used stamps, several upon envelopes. The four stamp plate and issues of 1866 included what is regarded as an absolutely unique block of S.G.'s No. 52 and 53. The three stamps, the block, were the two upper ½ anna, and the left lower the one anna. This colour was in use for only three months. There were also two specimens of the bright blue special printing of '74 (No. 66), a very rare stamp; also three copies of the emerald green. There were also some twenty shades of the uncommon blue (Nos. 54-59), and some of the rare orange shades and the brown oil.

Of the next group, beginning with No. 66, there was a very fine postmarked copy of this very rare stamp, with many shades and varieties (a number on envelopes) of these stamps up to No. 101. Of the 4 anna green (No. 100) and the 8 anna red, several examples of the forgeries (with plain corners instead of dotted) were shown. In the circular issue the differences in the forgeries had also been explained. In the issues of '78 (Nos. 102 to 136) there was an example of the quite unique 102, a ½ anna violet, with the attempt at perforation more commonly found in the red colour, No. 103.

Many beautiful variations of colour, paper, and postmark were shown in this series, as well as the large obliteration used at Leh, in Ladak, which in rare instances did duty as a stamp; full plates of the '83 issues complete with the curious cross in the margin of the ½ anna and differences of the marks of screws and nails, owing to the copper plates being placed on fresh wooden bases. There were full plates also of the widely used forgery of the 8 anna, in both vermilion and violet, and some copies used in parcel post. Another interesting stamp was the uncatalogued ½ anna orange (copy of No. 127) in two varieties. This stamp, although a forgery, passed through the Post Office for a year. It is a bright orange (water colour) imitating No. 147, and, as Colonel Corker pointed out, if the possessor was in any doubt as to whether his copy was the rare stamp or not, he had merely to put it into water, when, if the colour completely disappeared, he would know that he once possessed this little prize. Other stamps of this group were copies of the rare issues on laid paper, probably of quite accidental origin. The last group included the official black, some stamps and sheets upon a soft, fluffy, old paper. There were examples also of the public and the official telegraph stamps, very interesting now, as so few examples have survived. The exhibitor presented the President and Honorary Secretary with a copy each of one of these stamps, as a little acknow-

ledgment of their courtesy and of his connection with the Society.

This collection, as a whole, may be taken to represent approximately the proportion in which most of the stamps were issued.

On the motion of Mr. William Bonnar, the meeting passed a very hearty vote of thanks to the President and Colonel Corker for their interesting displays, more especially to Colonel Corker; the Society never before having had the pleasure of examining such a complete collection of the stamps of Kashmir.

The Scottish Philatelic Society: Junior Branch.

This Society gave an "At Home" in the Edinburgh Café, Princes Street, Edinburgh, on the evening of Saturday, 7th December.

In the course of the evening nine new ordinary members were unanimously admitted, on the motion of the Honorary Secretary, seconded by the President.

Mr. Bonnar proposed a very hearty vote of thanks to all those who had so successfully carried through the arrangements, and to the performers, whose efforts had so largely contributed to the success of the evening. The vote was passed with acclamation. The Honorary Secretary suitably replied, and expressed the hope that the "At Home" would become an annual, if not a bi-annual, event in the history of the Society. He also mentioned that it had been more than once suggested that the Society should have an auction sale during the session, and it was remitted to Mr. Small, the Assistant-Secretary, and Mr. R. M. Stewart to consider the necessary arrangements and report to the Committee on an early date.

The International Philatelic Union.

The fourth meeting of the season was held at Essex Hall on Thursday, January 9th. Present:—W. Schwartz (in the chair), L. W. Fulcher, A. B. Kay, P. P. Bright, E. W. Wetherell, J. C. Sidebotham, J. E. Joselin, W. S. King, F. F. Lamb, P. L. Pemberton, H. Atherley, R. W. Whapham (visitor), and the Hon. Sec.

Mr. E. W. Wetherell gave a display with notes of the stamps of Spain, 1870, and Victoria, 1885. A very careful study of these stamps had been made, and many interesting points were explained. In addition to the 1870 issues, the display included some fine blocks of other issues of Spain, and some of the forgeries made to deceive the Government; also some sheets of Cuba illustrating how the dies had been utilized for Cuban stamps. In addition to Mr. Wetherell's Victorian stamps of 1885, he displayed some fine unused blocks, kindly lent by Mr. L. L. R. Hausburg, and showed how the dies of former issues had been altered for that of 1885. An interesting and enjoyable evening was spent, and Messrs. J. C. Sidebotham and J. E. Joselin, in moving and seconding a vote of thanks, which was unanimously carried, complimented Mr. Wetherell on the careful and painstaking philatelic research shown by him. The next meeting will be held at Essex Hall, Essex Street, Strand, on Thursday, February 13th, at 8 p.m., when Mr. O. Marsh will give a display of the Envelope Stamps of Great Britain, with notes. All members and any visitors cordially welcomed.

Philatelic Society of Johannesburg.

This Society held its ordinary meetings on October 15th and November 5th at the Balcony Tea-Rooms, Mr. G. R. Schuler presiding at both, over a fairly large attendance of members and visitors. A vacancy having occurred on the Committee owing to the resignation of Mr. Baury, Mr. Ansell was unanimously elected in his stead, and the Chairman congratulated the members upon their choice.

Among the interesting items of the evening was a paper read by Mr. W. P. Cohen, entitled "Why I Specialize," and for which a hearty vote of thanks was accorded him.

An exhibition of the stamps of British Central Africa and those of Spain followed, and fine collections were displayed by Messrs. A. J. Cohen, T. Henderson, and W. P. Cohen.

The Chairman was asked to convene a meeting for the purpose of forming a Junior Philatelic Society, which meeting was held on October 30th at the Marist Brothers' School, and at which a large number of enthusiastic boys and several members of this Society were present. Other meetings have been held since, the boys resolving that the Junior Society be formed as a branch of the Philatelic Society of Johannesburg. A Board of Management has been elected, and Mr. D. Epstein appointed Hon. Secretary.

It may also be stated that an honour has been conferred upon this Society, by the Degree of Fellowship of the Royal Philatelic Society of London having been given to Mr. A. J. Cohen, Hon. Librarian, and Mr. W. P. Cohen, Hon. Treasurer of the Philatelic Society of Johannesburg.

There was an exceptionally large attendance of members and visitors at the meeting on the 19th November, and a most pleasant and interesting evening was spent, Mr. Schuler presiding.

Among the novelties and rarities exhibited were the following:—A block of four £5 stamps V.R.I. Surcharge postally cancelled, shown by Mr. Neuberger; 5d. Postage Due with inverted p in place of d. after value—a recently-discovered error—shown by Mr. A. J. Cohen (the

further use of this stamp has been discontinued); and a 3d. New Zealand, redrawn type, shown by Mr. W. P. Cohen.

An exhibition of the stamps of the Straits Settlements took place, Messrs. A. J. Cohen and T. Henderson exhibiting their fine collection.

The very interesting paper read by Mr. M. P. Vallentine, entitled "How to Form a Collection," was much appreciated by those present, and declared to be most instructive and entertaining. The various points raised in it caused a great deal of vigorous and healthy discussion, and a hearty vote of thanks was accorded to Mr. Vallentine.

Junior Philatelic Society: Johannesburg.

The first meeting of the Junior Branch of the Philatelic Society of Johannesburg was held on Wednesday afternoon, Nov. 19th, at 5.30 p.m., at the Y.M.C.A., several members of the senior Society also being present.

The Chairman, after welcoming those present, expressed the hope that the Junior Society would have a long and prosperous career, prove a source of pleasure to its members, and a valuable adjunct to philately in general.

Mr. A. J. Cohen exhibited his very fine collection of King's head stamps, thereby illustrating to the juniors how a collection should be kept, and what can be achieved by energy and perseverance.

The Chairman announced that several members of the senior Society have presented the Junior Society with philatelic papers for the ensuing year.

Luxemburg.

The following are some of the tariffs in force in Luxemburg :—1 centime is for newspapers; 2 centimes is for visiting cards; 4 centimes is for printed matter under 50 grammes; 6 centimes is for printed matter from 50-100 grammes; 56 centimes is for parcels to Germany (I. Zone); 87½ centimes is for parcels to Germany (II.-V. Zone); this value will shortly be issued; 12½ centimes is for letters.

Great Britain 1d. black.

Mr. Hodson has an interesting article upon the reconstruction of the various plates of this stamp in the *Philatelic Journal of Great Britain,* from which we make the following extract :—

"It is popularly supposed that the first two plates, since they were in the first instance 'put to press' without being hardened, are responsible for the majority of worn impressions that are met with; but I think that it is advisable not to place too great reliance upon this belief, for among the large number of stamps from plate 1 which I have examined, none of them showed signs of any very considerable wear; and the same remark applies to the more limited number of impressions from plate 2 which I have examined, though it is true that the majority of these latter stamps were slightly worn impressions.

"It is certainly true that the majority of worn impressions one meets with on entires are those dated June and July—some of them quite early in June—and it is partly for this reason that I have come to the conclusion that plate 3 gave rise to the largest number of defective impressions; a theory that is partially confirmed by the fact that plate 3 was destroyed before any of the other plates—namely, in October, 1840 (which in itself would seem to point to the fact that the plate was worn out); and this would of course account for the comparative scarcity of really worn impressions, for plate 3 only had the short life of a bare six months. Only quite a few people seem to have grasped the fact that some of the first 11 plates were still at press after the printing in black ink had been superseded by red ink, and consequently the same varieties (double letters, etc.) may be found both in the black and red stamps.

"Creeke, in the 'Adhesive Stamps of the British Isles,' states that all the first eleven plates (with the exception, of course, of plate 3) were subsequently put to press in red ink; but I think that this statement requires more definite proof before we can accept it, for plates 4, 6 and 7 were destroyed (as Creeke himself says) on 4th January, 1841, and it is consequently very unlikely that any printing in red ink took place in the case of these particular plates.

"I myself possess copies of the 1d. *red* which are undoubtedly from the first two plates (Nos. 1 and 2), and even at this late stage the stamps showed scarcely any indications of any considerable wear of the plate. This occasioned me some surprise at first, as in my collection I have copies of the 1d. black on entires dated *May,* 1840, which even at that early date were greyish-black in colour—a colour which one usually associates with 'worn plates'; but a careful examination showed that the lines of shading upon the eye-ball (which are usually the first to disappear as the plate begins to wear) and upon other parts of the head, were quite distinct, and the greyish colour was doubtless merely due to the ink being of somewhat thinner consistency than usual.

"Of the other plates we know that plate 5 was printed from in red, for the Earl of Crawford showed one in the recent London Philatelic Exhibition; and of plates 10 and 11 I have undoubted copies in both colours; but with regard to the

remaining plates, I can give no information, though the presumption is that plates 8 and 9 also exist in both colours.

"Of the stamps which I have been able to identify, those from plates 10 and 11 seem to be the rarest, and according to the 'Adhesive Stamps of the British Isles' 10,000 sheets were printed from each plate; however, in my experience, plate 11 is by far the rarer of the two, and of the dozens of stamps I have seen showing the J with square foot, only one was from plate 11, the rest of course all being impressions from plate 10.

"Conversely, impressions in *red* from plate 10 are very much scarcer than those in this colour from plate 11."

The Brighton Stamp Case.

The prosecution of the young man, Harold Treherne, who was now said to be aged 24, and not 19, as previously stated, for obtaining money by false pretences from various dealers by means of forged foreign stamps, was very fully reported in our columns in August last. It will be remembered that after he was found guilty, sentence was deferred in the expectation that some information would be forthcoming with reference to the parties, who were supposed to be associated with accused in the frauds.

In the meantime, the Inland Revenue Authorities had taken proceedings against him for penalties under the Post Office Acts, and it was then stated that the discovery of the prisoner's transactions had resulted in the seizure of a large forged stamp factory. For that offence he was fined £15 and costs; in default, one month's imprisonment.

A statement was now put in on behalf of the prisoner. After perusing it, the Recorder said he was driven to the conclusion that whoever might have been behind the accused, he was the leading conspirator, and, in fact, a very ingenious and accomplished accomplice. As the fine already imposed had not been paid, the present sentence of four months' hard labour would be additional to the month in default.

Roumania.

L'Echo de la Timbrologie gives a list of the Roumanian Jubilee and Charity issues which have been offered for sale by the Government, at present without success. The total face value of the Jubilee issue amounts to about £125,000, and the largest bid yet received is £2,000, which has been declined, the Director of Posts having declared publicly that he will not part with the lot under £8,000. Of many of the stamps half the whole issue remain, and of the Hospital series, 1905-6, 40,000 sets; of the 1907 issue, 400,000 sets were sold for £800, and were immediately afterwards on sale locally at less than 1d. a set.

More News from Roumania.

The Post Office is said to have exchanged the remainders of the Jubilee issue, 1903, value of 5 lei, for a collection of coins, which belonged to a Mr. Nuber. This gentleman has tried for a very long time to induce the Administration of the Royal Museums in Germany to pay for his collection of coins in current stamps. However, he was not successful in Germany, nor in Bavaria, nor in other countries. Now Roumania seems to have effected the deal. But whether the State has done a good stroke of business is another matter. Mr. Nuber is said to have sold the 13,000 5 lei stamps, which were of course charged him at full face value, for fcs. 13,000. This would not matter to the Government, if there did not exist a former decree stating that the 5 lei would not be withdrawn from currency. The Roumanian banks and merchants buy these stamps now at 2 fcs.—3 fcs. and use them to frank their letters to the full value of 5 lei. The State, thinking to get a collection of coins for the printing price of 13,000 stamps, has now to give full service for 65,000 lei.

Collectors can rejoice for two reasons—firstly, because they can get this high value under face value; and secondly, because it gladdens our heart to find Governments, which issue unnecessary stamps simply to draw money from collectors, having the worst of the deal.—*Philatelisten Zeitung.*

China.

The Chinese Railway Companies have been ordered in future not to accept foreign postal matter unless franked with Chinese stamps and passed through the Imperial Chinese post. The forwarding of postal matter by the international Post Offices is therefore suspended for the time.

Exhibition in Japan.

Our *Weekly,* which, needless to say, emanates from 391, Strand, with most praiseworthy punctuality every Thursday, announces a philatelic exhibition at Tokio in the near future. There are to be three sections, devoted—(a) to everything connected with the postal system and with its history; (b) to stamps; and (c) to postcards.

Switzerland.

The new booklets of the Swiss Republic with the new Swiss stamp, 5 centimes green with William Tell's boy, bow and apple, have also appeared. They contain 24 stamps and cost fr. 1.20. Here the Post Office bears the cost of the cover, which contains all the necessary postal information. On the back there is a reproduction of the Gotthard post.

Skyrocket Post.

We have heard of various unique methods of Mail delivery, such as by pigeon-post, balloon-post, etc., by reindeer sledge-post, and by cask sealed and cast into the ocean, the current being trusted to carry it to another shore. The painted barrel attached by chains to the rocks at the extremity of Tierra del Fuego and used as a sort of international post office has often been referred to in print, but a most striking method is delivery of Mail by rocket according to the following clipping sent us by a reader: —"An ingenious method is employed to deliver letters to the islands of the Tonga group, in the Pacific Ocean. These islands, guarded as they are by dangerous rocks and breakers, are hazardous to approach, and would often, were the ordinary routine of delivery employed, have to go letterless. To overcome this difficulty, the steamer that carries the Mails is supplied with skyrockets, by means of which small bags of letters are projected across the danger zone to the shore." If this information is to be relied upon, it is strange that modern enterprise has not seen the advantage of charging an extra tariff on letters so delivered to be paid in stamps, by "skyrocket-post"; and the fascinating significance of such specimens would not be lost on collectors.—*Mekeel's Weekly.*

Dr. Fraenkel's Library.

The fine philatelic library belonging to the late Dr. Fraenkel has been sold. It is pleasing to think that its future home will be in this country.

De Heer Sale.

From a catalogue we have received from Messrs. Van Dieten, Junr., and Van Hoek, auctioneers, of Rotterdam, we learn that the collection of the late Mr. D. M. de Heer is being sold by auction on the 27th to 30th inst. There are over 2,000 lots, the sale extending over four days. The frontispiece to the catalogue consists of an excellent photo of the deceased collector — a pleasing reminiscence, especially to those who were privileged to know him.

The Derivation of the Word "Philately."

The sponsorship for the christening of stamp collecting as Philately has always been attributed to Mons. Herpin, of Paris, but an entirely novel and interesting note as to the possible derivation of the word has been written by Mr. H. B. Phillips in *Meekel's Weekly Stamp News*, of 5th October, which we reproduce with due acknowledgments. It is, of course, possible that M. Herpin derived his idea from the same source as that mentioned by Mr. Phillips, but in any case the existence of a Society having such a similarity of name one hundred and thirty-four years ago is a very interesting fact, and seems to invest the word "philatelist" with a graceful antiquity.

"In the issue of the *Weekly* of August 31st, 1907, I note an article treating of the word 'Philately,' in which the writer reaches the conclusion that all writers have that have come under my observation, that it is derived from two Greek words meaning 'loving or fond of' and 'tax.' I have reached other conclusions as to the origin of the term, and for the benefit of the class who term themselves philatelists will give a brief account, which will, I hope, serve to shed some additional light upon the mooted question.

"There was founded in the year 1773, at Paris a society, the members of which termed themselves 'Philalethes or Seekers of Truth.' This society was founded by Savalette de Langes, keeper of the Royal Treasury, within the Masonic Lodge of Amis Reunis, as a side degree in Masonry. The word literally means 'Friends of Truth,' but in their work the highest degree was termed 'Philalethes or Searcher after Truth,' and from the designation of this degree they became known as 'Philalethes or Seekers of Truth.'

"This society had an eventful existence, and from the high rank and celebrity of many of its members became well known to the rank and file of intellectual life in Paris a century ago and less.

"When the business of searching for postal tax stamps began and the need of a new word to designate those who indulged in the pastime was felt, what more natural to the citizen of Paris who first used the word 'Philatelist' to call on his memory for the elements with which to compose it?

"Remembering the famous society of 'Philalethes' as searchers after Truth, by a slight variation he had it exact—'Philatelist,' a searcher after that which taxes, in other words a Stamp Collector. I do not think there is any reasonable doubt but the word is thus derived."—*The London Philatelist.*

Holland.

In a recent number we gave a list of the remainders of the De Ruyter commemorative stamps which by an overprint have been converted into Unpaid Letter stamps. It is said that these remainders consisted only of 80,000 to 90,000, but whether this is correct remains to be seen. It would have been better if the Dutch Government had destroyed them.

On the day of issue the Post Offices were literally stormed, and it is said that free fights were common. According to reports from Amsterdam and Rotterdam the values of ½ cent, 50 cents and 1 gulden were sold out a few hours after opening; the next day the values of 1, 1½ and 2 cents were exhausted; the 2½ cents could

not be obtained anywhere. The 1 gulden value is already freely sold in Holland for 20s.

An enquiry as to the number of stamps of each value remained unanswered, and on account of this enquiry orders were issued not to let any information leak out regarding this issue.—*Berliner Brief Zeitung.*

British Guiana.

The following specially interesting letter appears in the *British Guiana Philatelic Journal* for December upon the bisected stamps of 1876 :—

Grafton, Georgetown,
10th June, 1907.

My dear Howell Jones,—In Saturday's newspapers there are reports of a meeting of the Philatelic Society under your presidency, from which I learn that Mr. Ferguson stated that bisected postage stamps had not been issued with the authority of the Government. If Mr. Ferguson referred to stamps used in 1876 or 1877, when I was in the Post Office, you may like to know, that, as we had run out of postage stamps of 1 cent face value, I let it be known that the 2 cents stamps, if bisected diagonally, would be accepted in place of one cent stamps, and the public fell in with this, and much inconvenience was avoided. There was no authority from the executive for the arrangement. It was done off my own bat.

I think a paragraph will be found about the temporary arrangement in one of the newspapers of the time—namely, *Royal Gazette, Colonist,* and *Guiana Times.*—Yours sincerely,

N. Darnell Davis.

The Hon. B. Howell Jones.

This is very interesting, but the statement referred to the 1860 issue, *vide.—British Guiana Philatelic Journal*, No. 2, p. 6. [Ed., *B.G.P.J.*]

Austria.

In our August number we stated that the Austrian 12 heller stamps were issued specially to frank parcels. The *Illustrierti Briefmarken Journal* has now published a letter from a Vienna correspondent entitled "The Truth about the 12 Heller Stamp." From this we gather that the postal authorities of Austria intended to raise the postage for single inland letters of 20 grammes from 10 heller to 12 heller. Several other postal rates, notably the rate for town's letters, had already been raised and had caused a great deal of dissatisfaction, and it was feared that an advance of 20 per cent. on inland letters would be too much of a tax for the people, and would leave no chance of being agreed to. In the meantime, however, very large quantities of stamps of 12 heller were ordered and printed, and in order to use them it was decided to use them on parcels.

It is said that at the time, when the rates were to be raised, no German Minister of Commerce could be found, because it would have been his duty to introduce the necessary Bill, hence the election of the Tchech Prazcak.

We find that in the new Jubilee set the 10 heller value is printed in wine-red, and the 12 heller in vermilion. This looks to us as if the Austrian postal authorities had not entirely lost sight of the proposed advance, as no 10 or 12 heller is the equivalent to our penny, which, according to the rules of the Union Postale Universelle, must be in red.

Australia.

An important change of policy has been decided on by the Commonwealth Treasurer (Sir William Lyne). Hitherto it has been the custom for the Commonwealth to pay the State printing offices to print postage stamps. The intention now is that all the stamps shall be printed at one central office in Melbourne, under the control of the Commonwealth Treasury.

In connection with this determination, a report was called for by the Treasury some weeks ago, showing the number of stamps actually used by the public during last year. This has been prepared, and reveals the astonishing fact that postage stamps to the number of 334,000,000 were used during the twelve months. Of these 288,000,000 were of the value of 1d. and 2d., showing how enormous must be the ordinary letter correspondence in the Commonwealth. The number of stamps used during the year in the various States is showing in the following table :

New South Wales	125,000,000
Victoria	102,000,000
Queensland	42,000,000
South Australia	28,000,000
Western Australia	23,000,000
Tasmania	14,000,000
Total	334,000,000

At present the printing of these stamps costs the Commonwealth 3½d. per thousand—no inconsiderable item when the number used is taken into account together with the fact that there is absolutely no return for that money. They are printed in Sydney, Brisbane, Melbourne, and Adelaide. The Adelaide printing is done by Mr. J. B. Cook, who, by the use of improved and more economical methods, has succeeded in cutting down the cost per thousand to 3d. It is claimed on Mr. Cook's behalf that he could, if installed in a central office with a total output to work on, produce stamps at 2½d. per thousand. This would mean a considerable saving to the country, and many advantages due to the centralisation of the work.

One necessary factor in effective economy in this direction is the production of a uniform design of stamp. It is clear that the cost of printing could not be reduced by centralisation if six different designs of stamps had to be turned out. It is with the object of settling this question that the Stamp Committee is now sitting in Melbourne. When it has completed its labours and fixed on a uniform design the intention of the Treasurer will be put into immediate operation. Mr. J. B. Cook is to be brought over from Adelaide and installed at the Melbourne printing office, with Commonwealth plates and printing machinery. He will print stamps for Victoria, South Australia, Western Australia, and Tasmania. A previous proposal to print stamps for New South Wales and Queensland raised such a storm that for some time at least after the new arrangement has been got into operation they will be allowed to continue to print their own stamps as at present.

MEETINGS OF STAMP COMMITTEE.

During the last two days the Committee of experts appointed to advise the Government on the question of a uniform Commonwealth stamp has been sitting at the G.P.O., Melbourne. The Chief Clerk to the Central Postal Administration (Mr. Templeton) has acted as Chairman. The Committee is discussing the whole question of stamp manufacture, precautions against forgery, economy of production, and the best means of securing a uniform design and at the same time not hampering the book-keeping operations between Commonwealth and States. Yesterday the Committee visited the Victorian Government Printing Office so that the unskilled members might obtain a clear understanding of the methods employed in lithographing and printing.—*The Melbourne Argus.*

Natal.

This Colony has also issued stamp booklets. Each contains 30 one penny stamps, and costs 2s. 6d. The first stamp in the booklet has the following black surcharge : "Not For Use" in three lines surrounded by lines. The buyers has therefore to bear the cost of the cover, here as elsewhere.

REVIEWS.

Catalogue Lemaire des Timbres Poste (1908).

We have received the twelfth edition of this well-known French Catalogue. This edition contains a complete list of all postage stamps issued up to the year 1900, together with telegraph stamps up to the same date.

We note that a second part of this Catalogue has been published, entitled "Le Catalogue Universelle des Timbres du XXc Siècle." This, we understand, is in consequence of the numerous requests that stamps issued during the present century should be treated separately. There is, of course, much to be said both for and against this arrangement, but it is not for us to put forward any arguments on one side or the other.

This Catalogue has nearly 3,000 illustrations, together with useful notes, both geographical and historical. We note also that all minor varieties are omitted, and as a matter of fact there are even no references made as to watermarks. This will, no doubt, be an advantage to a large number of collectors, and we anticipate that this Catalogue will have a large sale amongst our neighbours across the Channel.

The book is published at the extremely reasonable price of 1fr. 25c.

Priced Catalogue of British Colonial Adhesive Revenue, Telegraph, and Railway Stamps, 1908.

This book, of which we have received a copy, is one compiled by Mr. A. B. Kay (of the firm of Bridger & Kay), and is based upon the lists of British Colonial Fiscal Stamps made by the Fiscal Philatelic Society during the years 1902 and 1903. These lists have been largely added to, and the work brought up to date.

After a careful examination we have no hesitation in saying that it is one which should prove a great boon to all who interest themselves in this branch of collecting, and particularly to those who have not yet become members of the before-mentioned Society. Price 2s. 6d.

Field's Simplified Catalogue of the Stamps of the British Empire.

The first edition of the above has made its appearance this month (January), and a copy has been sent to us for review. This, as its title states, is a catalogue compiled on simplified lines, and is intended to supply what is believed to be a long-felt want amongst beginners and general collectors—namely, the publication of a priced catalogue which shuns all minor varieties of perforation, watermark, shade, paper, types, etc., and which deals only with the ordinary issues.

The book is of a convenient size, and is very clearly printed and well illustrated. Price 1s.

The 1908 Scott Stamp and Coin Co.'s Catalogue.

The 1908 Scott Stamp & Coin Co.'s Catalogue comes to us in the old form, brought up to date as regards all new issues and prices. For the moderate collector it is certainly the best Catalogue, as all the troublesome minute varieties

of perforation, etc., are effectively grouped together; the sub-varieties are also indicated in smaller type, many being priced—thus enabling a general collector to see that he is not parting with extra valuable duplicates (which may not interest him) at the normal prices.

For a well-bound Illustrated All-the-World Catalogue it is wonderful value for 2s. 1d., or 2s. 5d. post free, from the British Agent.

Whitfield King's Catalogue.

Only ten months has elapsed since we reviewed the seventh edition, and in that short period comparatively few changes, especially in prices, have occurred; yet the eighth edition is now before us, and we fear the time is fast approaching when simplified catalogues will be quarterlies; *then* indeed shall we cease from troubling and our editorial review pen will be at rest.

Of all the simplified catalogues this is not only the pioneer, but in our opinion is still the best. We note that "yielding to urgent requests from many friends," Messrs. Whitfield King have included in the body of the catalogue all British Colonial stamps with single and multiple C A watermarks, instead of relegating the former to a supplement at the end of the book. The book is exceedingly well illustrated and cheap at the published price, 1s. 6d.

Catalogue Officiel de la Societe Francaise de Timbrologie.

We have received from Mr. Bernichon the third edition of this Catalogue. It is now published in two volumes—the first containing 1,308 pages and comprising all issues up to 1900, and the second volume comprising 356 pages and comprising the remaining issues up to date.

We congratulate the editors in having been able to reduce the size of the volumes without interfering with the printing or illustrations, which are quite as good as in the previous edition, and now number about 10,000.

We notice a very substantial increase in the price of the rare stamps of most European countries, especially Great Britain, German States and France, also French Colonies, Australian Colonies and Cape of Good Hope. Many rare varieties are now priced which have not been valued in the two previous editions.

Upon the question of pricing we cannot do better than quote some observations upon the Catalogue under review in the *Philatelic Journal of Great Britain,* which express very much our feelings upon the matter :—

"It is, however, with regard to the pricing that the Catalogue is most open to criticism, for the valuation of the stamps has been undertaken on a scale hitherto unattempted by any previous Catalogue, and the lack of an introduction setting out the basis and method which have been adopted is greatly felt. We cannot understand the publication of a Catalogue of this importance without the slightest note as to the settlement of a question which has exercised collectors almost from the earliest days of collecting. In *Le Postillon* for 20th October, 1907, M. Montader remarks that 187,000 prices appear; that a considerable increase in the values of the older issues had been made, and he indicates that throughout the work attention had been paid to pricing strictly from the point of view of fine condition. There is no doubt that the Leroy d'Etiolles sale at Paris showed a wonderful firm or upward tendency in the values of stamps in fine condition, and as far as a general reference to this work can determine, there seems to be a consistent increase throughout. Many of the countries are indicated as priced by the Valuation Committee. We do not propose to discuss the value of such pricing, or to refer other than on general lines to the whole subject. Every collector and every dealer is quite capable of detecting flaws in any list of prices ever made. However useful this or any other catalogue may be in giving within limits an approximate estimate of individual stamps, everything depends so much on special circumstances with stamps over a certain value that no reliance can be placed in any pricing except that of dealers actually offering stamps for sale. Any idea of a catalogue the pricing of which shall be generally acceptable throughout is chimerical.

"In concluding, we revert to our opening remarks. The *Catalogue Officiel* stands on different ground to that of any other catalogue published. In fact, it may reasonably be held to make a claim to be considered as the ideal catalogue. It is presumably free from direct trade influence, and has been supported by collectors of the highest rank."

MISCELLANEOUS.

A five para value is in preparation and will soon be issued in Cyprus.

* * *

As we can now use the left half of a postcard for communication, why does not the Post Office issue reply postcards consisting of a single card printed on both sides? A considerable saving in paper would result.

* * *

Only in August stamps of the value of 1, 1.50, and 2 kroner, with the portrait of King Haakon, were issued in Norway, and one already hears rumours of a new issue.

THE

Philatelic Record.

FEBRUARY, 1908.

Editorial Notes.

THE article we produce from *Truth* this month may have the effect of putting a check, temporarily, at all events, upon the flood of unnecessary provisionals and other speculative issues emanating from our own Colonies; at all events, this is a matter to be very much desired by all having the future of collecting at heart.

The Truth; the Whole Truth; and Nothing but the Truth.

When the paper referred to determines to attack anything or anybody it does so in phrases essentially peculiar to *Truth*; its vocabulary is by no means an extensive one, but none the less effective on that account—what one misses in variety is made up for in vigour.

The time was when *Truth* seemed to take a special delight at sneering at Philately; it would almost seem, however, that on this subject the editor is becoming a little more broad-minded. It is obvious, still, that he has not become a Philatelist, and that the article has been written upon "acquired knowledge," and not that gained by experience; it is due to this very thing that Ouida made so many errors in some of her novels to which "Truth" has delighted to call renewed attention during the last few weeks.

The British Post Offices in the Levant are under the Postmaster-General, and not under the Foreign Office, and although it is rather late in the day, two years after the issue of a provisional (1 piastre on 2d. issued at Beyrout) to start an enquiry, yet Mr. Sydney Buxton, the Postmaster-General, would be the official to do so, and not the Secretary for Foreign Affairs or the Windbag at the Colonial Office.

The whys and wherefores in many matters we come across in general life are passing strange, and will no more bear scrutiny than the gerrymandering of new issues and provisionals in stamp collecting will do. The voice of this magazine, during the last fifteen years especially, has often been raised against new issues on account of their being to such a considerable extent speculative and unnecessary, and also due to the fact of the unhealthy trade, to our minds, which has arisen in them.

There is a very old and true saying that, if there were no Re-issues there would be no Thieves, and to the same extent to which this is

true do we say that, if there were no large buyers of new issues having representatives in every corner of the world waiting to buy up provisionals and ephemeral issues, then these would become as rare a species as the common thief would be without a receiver.

By publishing the article in question, the editor of *Truth* has done his first good service to Philately, we hope it will not be his last, and that it may bear good fruit.

A Penny Saved is a Penny Gained.

An esteemed correspondent desires to impress us with the fact that the postal authorities treat an unstamped letter more carefully than even a registered one, and suggests that the incentive is not far to seek. A registered letter is prepaid, but the Post Office have to look well after an unpaid letter before they receive double the payment they would otherwise be entitled to for the same services. We have before now heard it stated that postal officials put on white gloves to handle such missives; whether that be strictly or metaphorically correct we must leave to our readers to answer, but, the truth remains, that more care is taken with unfranked postal packets, and more ink spilt over them, than if they had been registered.

Stamp collectors are generally credited with being pretty cute; have they not at various times discovered current stamp forgeries which had escaped the vigilant eyes of the postal authorities to the detriment of the revenue? So in this case, an inventive genius (we will not libel either the individual or the name with describing him as a Philatelist), has found a way to secure the greatest degree of safety coupled with a minimum expenditure in forwarding his stamps, be they in the way of dealers' sheets or small exchange packets, at less cost than the registration fee.

The *modus operandi* is quite simple, but very effective. As all our readers know, a letter up to four ounces in Great Britain and Ireland costs 1d. The registration fee is 2d., making a total of 3d. This genius sends his letters containing stamps, and weighing under four ounces, "unstamped," but enclosing two 1d. stamps in the letter for the postage and fine to be paid by the receiver. His saving is 1d. per letter, an item for a collector receiving several stamp sendings per week, but additionally welcome when obtained at the expense of the smartest of the world's monopolies.

Our correspondent assures us that such unstamped letters are quite safe, in fact, more so, than if they had been registered. Tracing the delivery of such a letter is very easy, as every one of these unstamped postal packets is booked, at the place of delivery a special note is made out to accompany the packet, and no charge is demanded from the enquirer, whereas, if he wants to prove delivery of a registered letter at the time of sending or afterwards, he has to pay a fee of 2d. Unfortunately, the Postmaster-General's report does not give the number of letters posted but not stamped, otherwise we could, perhaps, form some idea of the gain to persons of an inventive turn of mind such as our correspondent.

As far as we can see, there is only one solution of this difficulty, and this we offer without any fee to the postal authorities. Reduce

the registration fee for inland postal packets to 1d., which is charged by some countries already. Even if no actual benefit accrue from such reduction, and we quite believe a loss to the revenue would result, yet it would stop sharp practices, and the postal authorities would, at all events, maintain a position of having framed rules and regulations in such a manner that nobody would have a chance of driving a coach and four through them.

A Hard Case.

THE above Editorial note had been already written when we received the correspondence which has taken place between the postal authorities and those interested in the loss of one of the registered packets of the "Palace Exchange Club." This correspondence is too long to print in our columns, but it amounts to this, that one of the packets was handed in at the Port Sunlight Post Office and a registered receipt obtained therefor on Wednesday, December 18th; the packet never left the post office and it is alleged that no enquiries were set on foot until the Saturday. Eventually a postal employee was dismissed for irregularities connected with other articles and money which were missed, and it is suggested that the youth, about whom communications and complaints had already been made to the authorities, was allowed access to the parcel although he had no right thereto.

These facts have been laid before the Postmaster-General who does not appear in any way to have dealt with the graveness of the charge other than by a stereotyped letter enclosing £5, the amount of compensation provided under the regulations, and a general statement that prompt enquiries were made without furnishing even the result of them.

Mr. Cox, the Secretary of the Society, feels aggrieved at the action of the authorities under the circumstances. Well, it is not the first time a person has been in the same position. £5 to be awarded among twenty-five members whose sheets were worth some £80 is poor compensation, and the hardship is especially keen when there is an allegation of culpable negligence on somebody's part which has been very inadequately met.

We do not advocate our correspondent's suggestion contained in our previous note as a panacea for the evil, at the same time one can quite see the futility of appealing to the Postmaster-General for the payment of anything more than the strict reading of the regulations provided for.

It is bad enough to have unfair and stringent regulations,, but when there are such, whether they be bad, good, or indifferent, it is preferable to have them conscientiously adhered to, than that distinction, which would certainly in time become invidious, should be drawn.

After all the opprobrious epithets which are flung at the Postal Service the honesty of its employees for so large a body is something to be proud of. How seldom does a letter go astray; we can only recall one other instance of a registered exchange packet being lost in the post, yet how many have been in constant circulation the last quarter of a century

Literature Journal.

THE first number of the quarterly magazine of the Philatelic Literature Society is to hand. It is exceedingly well printed, and we have nothing but praise for the general get-up—the size is unusually large, but perhaps that is no disadvantage.

The most useful article in the first number is the one by Mr. E. D. Bacon—President of the Society—which is to be continued. It is an alphabetical digest of the articles which have appeared on Philatelic literature. The copy sent to us for review is accompanied by a notice that no exchange copies are to be sent anywhere in future; this seems to have raised the ire of *The Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly*, but we would point out that it will effectively prevent the wholesale copying of the contents without the Society receiving some equivalent, however small, for so doing—in this case one guinea per annum is the annual subscription of members, to whom alone the journal is to be sent.

Foreign Complications.

SOME three weeks ago, we received a printed communication, bearing the heading and symbol in the corner, of the Société Française de Timbrologie, and purporting to be signed by M. Albert Coyette, the President, and a number of the different officials of the Society. This communication struck us at once as being one of importance to collectors, and we were confronted with a difficulty whether to make any reference to it in these columns, that difficulty being brought about by the fact that the communication in question was marked private and confidential. At the same time the object of the communication was certainly to put ourselves, and, through ourselves, others on their guard concerning the matter dealt with. In consequence of a further circular we have received, to which we shall refer in greater detail hereafter, we can now allude to the matter. The first circular stated that "all the stamps of "Abyssinia, without exception, even those appearing in our official "catalogue, are absolute forgeries, having neither existed nor been in "circulation in the country. We have ourselves been deceived by the "fact that these stamps have been put on the market by Messrs. Theodore "Champion & Co., assisted by Messrs. Yvert & Tellier." The circular also went on to deal with forged surcharges, particularly of French Colonial stamps, and further charged certain persons, whose names were given, with dealing extensively in these forgeries.

The circular to which we have referred is itself in the nature of a forgery, never having emanated from the Society, nor from M. Coyette, or the officers who were supposed to have signed it. The firm principally attacked, namely, Messrs. Theodore Champion & Co., have distributed as widely as possible another printed circular, attached to which is a reproduction in lithograph form of the actual letter received by them from M. Coyette. M. Coyette, in this letter, says that the first circular is a forgery, and that legal proceedings are pending concerning it. Messrs. Theodore Champion & Co. take the opportunity of denying in the strongest terms all the allegations made against them, and in regard to Messrs. Yvert & Tellier, say "their business integrity and their "reputation of the highest order are known all over the world." As legal proceedings are pending, we shall no doubt later on have the opportunity of commenting further.

The Colonial Postage Stamp Scandal.

By "Truth."

WHILE attention was being called in recent issues of *Truth* to the "faking" of postage stamps that is practised in the post-offices of some of our minor colonies for the purpose of imposing on collectors, a fresh example of this scandal has been perpetrated. The *locus in quo* this time is the Cayman Islands. As in the case of Brunei, the scene of an earlier operation of this kind already described, the place is one that probably very few British subjects who do not collect stamps have ever heard of. The islands were discovered by Columbus, but have been overlooked by the editors of Whitaker's Almanac, Hazell's Annual, and the *Daily Mail* Year Book, and all I can learn about them is that they are a dependency of Jamaica, that the population two years ago was 2,322 (of whom presumably more than 2,000 were blacks), and that prior to the institution of the bogus stamp business, the only local industry was the turtle fishery. Perhaps the last fact may serve to interest the Corporation of London in the present narrative. Under the late Queen two postage stamps of low denominations were considered, no doubt rightly, sufficient for the normal requirements of this humble community of fishers and exporters of turtles. On the accession of his present Majesty, five denominations, ranging from ½d. to 1s., were issued, either in honour of the event or in the interests of the stamp-dealing trade, certainly for no other reason. Last year the postal currency was increased by five more stamps ranging up to 5s. in value. A collector to whom I am indebted for information on this subject, in discussing the motives of this further issue, suggests that the 5s. stamp may have been designed to facilitate the transmission of a turtle from Grand Cayman to the Guildhall by post, with a label and a 5s. stamp stuck on his back; but he thinks it more probable that the stamp was issued for revenue purposes. As there was this time no demise of the Crown to furnish a pretext for a new issue, I should think it more probable still that the stamp trade accounts for the milk in the coco-nut, or the stamp on the turtle.

I merely mention these preliminaries to show the direction in which the postage-stamp policy of the Cayman Government has been tending for some time past. It seems to be a case of *vires acquirit eundo*. Towards the end of 1907, there being by this time no decent excuse for the issue of any more new stamps, we next come to a coup in the style for which so many good colonial precedents have been established. On the plea that the Cayman Islanders and the turtle trade had unexpectedly absorbed the whole available stock of half-penny stamps, a "provisional issue" of penny stamps surcharged "½d." was resorted to. This was not many weeks ago, but the demand for the provisional issue was so great—whether among the Cayman Islanders or in the London market the reader will judge from what follows—that it soon exceeded the supply. So some of the 5s. stamps

were next reduced to ½d. value by "surcharging." Scarcely was this done, when it was discovered that Cayman had run out of penny stamps through so many of them having been converted into half-penny ones. Forthwith a "provisional" issue of penny stamps was effected by surcharging the 5s. stamp "1d." According to a recent statement in a trade journal, nineteen sheets (2,280) of the second "provisional" were issued, and twelve sheets (1,800) of the third.

In view of what has already been shown as to the true purport of similar operations in other insignificant colonies, it is scarcely necessary to argue that these provisional issues can have had no purpose except to supply the demands of the London stamp market, at suitable profit to all concerned in the trade. But to remove all room for doubt about the matter, I call attention to the following paragraph in a recent issue of one of the London dealers' circulars: —

"Cayman Islands.

"During Christmas week we had altogether about 1,500 of the provisionals offered to us from various sources, and should we secure any of them, preference will be given to New Issue clients, and secondly, to collectors booking orders; preference to regular buyers."

These "provisionals" had all been issued in the last two or three months of 1907. As a matter of fact, the very same issue of the journal in which the above paragraph appears contains the announcement of the issue of the last of them, and it is stated at the same time that "last week we chronicled a second provisional"; so that these last two can hardly have been issued earlier than the end of November. Yet by Christmas week a London dealer is able to inform his customers that he has acquired about 1,500 of them. To suppose that these 1,500 new stamps had all come to England on letters in less than a month would be absurd. The only possible inference is that they were shipped off wholesale to England for sale in the stamp market as soon as manufactured, and that they were manufactured for no other purpose.

That the "King's head" should be made use of in this way under the authority of the Crown is essentially a scandal. Stamps so issued are essentially "bogus," because they are not issued for use by the public in the ordinary course of postal business. The object is to impose upon ignorant and credulous collectors by producing adhesive labels for their benefit, and not to meet any requirements of the postal service. If this were done for the benefit of the public revenue—as it has been often done by various impecunious foreign Governments, and sometimes by Governments which ought to know better—it would be a disreputable way of "raising the wind." But it is highly doubtful whether the revenue of the colonies where these tricks are played benefits to any extent by the operation. The face value of the two last Cayman provisional issues, if the figures quoted above are correct, would only be £12 5s., and there is no reason to suppose that the local post-office has got more for them. The London dealer who advertises that he has 1,500 of them for sale has been asking 5s. each for them. At this rate the whole issue would be sold to collectors for £1,020. This leaves a clear middleman's profit of £1,000 to be divided up somehow between the sale of the stamps by the post-office and their ultimate delivery to collectors.

How this profit is divided I do not pretend to know, but the fact that such profits should be made at all is a scandal of the first magnitude, and the Colonial Office ought to put a stop to it at once. Lord Elgin or Mr. Winston Churchill—I do not know which of them is the real energising factor at the Colonial Office, but stamp collectors generally seem to have more faith in Mr. Churchill—ought to look into all the cases that have been described in *Truth*, the cases of the Labuan, Brunei, and Gambia stamps, dealt with in my article of December 25th, and the above case of the Cayman Islands. They can easily ascertain by inquiries of London dealers and collectors what a huge profit has been made on the sale of these bogus issues, they can easily ascertain how much of this profit has accrued to the Crown through the local post-office, and they can easily form their own conclusions as to the whole nature of the transaction, and take measures accordingly. I hope they will do it without delay.

A minor matter in connection with the last Cayman Islands "provisional" issue is worthy of note from the philatelic point of view. This is the rough style in which the process of "surcharging" is executed. One of the trade circulars gives facsimiles of the 5s. stamp surcharged "½d.," remarking that "the overprint is very crudely handstamped, and we have not seen a specimen in which the '1' comes out clearly." The printing in fact could hardly be cruder. The "½d." is blobbed over the stamp, apparently with a rubber stamp so defective or badly inked that in some cases the mark is hardly legible, and in others looks as much like "2d." as "½d." The third "provisional" (1d. surcharged on 5s.) is open to much the same criticism. The obvious effect is to make forgery a perfectly simple operation. Anybody could treat one of the surcharged stamps in the same way, and thus, in the case at least of the lower denominations, multiply its market value a hundredfold or more. I very greatly doubt whether the process of surcharging can ever be really necessary in the ordinary course of post-office business, but if an emergency ever really requires that the denomination of certain stamps in stock should be altered to meet some unexpected rush of business, at least care ought to be taken that it is done in a way that cannot be readily imitated. It is scarcely necessary to point out that this is as essential for the protection of the Post Office as the collector. The reality of the danger from forgery in cases of overprinting is shown by the fact that an intelligent Syrian was lately prosecuted at Beyrout for forging the 2d. Levant stamp surcharged "1 piastre." This provisional issue was dealt with in my article of December 25th, and is one of the most flagrant examples of the trick now under notice. In this case I presume that the officials concerned are under the jurisdiction of the Foreign Office, and Sir Edward Grey would do well to give his attention to the subject simultaneously with his colleagues at the Colonial Office.

I have received numerous letters from collectors, which show how much interest this subject has attracted in philatelic circles. One of them writes: —

"Your exposure of the surcharge fraud is bearing some fruit. One paper at least has noticed your strictures. This is one of the few philatelic organs untrammelled by dealers—the *Postage Stamp*—

but it is significant that one line only is given to the Labuan-Brunei imposture, but several to show that certain editors have powers—practically dormant—to condemn the foisting of rubbish on the gullible collector. With those gentlemen rubbish generally means any issue which is not limited and does not allow exorbitant profits to the dealer. Although the *Postage Stamp* can spare but one line of comment on Brunei, the editor is eloquently indignant about the Barbados Nelson Centenary issue and the over-priced stamps of the same colony to help the victims of the Jamaica earthquake—two instances in which the issue was legitimate and justifiable."

I am not quite sure about the last observation, if a postage stamp is really to be what it purports to be. Here are some extracts from another letter, the writer of which condemns, I think properly, all issues of postage stamps for other than postal purposes, and gives some noteworthy instances of offences of this kind by various Governments: —

"As an old collector of stamps I am very glad to see you are showing up the scandalous practice of manipulating stamps, to extort money from genuine collectors, which is going on all over the world. During the last three or four years we have had an enormous and alarming quantity of purely speculative and entirely unnecessary issues, which is simply killing the innocent hobby of philately by inches. It is next to impossible for a collector to keep pace with the Jubilee plasters, exhibition labels, and so-called charity stamps that are being foisted upon them by impecunious countries through the medium of dealers, their postal use being of quite secondary importance. Many of these issues can be obtained by the dealers, in any quantity, and in whole sheets, post-marked to order. A ready sale is found among collectors whose aim is to make their cellection as complete as possible. Among countries who have recently issued such stamps are the following: —

"Spain.—A set to commemorate Don Quixote.

"Bosnia.—A fine set of scenes and views of this country, which must have cost a considerable sum to produce.

"Roumania.—Several long sets to commemorate this country's statesmen and her illustrious Queen.

"Austria.—A set just issued to celebrate the Emperor's Diamond Jubilee.

"Russia.—A set issued to raise funds for the relief of the widows and orphans during the late war. (I read in a paper that, after deducting expenses, the profits on this last venture only amounted to £25!)

"Holland.—A De Ruyter commemorative set, which has sold very badly. The postal authorities have recently had to use them up by over-printing them for use on unpaid letters, making a dozen new issues out of four old ones. Presumably this country does not know how to sell her speculative labels, or she would have sent a few free sets to the leading dealers as samples, so that they could reproduce them in the philatelic papers.

"These are a few of the many foreign countries who are carrying on this illegitimate business, but there are just as many British Colonies who are fast becoming notorious and will merit the attention of Mr. Winston Churchill. . . . [Here follows an account of the Cayman Islands issues.—ED.] If the stock of ½d. and 1d. stamps in this group of insignificant islands had run out, surely the postage on the letters could be paid over the counter and the letters marked "Postage paid, short of stamps," or something similar, as other countries have done before now.

"If every collector could learn the true history of many of these over-printed stamps and so-called provisional issues, he would give up collecting in disgust. What is needed is a proper inquiry to be held into these various unnecessary stamps, and an end put to such jobbery; and, further, that all the principal stamp dealers who issue priced catalogues and lists of stamps, should also hold a meeting and decide what should be eliminated. I am afraid that this will never come to pass, as they hold large stocks of this over-printed and commemorative rubbish, and naturally wish to get rid of it; but I think more than one have actually burned their fingers over it, and are anxious to see a stop put to it. Again, if the Royal Philatelic Society took the lead by boycotting unnecessary issues, other societies would follow suit and the battle would be won."

The reference to the Royal Philatelic Society seems to be very much to the point. Surely, if such a society has any *raison d'être*, it must be its business to combat abuses like those dealt with above. Its members, whoever they may be, should call the attention of the Government departments concerned to the various practices that have been referred to in this and previous articles. One simple way of doing this is by means of a question to Mr. Churchill in the House of Commons. I suppose that stamp collectors are to be found in that assembly, and I would suggest that one or other of them should set the ball rolling.

Notable Philatelists.

Dr William C. Bowers.

YOU were born, sir, we believe, in the year 1851, so at the present time are 57 years of age, and possess one of the five best collections in the United States. The foundation of this collection was laid when you were only eleven years of age, and consisted of eight stamps. Your philatelic education then appears to have been neglected for the more serious calls of life. You graduated at Yale College with an A.B. in 1874, and obtained your degree of M.D. in 1877, which was conferred by the Columbia Medical College of New York.

Although your collection during these busy and eventful years was not entirely laid aside, yet it necessarily suffered, but after you settled down at Bridgport in 1879 to commence the practice which you have carried on with so much success ever since, you have been most assiduous in acquiring all the philatelic gems which from time to time have fallen in your way. At the London Exhibition of 1897 you were a successful exhibitor, gaining a Bronze Medal for New South Wales, and also a Special Medal for having the best collection of Sydney Views.

Your collection is a general one, and includes specimens of all the great rarities, excepting the Post Office Mauritius and the two rarest British Guiana. It is vouchsafed to few to possess so great and varied an assortment of really rare stamps, but it must not be overlooked that at the time you commenced collecting, the greatest rarities were to be acquired at prices very different from those ruling to-day. At that time the same attention was not paid to the question of condition, and although in this respect you seem to have anticipated to a certain extent the trend of future events by being much more particular than your fellow collectors upon this point, yet such is the stride which has been made in the philatelic mind on this question, that many of your specimens unfortunately do not come up to the present day standard. Upon the whole, however, you have an exceedingly fine and most interesting collection.

A book has recently been published, the first of a series, dealing exclusively with your stamps in a manner which is both instructive and interesting, and testifies more than anything we can say to the high esteem in which you are held by contemporary American writers.



Dr. William C. Bowers.

Calcutta Philatelic Exhibition.

This Exhibition was opened on 20th January, and closed on the 23rd. It was a great success locally, but disappointing in that no exhibits were sent from Europe. The following is a complete record of the exhibits and awards:—

SECTION I.—BRITISH EMPIRE.

The special Gold Medal for the best exhibit in this Section was awarded to Sir David Masson for his Kashmir stamps in Class IV.

CLASS I.

Great Britain.

No entries.

CLASS II.

British India.

Major R. J. R. BROWN. Bronze Medal.

A selected exhibit of various issues (about 50 sheets were not shown), including the following:—

1854, mint sheets, ½ anna, deep blue, "August"; and 1 anna, deep red "September" (1854). 2as. green, a mint sheet of 80. 4as. red and blue, a very fine lot of pairs, strips and blocks, of all three transfers; and a single, unused, cut close.

1855, 4as. on blued, mint strip of three.

1856-64, 2as. yellow-green, a mint pair, and a single apparently used; 2as. dull pink, unused; 4as. green, unused; 8 pies, on bleuté, unused.

1867-74, mint blocks of 20 of each, 6as. 8 pies, slate; and 1 rupee, grey.

Service, 1867, Provsnls. a fine lot, including the long 4as. and 8as. stamps; small Service, 2as. a mint block of 6, one showing the wide S variety. 1883, H.M.S. 1 anna, plum, unused block of 4 with *inverted overprint*. Etc., etc.

Sir DAVID MASSON. Silver Medal.

A very fine specialized exhibit of enormous extent (over 350 were not shown). The undernoted stamps included are of interest:—

1854, mint sheets of ½ anna blue, of the various printings in shades; ditto, 1 anna, red; 2as. green, mint block of 40. 4as. red and blue, a very fine lot of the different transfers, in pairs and blocks, including 3 singles and 2 superb corner pairs, mint.

1856-64, imperf. mint pairs, ½ anna, blue, and 2as. yellow; perfd. mint pairs, 2as. yellow and 2as. dull pink; 8 pies on bleuté, mint, etc.

1866, 6as. provsnls. a mint pair, short letters.

1874, 1 rupee, grey, mint blocks of 4 and 14.

1883, ½ anna, double print, mint block of 6.

1865-74, mint panels of the 8 pies, 1 anna, 2as. orange, 4as. green, oct., 6as. 8 pies, slate (also blocks of 30 and 20 showing shades), and 8as. die II.

1865, 8as. die I, E. Head, large used blocks of 25 and 16.

Service, 1867, small print, a large selection, with and without wmk., including a mint block of 32 of the 2as. yellow. Large "Service," ½ anna, blue, die II, a mint block of 5.

Service, Provisionals, 2as. black and purple, a single and a strip of 20, mint; 2, 4 and 8as. green and purple, two superb mint sets, etc. Etc., etc.

Professor O. V. MULLER.

A specialized Indian collection (about 60 sheets were not shown), including:—

1854, ½ anna, red, 9½ arches.

1854, mint sheets, ½ anna, deep blue, "August"; and 1 anna, deep red, "September" (1854). 2as. green, a mint block of 4. 4as. red and blue, pairs of all 3 transfers on originals; and a single, used, with *inverted head*.

1856-64, 2as. yellow-green, 2as. dull pink, 4as. green, all unused. 8 pies, on bleuté, a single, and a block of 4, all mint.

1865, 8as. carmine, die I, unused.

1866, 6as. Provsnl., tall letters, a used strip of 4.

1883, double print, ½ anna, pair, 2as. single, mint.

Service, 1867, Provsnls., 4as. and 8as.

1867-73, large Service, ½ anna, blue, die II, unused; 6as. 8 pies, slate, mint. Etc., etc.

Mr. J. O'B. SAUNDERS.

A selection of Indian stamps (a large number of pages were not shown) including:—

Some early Scinde Dawk stamps, all three colours.

1854, ½ anna, red, 9½ arches. Unused blocks of ½, 1 and 2as. stamps. 4as. red

and blue, pairs of the various transfers; also a single, with *inverted head*, etc.

1865-74, several mint panels of 80 stamps, 6as. 8 pies, slate; 8as. carmine, die II; 1 rupee, grey; etc.

Lieut. A. E. Stewart.

A nice little assortment (about 40 pages, mostly of mint blocks, 1865—1905 issues, were not shown) including :—

1854, various mint blocks, ½, 1 and 2as. 4as. red and blue, 1st transfer, a strip of 4, 2nd transfer, a pair.

1860, 8 pies, on bleuté, mint. 1883, ½ anna, double print mint.

Service, Provsnl. 2as. black and purple, mint pair. Etc., etc.

Class III.

Indian "Convention" States.

Lt.-Col. F. H. Hancock. Silver Medal.

A very fine compact specialized collection of these issues, all in mint condition (about 20 pages of blocks and minor varieties were not exhibited), and including the following rarities :—

Chamba, "Chmaba" misprint, ordy., ½, 1, 2, 3as. Service, ½, 1, 2, 4as. Inverted, 3 pies, grey.

Faridkot, "Aridkot" misprint, 6as.

Gwalior, 1st issue, 19 stamps, complete; "Gwalier" misprint, ½, 2½as. and 1 Re. "Sersiv" misprint, 4as. and 8as.

Jhind, complete set of 9, curved print; "Jeend," set of 9; "Jhind" in *red* set of 6; "Jeind" misprint, full set of 6, of the very greatest rarity; 2, 3, and 5 Rupees.

Nabha, complete set of 9, curved print, etc.

Puttialla, complete set of 9, curved print; 2, 3, and 5 Rupees. "State" only, 1 and 4as. Etc., etc.

Sir David Masson. Bronze Medal.

A very large specialized exhibit of which only a small number of sheets were shown (about 600 sheets of mint blocks, panels, etc., not being included). The most interesting stamps in this exhibit were :—

Chamba, 2 and 3 Rupees, blocks of 12; 5 Rupees, a block of 24, all mint. Service, 1 Rupee, grey, a mint block of 70.

Faridkot, 12as. mint block of 56. Service, 8as. aniline, mint block of 84; 1 Rupee, bi-coloured, a mint block of 48, etc.

Gwalior, 1st issue, complete. 3rd issue, short black Hindi, 3as. block of 16; 8as. block of 12; 1 Rupee, slate, block of 6, also 2 pairs, all mint.

Jhind, the "Jeend" surcharges, in blocks of 4, complete set, all mint; 2, 3 and 5 Rupees, used.

Nabha, 2, 3 and 5 Rupees, mint blocks of 12 of each; Service, 12as. a panel of 120 (Queen), etc.

Puttialla, 6as. olive "Patiala," a panel of 80, mint; 2, 3 and 5 Rupees, two mint sets, etc.; also a sheet of rare misprints, all of great rarity. Etc., etc.

Class IV.

Indian "Feudatory" States.

Sir David Masson.—(*a*) Jammu and Kashmir. Silver Medal.

A magnificent very-highly specialized collection (extending to over 700 pages), of which only 88 pages were shown. This collection was shown some years ago at the Manchester Philatelic Exhibition, and gained a gold medal for "philatelic research"; since then it has been enormously improved and enlarged. Sir David Masson based his well-known Jammu-Kashmir handbook (published by the Philatelic Society of India) on this collection. The following rarities may be noted (a lengthy description of this collection appeared in the *Philatelic Journal of India*, May and June, 1907) :—

1866, circulars, a very fine collection of the *water* and *oil* colours, consisting of some hundreds of specimens; many of extreme rarity.

Early rectangulars, a wide range, including "superfluous" colours, on Native and European papers, many very rare.

1886, ½ anna "single die" rectangulars, 8 copies.

1866, compound plate, black, a large selection.

Later issues, an immense range, including several uncatalogued stamps, many great rarities, etc., etc.

Note.—The Special Gold Medal in Section I. was awarded to Sir David Masson for his exhibit of Jammu and Kashmir.

(*b*) Poonch.

A very fine collection extending to over 60 pages, of which only two frames were exhibited; including many great rarities.

Class V.

Any British European or Asiatic Colony.

Mr. Th. Hoffmann.—Ceylon. Bronze Medal.

A selection of the early "Pence" issues, including :—

1857, imperforate, 4d., 8d., 9d., 1s. 9d., and 2s., all fine.

Star, clean perfs., 8d. used; 2s. unused, etc.

Mr. Goodwin Norman.—Ceylon. Silver Medal.

A very fine specialized collection of the earlier issues :—

1857, imperforate, on bleuté, 6d. unused.

Ditto, on white, 4d., 8d., 9d., 1s. 9d., and 2s. used; and 10d. and 1s. 9d. unused, all superb copies.

Star, clean perfs., 1d., 2d., 4d., and 8d., all unused; 6d., 8d., and 2s. used, all very fine.

Star, rough perfs., 4d., 6d. (2), 8d. brown, 8d. yellow brown, 9d. several shades, 10d., 2s. all mint, superb; 8d. yellow brown, used, etc.

1862, unwatermarked, complete, including 1s. mint.

C. C. 12½, 2d. emerald, 3 shades; 2d. sea-green; 5d. purple-brown; 10d. orange-red, strip of 3; all superb mint; 2d. yellow-green, 2 used copies; and other stamps, singles and in strips, mint.

1872-84, 2 Rs. 50 cents, fine used. 24 cents, purple-brown, unused, etc.

1885, Provisionals, 10/16 cents, lilac; 10/36 cents, blue; both mint, etc.

Service, a full set of "Pence" issues, mint.

Envelopes, "Pence" issues, a very fine lot.

Also a few early stamps on originals, etc.

Lieut. A. E. Stewart.—Ceylon.

A nice little exhibit, including :—

1857, imperforate, several stamps, 10d. unused; 1s. 9d. two unused, and 2s. (3) all fine.

Star, rough and clean perfs. a nice lot.

C. C. 2d. emerald, mint, and others all mint, fine.

Single C. A. (King) a complete mint set, etc.

Class VI., VII. and VIII.

Australasian Colonies, British American Colonies, British West Indian Colonies.

No entries.

Class IX.

British African Colonies.

Mr. Th. Hoffmann.—Cape of Good Hope. Bronze Medal.

A good little collection of these stamps, including :—

Early triangulars, a nice lot.

Wood blocks, both stamps, etc., etc.

Lieut. A. E. Stewart.—(*a*) British East Africa and St. Helena; (*b*) British Central and British South Africa; (*c*) Gambia and Lagos; (*d*) Sierra Leone and Gold Coast. Silver Medal.

Mr. Stewart had four entries in this class, bracketed as above, and showed some fine stamps in the various entries; the following were of interest :—

British East Africa, 1st issue, 2 sets, used and unused; various rare manuscript provisionals; the overprinted set on Indians, complete; 1897, 1 to 50 rupees, all mint, etc.

St. Helena, practically complete, some fine stamps.

British Central Africa, 1st issue, up to the 10s. value; Three shillings on 4s. 1895-97, a fine selection, etc.

British South Africa, 1890, £1 to £10 used postally; 1891, set of 4 provisionals, etc.

Gambia, imperf., no wmk., complete; ditto, C. C. all fine; C. C. 14, 4d., unused, 1s. both shades, unused, etc.

Lagos, perf. 12½, nearly complete; C. A. 2s. 6d. olive, and 5s. blue, mint; single C. A. King, 5s. mint, etc.

Sierra Leone, a nice lot, many rare.

Gold Coast, ditto.

SECTION II.—FOREIGN COUNTRIES.

The Special Gold Medal for the best exhibit in this Section was awarded to Mr. C. Stewart-Wilson for his Holland stamps in Class I.

Class I.

European Countries.

Mr. E. Berthoud.—(*a*) German States; (*b*) Italian States and Italy; (*c*) Switzerland. Bronze Medal.

A very nice selection of these stamps, including many fine rarities.

Mr. C. Stewart-Wilson.—Holland. Silver Medal.

A magnificent highly specialised collection, containing only perfect lightly-postmarked stamps, artistically mounted and arranged. (An exhibit of great merit, which obtained the Gold Medal in its class in the London International Philatelic Exhibition, 1906.) This collection extends to several volumes, but only a portion of the used stamps were shown. The unused section, mostly consisting of immaculate mint singles, pairs, strips and blocks, etc., was not exhibited, as owing to the delicacy in tints of the earlier colours, it was not considered advisable to risk possible damage by long exposure to light. The stamps shown consisted of the issues of :—

1852, 1864, 1867-71, the engraved stamps of the earlier series, an exhaustive selection in an immense range of shades, showing the numerous perforations, etc., etc.

Note.—The Special Gold Medal in Section II. was awarded to Mr. Stewart-Wilson for his exhibit of Holland.

Class II.

Asiatic Countries.

Mr. C. H. Crosse.—Siam.

A small collection, containing some interesting stamps.

Sir David Masson.—Afghanistan. Silver Medal.

A highly specialised collection of this country, extending to about 750 sheets, of which comparatively a small portion only was exhibited. This collection is of great interest and importance, and is probably

the finest in existence of these intricate and little-known stamps. In the portion exhibited the under-noted stamps are of interest :—

1288-1295, Sher Ali series. 1289, reconstructed plate of 4. 1290, 5 copies of the purple stamps. 1292, partly reconstructed sheets in purple and in black. 1293, tablet series, partly reconstructed sheets in both colours. 1293, later plates, a superb range of reconstructed plates in all the colours. 1294, ditto, ditto; special attention is drawn to the sheet of 40 in olive-green on *wove* paper, which is probably unique. 1295, a very fine series of plates. 1295, skeleton type, ditto, ditto; the reconstructed plate in *black*, showing all the 40 varieties, unused, is absolutely unique.

1298, Abdur Rahman circular issues, very fine, containing many very great rarities.

Later issues, a magnificent and exhaustive range of stamps, etc., etc.

CLASS III. and IV.

United States. Any other Foreign Countries.

No entries.

SECTION III.—SPECIAL.

CLASS I.

British Empire Rarities.

Mr. B. GORDON JONES. Not for Competition.

A small exhibit of rare Colonial stamps, etc.

CLASS II. and III.

Foreign Rarities. Indian Native States Rarities.

No entries.

SECTION IV.—NON-POSTAL.

CLASS I.

British Indian Fiscals and Telegraphs.

Mr. C. S. F. CROFTON. Silver Medal.

A highly specialized collection of Indian Fiscal and Telegraph stamps, including a great number of rarities (about 100 pages not shown) :—

Telegraphs, "Electric Telegraph" issue. Double-headed issue, 8as. and 1 rupee, imperforate; 28½ rupees, unused; both halves of the Bombay hand-stamped provisional; 2 Rs. provsnls., unused, etc.

CLASS II.

Other Fiscals and Telegraphs.

Mr. C. S. F. CROFTON.—Ceylon.

A large specialized collection of Fiscal and Telegraph Stamps of Ceylon, including a number of rarities (over 100 pages not exhibited).

Mr. A. FORBIN.

A frame of rare Revenue Stamps, Colonial and Foreign, being of interest.

Victoria, £25, £50, £100. New Zealand, £50. British South Africa, £50, £100. Brazil, 60,000 reis. Peru, $500 and $1,000, mint. Also a very fine lot of revenue stamps of the United States, including two copies of the Proprietary, 1871-75, $5 black and green, etc.

Messrs. GILBERT & KOHLER. Bronze Medal.

A very fine lot of Revenue Stamps, some being of the greatest rarity.

Cape of Good Hope, a complete mint set of Stamp Duty 1864 stamps, ½d. to £50.

Persia, a complete mint collection of Revenue Stamps, of extreme rarity.

And a selection of other rarities.

CLASS III.

"Curiosities."

Mr. WILMOT CORFIELD. Bronze Medal.

A very interesting exhibit.

Original autograph of Rowland Hill.

Stamped envelope to "Mrs." Harriet Martineau in the handwriting of Charles Dickens, with his autograph in corner.

Four "Mulready" envelopes, one addressed by Miss Harriet Martineau to Robert Martineau (Mayor of Birmingham, 1846).

Parliamentary Franked Envelopes. Lord Palmerston, Daniel O'Connell, Thomas Attwood, Eardley Wilmot, etc.

The Penny Postage Jubilee Envelope and Card (1890), with Caricatures of same by Harry Furniss.

Oxford University Stamps (suppressed).

The United States Postal Currency Notes, 1862, 5, 10, 25, 50 cents.

Indian Essays including Lion and Palm-tree design, and the issued 4 annas with inverted head.

Print of the 6 annas of the "India" series of the Empress, never issued.

The Official Label of the Philatelic Exhibition, London, 1897.

The Official Label of the Philatelic Exhibition, Manchester, 1899.

The Official Postmark of the Minto Fête, Calcutta, 1907.

View of the Calcutta Philatelic Exhibition of 1898.

Caricature of 5c. of Switzerland, 1907.

The Control Letters of Great Britain, Queen's Head (portion only), etc., etc.

Mr. P. MOOKERJEE.

An exhibit showing curiosities, etc.

Mr. GOODWIN NORMAN.

Two letters dated 1712 and 1806.



The earliest information as to New Issues will be much appreciated by us, and will be duly credited to the correspondent, or firm, sending it. Our foreign subscribers can materially help us in this direction. When possible, a specimen should accompany the information, and be addressed to

G. Fred. H. Gibson, *Fairfield, Crumpsall, Manchester.*

The British Empire.

Barbados. — From *Ewen's Weekly* we copy the following numbers issued of the Nelson stamps upon multiple Crown and CA paper.

½d.	50,000.
2d.	12,000.
2½d.	27,000.

British Honduras. — Various of our contemporaries chronicle the 2c. and 5c. in single colours, from "specimen" copies, we imagine.

Adhesives.

2c. red. Wmk. CA and Crown multiple.
5c. blue. " "

Cayman Islands.—Mr. W. T. Wilson sends us the ½d. and 1d. values of the current type, but inscribed "Postage and Revenue."

Adhesives.

½d. green. Wmk. CA and Crown multiple.
1d. carmine. " "

India.—We are indebted to *Ewen's Weekly* for the following interesting details of the numbers issued of stamps overprinted for the various States.

Chamba :—

	Ordinary.	Service.
3 pies	192,720 ..	144,480
½ anna	48,240 ..	43,680
1 "	24,240 ..	26,880
2 annas	29,760 ..	24,480
3 "	6,480 ..	nil
4 "	5,520 ..	24,960
6 "	5,520 ..	nil
8 "	6,720 ..	3,360
12 "	3,120 ..	3,120
1 rupee	4,320 ..	3,120

Gwalior :—

	Ordinary.	Service.
3 pies	3,194,880 ..	841,200
½ anna	432,720 ..	504,720
1 "	288,900 ..	432,960
2 annas	217,200 ..	108,960
3 "	145,200 ..	nil
4 "	54,720 ..	24,920
6 "	11,280 ..	nil
8 "	19,920 ..	24,920
12 "	7,680 ..	nil
1 rupee	8,880 ..	6,240
2 rupees rose & brn.	1,536 ..	—
3 " brn. & grn.	1,536 ..	—
5 " blue & violet	1,536 ..	—

Jhind :—

	Ordinary.	Service.
3 pies	361,200 ..	48,480
½ anna	48,480 ..	120,720
1 "	18,480 ..	72,720
2 annas	22,560 ..	21,360
3 "	19,920 ..	—
4 "	12,960 ..	3,840
6 "	8,160 ..	—
8 "	6,720 ..	720
12 "	6,720 ..	—
1 rupee	4,320 ..	1,440

Patiala :—

	Ordinary.	Service.
3 pies	540,580 ..	—
½ anna	1,740,960 ..	854,920
1 "	241,680 ..	840,480
2 annas	481 920 ..	120,240
3 "	289,920 ..	2,160
4 "	48,240 ..	48,240
6 " .. .	48,240 ..	—
8 "	24,240 ..	24,240
12 "	24,240 ..	—
1 rupee	48,480 ..	24,240

New Zealand.—*Ewen's Weekly* reports a 1s. value of reduced size, as in the case of the 3d. and 6d. recently issued.

Adhesive.

Wmk. NZ over Star.

1s. vermilion. Perforated 14 × 13, 13½.

Queensland.—The following batch of novelties is reported in *Ewen's Weekly*; the 5s. and 20s. are the large lithographed stamps.

Adhesives.

Wmk. Crown and A. Perf. 12

½d. green.
1d. vermilion.
2d. blue.
4d. yellow.
6d. green.
5s. rose.
20s. dark green.

Foreign Countries.

Crete.—Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. send us two stamps for official use. The design is a very plain one—large figures of value, with a posthorn underneath, upon a fancy background; they are lithographed upon plain white wove paper.

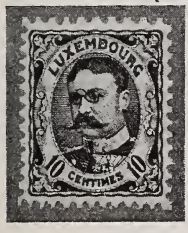
Adhesives.
Official stamps.
10l. claret.
30l. pale blue.

Italy.—Dr. Emilio Diena has just forwarded us the new 40c. and 50c.; the design is that of the 15c. shown below, but the head is to left.



Adhesives.
40c. light brown.
50c. lilac.

Luxemburg.—The *Monthly Journal* adds the following values to the new set.



Adhesives.
30c. olive.
87½c. blue.
1f. violet.
2½f. red.
5f. lilac.

Siam.—*Ewen's Weekly* states that a provisional 1 att has recently been issued. The current 24 atts, to the number of 200,000, have been employed; the surcharge is in black, a thin bar cancelling the original value.

Adhesive.
1 att on 24a. brown-purple and blue.

Spain. Fernando Poo.—*Ewen's Weekly* states that the 10c. of 1907 has been issued overprinted "Habilitado para 5 ctms," in three lines.

Adhesive.
5c. on 10c. claret.

Rio de Oro.—From the same source we learn that the 25c. of 1907 has been overprinted "Habilitado para 15 cents."

Adhesive.
15c. on 25c. olive-green.

Switzerland. — Mr. W. H. Peckitt sends us a 15c. of the type shown below.



Adhesive.
15c. pale violet. Wmk. Cross

Uruguay. — The *Monthly Journal* chronicles the current 50c. overprinted "Oficial."

Adhesive
Official stamp
50c. rose. Surcharged "Oficial" in black.

Notes and News.

Manchester Philatelic Society.

The 264th meeting was held on Friday, January 24th, at the rooms of the Geographical Society, Mr. Beckton presiding.

Mr. E. M. Ash was elected a corresponding member.

Mr. W. M. Gray, Vice-President of the Bradford Philatelic Society, gave a display, with notes, of the stamps of the Cape of Good Hope. His collection contained some 600 triangulars, including about 70 woodblocks, amongst them being a fine copy of the 4d. dark blue, in mint condition; the errors; and the 4d. with retouched corner. Mr. Gray entered minutely into the causes which led to the necessity for these provisionals and the date of their issue. The rectangular stamps were represented by about 1,400 specimens.

At the close the President expressed the sincere thanks of the meeting to Mr. Gray for his visit.

At the next meeting, on February 7th, the Secretary reported the death of Miss Boutflower, a member of the Society, and a vote of sympathy with her family was unanimously passed, a copy of which the Secretary was instructed to forward in the usual way.

The resignation of Mr. G. L. Campbell was accepted, and Mr. J. R. M. Albrecht appointed to fill the position of Librarian for the remainder of the Session.

A Sub-Committee was appointed to consider the arrangements for the list meetings next winter, and to report at the annual meeting.

In the absence, through illness, of Mr. J. S. Higgins, Junr., his minor varieties of Great Britain were shown by Mr. Gee. These are very complete, and were a source of much interest to the members present.

Herts Philatelic Society.

The fourth meeting of the session was held at No. 4, Southampton Row, W.C., on Tuesday, January 21st, 1908, at 6.30 p.m. In the absence of the President, the Vice-President took the chair.

The receipt of New Year's wishes from the Swedish Philatelic Society was notified with pleasure, and cordially reciprocated, and duly entered on the minutes.

It was proposed and carried :—"That the Society do form a collection of entires and adhesives on originals, and Mr. R. Frentzel be appointed curator of the said collection, and Dr. E. Webster's offer of his collection of entires be accepted by the Society, with a due acknowledgment of thanks."

Donations to the ordinary and forgery collections were received from the Vice-President and Mr. Frank Neck, and acknowledged with thanks.

The Hon. Librarian gave notice of several donations to the library, among which may be mentioned "Les Timbres de Brême," by Georges Brunel; "The Forgeries of the Cantonal Stamps of Switzerland," by A. de Reuterskiöld; and "South African Provisional War Stamps," by B. W. H. Poole, presented by the President; and "Postage Stamps and their Collection," by Warren H. Colson, Vol. 1, presented by the author.

At the conclusion of business the Chairman stated that he had to inform the meeting, with much regret, that Mr. Chas. J. Phillips had that day been prostrated with influenza and confined to his bed. Consequently he could not attend the meeting, but had deputed his son, Mr. Frank Phillips, to exhibit his collection of forgeries, reprints, etc., and to read the paper which he had compiled on the subject. He was sure the members would join with him in expressing their condolence to Mr. Chas. J. Phillips, with wishes for his speedy recovery. [We are pleased to hear the distinguished gentleman is now convalescent.—Ed.]

Mr. Frank Phillips was then introduced, and, while the volumes were being handed round for the inspection of the members, he read a very instructive and interesting paper on "Forgeries and their Collection."

The Vice-President proposed, and Mr. W. G. Cool seconded, a hearty vote of thanks to Mr. Chas. J. Phillips for the instructive paper he had compiled for the benefit of the Society, and for the interesting display of his collection; and to his son, Mr. Frank Phillips, for the kindness in taking his father's place. The vote of thanks was passed with acclamation, and suitably responded to by Mr. Frank Phillips in the name of his father.

After a few further remarks by the Chairman, a very successful meeting was brought to a close at 8.20 p.m.

North London Philatelic Society.

The usual fortnightly meeting was held on Thursday, February 6th. Mr. C. M. C. Symes occupied the chair.

The subjects for the evening included a debate on the old controversy "Specialism *verses* General Collecting." Mr. J. M. Morton opened the debate on

Specialism, stating what advantages the specialist had over a general collector, what interesting discoveries specialists had made as regards methods of printing, different papers, etc., discoveries that might never have been made but for the diligent search of the specialist. Mr. C. S. Muratori then replied to Mr. Morton's plea for specialism, enlarging on the generalist's advantage in regard to the cost of getting together a representative collection, and also showing that a general collection might be made interesting to even those who were not collectors, whereas with a specialised collection only those who had studied the country could see anything more than an accumulated stock of the same stamp. Mr. A. B. Creeke, Mr. C. J. Phillips, Mr. P. J. Deverell, Mr. M. K. Clarke and several other gentlemen also spoke on the subject, all, while admitting the usefulness of the specialist, seemed inclined to favour generalism. Another discussion arose in regard to stamps postmarked to order, through the statement that at some post offices stamps could be postmarked with any date desired. Mr. P. J. W. Deverell considered that the Postmaster-General should be approached to put a stop to this practice, as many stamps were more valuable used than unused, and that it was only fair that only stamps that had legitimately passed through the post, and had served their purpose, should be so cancelled.

It was unanimously resolved after a little discussion to alter the title of the Society from "The Imperial Philatelic Society" (N. London) to "The North London Philatelic Society," as the former title was considered a little misleading.

Exhibition.

The Exhibition of the Junior Philatelic Society is to be opened at 4 o'clock on Thursday, March 12th, by the Postmaster-General, it remains open until 10 p.m. On the next day from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m., and on Saturday from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. Admission is free by ticket, which can be obtained anywhere.

The "Stamp Collector's" Annual.

The fifth edition—namely, the one for the current year 1908 is before us. The lines are very much the same as before, but we have noticed a large number of errors in the present volume which betokens that for some reason nothing like the same amount of time and trouble have been spent upon it. Apart from the typographical errors, of which there are a number, the information given in the list of Societies (which is a very good feature of the publication) is very antiquated. The Manchester Society do not meet at the Grand Hotel, and have not done so for over twelve months. This is not the only mistake, and we venture to point out to Mr. Nissen the necessity for the information given being both correct and up-to-date. We regret having to apparently disparage the publication this year, especially after having previously been so pleased with it. The Annual contains several articles, the one upon the marginal control letters of the King's Head British stamps being the best.

The late D. M. de Heer's Collection.

Mr. Van Hoek has kindly sent us a note of a few of the prices realised at the sale of the late D. M. de Heer's collection :—

	£	s.	d.
Mecklinburg Schwerin, ¼sgr., rouletted, unused	5	0	0
Oldenburg, 1859, ⅓gr.	2	8	6
Wurtemburg, 1873, 70kr.	1	17	6
Great Britain. 1880, 2s. brown	1	15	0
1882, £5	1	13	6
1891, I.R. Official, £1 green	1	11	6
Antigua, 6d. imperf., unused	1	7	6
1879, 2½d. C.C.	1	0	0
Barbados, 1873, 5s. rose	1	1	0
British South Africa, 1891, £1, unused	1	0	0
£2, unused	1	10	0
£10, unused	6	13	6
Canada, Jubilee set, mint	2	16	6
Ceylon, 1857, 1s., unused	1	18	6
1885, Five cents on 24c.	1	1	6
Ten cents on 36c., unused	1	17	6
Gibraltar, 1886, 1s. brown	1	15	0
Hong Kong, 1903, mint set	2	16	6
1905, ditto	2	2	6
Labuan, 1880, 12c., unused	0	17	6
1891, 6 cents on 16c., unused	4	13	6
Mauritius, 1848, 1 penny, fine	6	16	6
1848, 2 pence	1	19	0
Montserrat, 4d. blue, CA	1	5	0
New Brunswick, 1s.	5	8	6
Newfoundland, 1857, 6½d., unused	4	13	6
1s.	7	1	6
Nova Scotia, 1s.	6	3	6
New South Wales, 1885, 10s.	3	16	6
St. Vincent, 1881, 4d. on 1s.	5	0	0
One penny on 6d. unused	4	8	6
Tasmania, 1853, 1d., fine	1	15	0
Victoria, 5s. blue on yellow	3	6	6
Swaziland, 10s. brown	4	3	6
Southern Nigeria, 1901, complete mint	1	13	6
Tuscany, 60c.	7	18	6
9c. on white	2	6	6
3 lire	33	15	0
Azores, 1868, 5 reis, used	3	0	0
Russian Levant, 1855, 10 paras	4	6	6
2 pi.	5	0	0
Spain, 1850, 10r., unused	2	11	6
1851, 2r.	10	16	6
1852, 2r.	3	15	0
1853, 2r., unused	7	10	0
Do., used	3	15	0
Madrid, 3c.	6	6	6
1854, 1r. light blue	4	3	6
1865, 12c., centre inverted	3	15	0
12c. ditto on entire	10	8	6
Philippines 1863, 1r., unused	2	13	6
2r., unused	1	15	0
Switzerland, Zurich, 4r.	9	3	6
Basle	4	0	0
Double Geneva	15	8	6
Vaud, 4c.	12	18	6
Tolima, complete plate of 10 types	3	15	0

International Postal Union.

The following countries belonging to the International Postal Union have not so far agreed to concede and raise the weight of a single letter to 20 grammes :—Argentine Republic, Australian Federation, Brazil, British Bechuanaland, British North Borneo, Cape, Congo, Costa

Rica, Cyprus, Ecuador, France, French Office in other countries, French Colonies and Tunis, Greece, Hayti, Italy, Italian Offices in other countries and Italian Colonies, Siberia, Montenegro, Mozambique, Natal, Orange River Colony, Persia, Peru, Russia and Russian Offices in China, South Rhodesia, Siam, and Transvaal.

The following have agreed to concede the lower postage on the heavier letters :—Argentine Republic, Australian Federation, Brazil, British Bechuanaland, British North Borneo, Cape, Congo, Costa Rica, Cyprus, Ecuador, Greece, Hayti, Italy, Italian Office in other countries and Italian Colonies, Mexico, Siberia, Montenegro, Mozambique, Natal, Orange River Colony, Persia, Peru, Russia and Russian Offices in China, Servia, Siam, Transvaal, Uruguay, and Venezuela.

On comparing the two lists it will be found that France and Colonies, including foreign post offices and Tunis, as well as Southern Rhodesia, have not increased the weight of single letters to 20 grammes, yet give the reduction in charges on double letters, etc. On the other hand Mexico, Servia, Uruguay, and Venezuela have raised the weight for single letters to 20 grammes, but will not give any reduction in charges on the further 20 grammes.

* * *

Unpaid letter stamps can now be bought at the Austrian post office unused, or if desired obliterated.

Cheating the Post.

During the six days ending Saturday, every Post Office of importance in the kingdom has had under investigation all missives bearing half-penny stamps. The General Post Office authorities have come to the conclusion that of the 19,500,000 — the average number — of half-penny stamped envelopes sent weekly through the post, a large proportion should bear a penny stamp.

"While the returns are not yet complete," said an official at the General Post Office, "here is a return from one large office in the Midlands for three consecutive days :—

Missives with half-penny stamps examined	11,316
Overweight and surcharged	768
Containing communications in the nature of correspondence	1,156
Containing letters (pure and simple) ..	617

"That is to say, roughly 25 per cent. of the missives infringed the regulations. That is an extreme case, but it goes to show that there is a large public who, of fixed designs, are using the cheaper rate for set purposes.

"Sorters, by practice, can almost see through envelopes. They know by instinct the business circular which gives, as a rule, little trouble. Newspapers containing letters or written matter are invariably folded in ways which rarely escape the sorter if he sets himself out to find them.

"We cannot always go so thoroughly into things as during the past week, but we make periodical 'pounces' on districts. What the Postmaster-General intends to do when the returns are in, I cannot say."—*Daily Mail.*

Correspondence.

"Sinn Fein" Stamps.

To the Editor of the "Philatelic Record."

Dear Sir,—I enclose specimens of the two new "Sinn Fein" stamps which have just been issued in Ireland, which will, no doubt, interest you, as they are singularly well-designed, and they are put upon correspondence by members of the political party known as "Sinn Fein," together with one ordinary revenue stamp.

It is interesting to note that Sir Thomas Esmonde, M P., has written to the Dublin papers, stating that any person who wishes to have an answer from Sir Thomas must put a "Sinn Fein" stamp on the envelope.

I understand that the stamps are to be had wholesale and carriage free, at 2s. 6d. per gross, from Messrs. Whelan & Co., 17, Upper Ormonde Quay, Dublin. — Yours faithfully,

E. G. Duffy.

2, Hare Court, Temple,
London, E.C.
January 22nd, 1908.

[We reproduce the above stamps, together with the letter explaining them, as a matter of record. Needless to say, we have no kindly regard for either the stamps or the movement with which they are connected —Ed.]





THE

Philatelic Record.

MARCH, 1908.

Editorial Note.

A CONTEMPORARY publishes a letter of Mr. L. Harold Kjellstedt, who is the International Secretary of the American Philatelic Association, dealing with the well worn, nay, almost threadbare, subject of a National Society of Stamp Collectors, with an annual convention in London.

"Why should not a country with such a high philatelic standing as England possess a national society with its annual convention devoted to business and social pleasure? This is a question that has been asked more than once, and it still remains for somebody to advance any acceptable reasons why such an organisation should not be effected. As international secretary of the American Philatelic Association, which has its membership scattered from the Atlantic to the Pacific coasts, from Alaska to Florida, the writer is in a position to state that a British national association has everything in favour of a successful development. That the philatelic strength of Great Britain is far superior to that of the Uuited States, nobody will deny. The same can unhesitatingly be said of the English philatelic press. The easiest way of accomplishing a British national organisation would be found in the amalgamation of the different philatelic societies into a national union."

An English Tag.

The objection to the proposed fusion of societies, and one which we fear is insuperable, is that distinctly different standards are aimed at by the various Philatelic Societies in Great Britain, and these standards are severally maintained by the most jealous principles by their most ardent supporters. What is one man's meat is another man's poison, and this adage can be applied to the different societies in England today with the greatest truth. Comparisons are invariably odious, and for that reason it would be extremely impolitic to attempt them, but few things would be easier than the attempt to differentiate between the various societies in Great Britian, which may only fairly be said to be allied in that the object of each is the furtherance of our hobby. The means by which these objects are aimed at is however as wide as the Poles. The proposal, if it could only be accomplished, is an excellent one, and we have more than once during the last ten years raised our voice in favour of an annual assembly in London similar to the German Philatelisten Tag. The nearest thing to it has proved to be the Exibitions of the Junior Society, and we venture to think that having regard to what has already been accomplished and to the generous support this society has received, both from the seniors, the Great Moguls, and the Trade, that with tact what is aimed at could be accomplished.

Notable Philatelists.

Fred J. Melville.

DURING a flying visit to the Exhibition at Caxton Hall, our Special Commissioner pounced upon Mr. Melville, who may aptly be described as the leader of the Junior Philatelic Band. His claims to inclusion amongst Notable Philatelists lie especially in the work which he has done to popularise stamp-collecting amongst the younger members of the community, and to enlist as recruits others who while senior in age are but juniors in experience. With these objects he was the founder of the Junior Philatelic Society, and is well known as a lecturer and the author of many elementary text-books dealing with our hobby.

Mr. Melville being a prominent London journalist, we fondly hoped that in compiling this interview we should have the benefit of his flowing pen, but alas! all we received is what we believe is technically termed the "skeleton." This, however, may be of greater interest to our readers in all its bareness than if indifferently clothed.

"Started collecting in early school days—cannot remember period or circumstances, save that I have been collecting ever since I can remember, and I have never broken my connection with the hobby.

"Published a useless little penny pamphlet in 1897 on stamp collecting.

"Started the Junior Philatelic Society in 1899 at Clapham. First and only President, having been annually re-elected since 1899. As I was a youngster at the time many of my friends thought—and said—I should only keep it up for a year or two, but am still at it.

"May perhaps be permitted to make two little claims. One to being the first to introduce stamp collecting on the popular professional lecture platform—the outcome of some success with my lantern lectures at Clapham Town Hall in 1899. Among my most memorable engagements in this connection were my visits to the Tyneside Geographical Society, the Ipswich Social Settlement, the London Institution, and the Swindon Mechanics' Institute. Also had the pleasure of lecturing to the Sveriges Filatelist Förening on the occasion of their recent 'jubilee.'

"Second claim: The peculiar character of our exhibitions. Free invitation to the public, and a combination of collectors to make one straightforward display.

"Have also had the pleasure of meeting many philatelists in America, and was the recipient of a very enjoyable banquet and reception given to me by the Boston Philatelic Society.

"Have written a few small books on stamps, and hope to write some more. I do not attempt too scientific a line in these books, as



Fred J. Melville.

I have confined, and still confine myself, to the aim of writing for the young collector, and giving him a lift on the philatelic ladder!

"The books and dates of publication are:—'A B C of Stamp Collecting,' 1903; 'The Postage Stamps of Great Britain,' 1904; 'The Postage Stamps of Hayti,' 1905; 'Guide and Index to the Tapling Collection,' 1905; 'The Postage Stamps of the United States,' 1905; 'Siam: its Posts and Postage Stamps,' 1906; 'The Lady Forger: a philatelic play,' 1906; 'The Postage Stamps of Sarawak,' 1907; 'The Postage Stamps of China,' 1908; 'Postage Stamps worth Fortunes,' 1908. Also published six numbers (monthly) of *The Young Stamp Collector*, 1900.

"*Collections.*—General: First attempt at specialism—a small collection of Hayti, which I still possess. Last attempt: A fair collection of Sarawak, awarded a bronze medal at the International Exhibition, London, 1906.

"In my travels I have known no greater pleasure than that afforded by my occasional visits to Manchester, where even before the juniors established a branch in the city I always found the seniors accord me a most hearty welcome.

"Apart from stamps there is nothing of interest to the readers of the *Philatelic Record* to tell. Am a journalist, and enjoy being so as much as being a stamp collector. Hope to go on being both.

"Should like to take the opportunity of expressing how much I have been helped by loyal colleagues in the Junior Philatelic Society work. We have had a lot of splendid comrades amongst the workers. It will be impossible for me to express or convey any idea of the service rendered to the Junior Philatelic Society by my esteemed friend Herbert F. Johnson, upon whom much of the success of the Society has depended."

Morocco.

By George B. Duerst.

(Continued from Page 7).

1897.

Landscape, consisting of a mosque, huts, and palms, in an oblong; at the top, "POSTE," on the left, "MAZAGAN," on the right, "MARRAKESH" (the English spelling for Morocco), at the bottom, value in letters in Italian, in the four corners, figures of value. Printed in colours on white wove paper. Perf. 14. Printed by Waterlow Bros., of London.

Cinque	(5) centesimi	...	blue.
Dieci	(10) ,,	...	rose.
Venti cinque	(25) ,,	...	olive-grey.
Cinquanta	(50) ,,	...	green.
Settanta cinque	(75) ,,	...	orange-brown.
Una	(1) peseta ...	...	lilac.

It is curious to note the combination of Italian and Spanish currency.

Variety: Imperforate.

Cinque	(5) centesimi	...	blue.

Here also the requirements were for a 20c. value, but later than in the French service.

1897 end.

The 25 centisimi value, surcharged with a hand stamp, 20 cent. in two lines.

20 cent. in violet, on 25c., olive-grey.

Jan., 1897.

Unpaid letter stamps. Large shield, containing figures of value and the word "CENTIMOS" or "PESETA" over a lying dromedary; at the top, "Chiffre," at the bottom, "Taxe," at each side five six-pointed stars and in the four corners crescents. Coloured impression on white wove paper. Perf. 13½.

It is curious to see the jumble of English, French, Spanish, and Italian, on the stamps of this service.

5 centimos,	blue.	Value	black.
10 ,,	grass-green.	,,	,,
20 ,,	blue-green.	,,	,,
30 ,,	rose.	,,	,,
40 ,,	yellow.	,,	,,
50 ,,	mauve.	,,	,,
1 peseta	lilac.	,,	,,

Variety: Imperf. vertically.

5 centimos,	blue.	,,	,,

The French also issued a fresh set combining as it seems the features of both the Italian issues.

July, 1897.

Oblong in shape. In the centre on the left large shield containing figures of value and the word "CENTIMOS" or "PESETA"; on the right a mosque and palms; at the top, "CORREOS," and at the bottom, "MAZAGAN—AZEMOUR—MARAKECH." Printed in colours and black on white wove paper. Perf. 11 and 13½.

5	centimos,	dark green.	Value black.
10	,,	rose.	,, ,,
15	,,	violet-brown.	,, ,,
20	,,	yellow-green.	,, ,,
25	,,	bright blue.	,, ,,
50	,,	lilac.	,, ,,
1	peseta	brown-orange.	,, ,,

Azemour, or Azimur, is a small seaport, about ten miles north of Mazagan, so that the total distance of this service would be about 135 miles. This extra ten miles caused for some reason or other a considerable delay in the transmission of letters to the capital and gave rise to complaints. In consequence of this the next issue was again for the direct service.

The Spanish word "Correos," when the rest of the inscription, barring the value, is in French, is curious to note.

1900.

Oblong in shape. The central picture depicts a Bedouin hunting antelopes; in the background a rising sun and palms. At the top, "POSTE," below the picture, "CENTIMES" or "PESETA." In the upper corners, in circles, cocks standing on one leg and facing each other; in the lower corners large figures of value, also in circles; at both sides Arabic inscriptions, and at the bottom, "MAZAGAN-MARAKECH" in very small letters. Printed in colours and black on white wove paper. Perf. 11½.

5	centimes,	brick red.	Centre black.
10	,,	ultramarine.	,, ,,
20	,,	bright mauve.	,, ,,
25	,,	yellow.	,, ,,
50	,,	dark violet.	,, ,,
75	,,	pale green.	,, ,,
1	peseta,	carmine.	,, ,,

In this issue we have a combination of French and Spanish currency.

This service was taken over by the French Government in 1902. On the 4th of October, 1901, the Under-Secretary of Posts and Telegraphs agreed to a convention made by the Director of the French post office in Morocco with the owner of the private service—Mazagan-Morocco—I. Brudo. According to this the director of this private service will receive the moneys which accrue from this service between the two towns until July 15th, 1902. The stamps of the private post—Arab hunting antelopes—will be used, but they will be obliterated with the dies of the French offices.

(To be continued).

The Imperial Stamp Exhibition.

THE Stamp Exhibition held by the Junior Philatelic Society in Caxton Hall, Westminster, on March 12th, 13th, and 14th was a great success. The admission was free by ticket, and as the tickets had been sent out literally in thousands and distributed also through the agency of some stamp journals, the attendance was, as might reasonably be expected, very large. On the afternoon of the opening we are informed 1,500 tickets were taken at the doors, while the attendance on the two following days was larger, that on Saturday, all day, being a record—in fact, every evening, and on Saturday, the large hall on the ground floor, where the greater number both of exhibits and dealers' stalls were, was most inconveniently crowded. The crowd consisted of all sorts and conditions of men, but the very great percentage were collectors, one a typical London coster and his boy we were most interested in. The coster carried an old Oppens album containing some 500 stamps which he had collected in his early days, and he and his son were busily engaged for some hours inspecting every exhibit to find the particular two or three stamps which the album contained of the special Colony in question, and when they were found both evinced the greatest pleasure. Owing to oxidisation this gave them considerable trouble in such Colonies as Barbados and Trinidad, and they could scarcely believe that the full clear blue stamp in the frame was the same as the one in their album, which to them appeared black in colour.

The large hall on the ground floor was filled with frames arranged on stillages in the usual way, and here the exhibits were set up strictly in the alphabetical order of the Colonies, commencing with Mr. Taylor's exhibit of Antigua and concluding with St. Helena; the remainder, to Zululand, as well as the special exhibit of Barbados by H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, K.G., were in the Grand Council Chamber upstairs, which, by the way, was better lighted and more suitable for the purpose in every way. In many instances there were two or perhaps three exhibits by different collectors of the same Colony, and there was nothing on the frames or in the catalogue to indicate which was which. This was, in our opinion, an unfortunate omission, and one to be made a note of to remedy next time. Large initial letters were placed on the triangular stands so that anyone wishing to find a particular Colony had only to look for the initial M for Malta, G for Gambia, and so on. Indicators in the shape of darts showed visitors the way round the exhibits; both of these ideas were good. All round the Large Hall the dealers' stalls were arrayed, and this fact and the narrowness of the gangways between the stamps caused this portion of the Exhibition to become very soon too crowded for one's comfort. The average Englishman, however, does not object to a crowd—in fact one's own experience is rather in the opposite direction—and this may have contributed its quota towards the enthusiasm which seemed to be so much in evidence and which was so infectious. From the opening ceremony, which was performed by the Postmaster-General, to the closing on

Saturday night everything went with a swing, attributable in the main to the manner in which all the detail had been worked out by Mr. Herbert F. Johnson, who had devoted all his time to it for weeks, and literally worked night and day at the finish. Mr. Melville also had other trusty co-workers, the most noticeable being Mr. E. M. Gilbert-Lodge, the Hon. Auctioneer of the Society, and who acted as the President's deputy and general handy man; Mr. Basil Reed, who was excellent as Captain of the Stewards, forty-three in number; Mr. A. Selinger, Mr. O. Fearnley, Mr. Rupert Albrecht, and Mr. E. A. Leigh, the two latter new hands, but great acquisitions at an Exhibition, although the abilities of the former have been already appreciated in the "North Countree." The Committee were severely handicapped in only getting possession of the Hall at eleven o'clock on the evening before the opening; this necessitated a band of helpers, some eight or ten in number, staying up all Wednesday night getting ready for the opening on the following day: by then the Large Hall was in readiness, but it was not until the Friday that all the exhibits were completely mounted in the Grand Council Chamber and three other rooms upstairs set apart for the purpose.

An excellent band discoursed popular music, and this proved a great attraction in the afternoons and evenings, in addition to which there was a small auction on the Friday afternoon and lectures with the lantern on Thursday and Saturday evenings, in connection with which the services of the President and Mr. Bernstein as lecturers, and Mr. Frank Phillips at the lantern, were thoroughly appreciated. On the Saturday afternoon there was the public reading of the Prize Essays by successful competitors in the Lecture Hall, the awards in the Essay Competition being as follows: —

Gold Medal.—Charles William Care, London (age 16).
Diploma and Second Prize.—A. R. C. Westlake, London (age 13½).
Diploma and Third Prize.—Alan C. Trott, Exeter (12).
Diploma and Fourth Prize.—Edmund C. T. Finch, Exeter (age 14).

The Exhibition itself was not competitive in nature, but certain medals were offered for competition for exhibits of collections owned by collectors under nineteen years of age, and these were exhibited in the albums under glass cases in one of the rooms upstairs. As only one page of each album could be inspected in the cases, a description of these exhibits is impossible, but the page on view of the Gold Medal collection impressed one with the idea that the collection was an exceptionally fine one for a junior. Master L. P. Napier we hope will, like Mr. Higgins, continue collecting, and maybe will achieve the great distinction in common with that gentleman of following up his success at the Junior Society Exhibition of winning a Gold Medal at the next International Exhibition in London.

AWARDS.

Gold Medal.—Specialised collection of Straits Settlements. L. P. Napier, Rugby (age 16).
Special Silver Medal.—Collection of British Colonies in a Loose Leaf Album. C. E. Henning, Dublin (age 18).
First Prize.—Collection of Chili. Roy Mackenzie Stewart, Edinburgh (age 18).
Second Prize.—A general collection. J. Wilfrid Beauland, Thirsk (age 13).
Third Prize.—A small general collection. Doreen Watson, Hamilton (age 12).
Fourth Prize.—Small general collection with copious manuscript notes. C. B Pope, Streatham (age 14).

A signal honour was paid to the Society in the visit of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, who was accompanied by his son, Prince Albert. The Prince stayed considerably over an hour and evinced the greatest interest in the exhibits, and expressed his pleasure at the success of the Exhibition.

Among the visitors to the Exhibition we noted many prominent faces in the stamp world:—Major Evans, Baron de Worms, Messrs. E. D. Bacon, R. B. Yardley, J. H. Abbott, J. A. Tilleard, W. Dorning Beckton, J. S. Higgins, junr., B. W. H. Poole, Fred. J. Melville, Rupert Albrecht, M. Albrecht, Owen Fearnley, R.N., P. L. Pemberton, Mrs. Field, Miss Cassels, Messrs. W. H. Peckitt, E. J. Nankivell, I. J. Bernstein, M. Giwelb, J. W. Jones, Frank Phillips, Whitfield King, Hamilton Smith, D. Field, Charles Nissen, E. W. Wetherell, J. Corner-Spokes, A. J. Sefi, Dr. Floyd, and many others.

The competition in programme selling was very keen; but although there was no charge for admission, and visitors were told that in buying a catalogue they were helping towards the expenses, not more than one-third could have purchased a copy. So anxious were some to avoid being pressed to purchase one that before they were asked they said they had everything. If they had they were lucky, for the volume of free literature given away was altogether abnormal, in fact too much for one pair of hands to carry away. The Secretary, besides being an ardent stamp collector, appears to be a sprinter of no mean ability. Three suspicious looking youths who were prowling round the Exhibition were shown free of charge the way into the street, but very soon afterwards the Secretary saw them again leaving by the back way which was supposed to be closed. The youths got a good start, but Mr. Johnson was hot in pursuit, and made a capture in Victoria Street. When questioned the youth admitted that a packet of stamps had been stolen from one of the stalls.

To show how thorough had been the advertising the following amusing incident is related:—One visitor wanted to see the British stamps, and when told that the Exhibition was for British Colonies only he seemed rather disappointed. He said his father in the Highlands had heard of the Exhibition and had been looking through some old correspondence and had sent some old English stamps to him to try and dispose of. They were all attached to part of the original, and an elaborate list had been made out. With the exception of three 2d. blues which had white lines they turned out to be penny reds of 1841. The Secretary's valuation of one penny per 100 satisfied the canny Scot that it was a waste of time sending him to the Exhibition.

On Friday the *Daily Mail* had a paragraph to the effect that one of the distinguished visitors at the Lace Exhibition was the Mayor of Nottingham (it is a good thing it was not Robin Hood), whereas at the Stamp Exhibition they had, as we have seen, a really distinguished visitor.

Another paper on Thursday gave it out that the Prince of Wales was exhibiting his valuable collection of Mauritius stamps, whereas he was showing Barbados. Curiously enough there were none of the former on view—about the only Colony which was not represented. One paper, in referring to the 4d. blue Western Australia inverted swan which was shown by Mr. Hausburg, said it was so badly obliterated that the design could hardly be seen. It cost £400 at auction, and is actually one of the best copies of this rarity known.

Mr. Buxton, in opening the Exhibition as a "layman," was particularly happy in his remarks. He said: —

Ladies and Gentlemen,—Before declaring this Exhibition open (and so far as I can see this seems to be somewhat unnecessary, it having been already opened), but before declaring it open, perhaps you will allow me to make a few observations. I am here as Postmaster-General, and in that capacity I am much more a seller than a collector of stamps, and cannot even look upon them with the view of a philatelist. I look on them chiefly from the point of view of Revenue, while collectors regard them from the point of view of expense. But I am afraid as a producer of stamps, the British Post Office is not of much use to the collector, because as a rule we produce too many stamps of one sort to be of any real intrinsic value to collectors.

Now this year (and I make a fine offer to anyone here) we have got a new 1908 issue—all red one penny postage stamp with the King's head on it; a crown over his head with laurel leaves one side, and oak leaves on the other: and I will offer them to any of you at eighteen pence per dozen 1d. stamps, and if you like to take them in quantities I will let you have them at 1s. 4d. I think this is a fair enough offer.

Now I have in my younger days, like most of you, been a collector of stamps, and philately, which used to be at that time (a long time ago) rather a hobby for school-boys, was at that time rather encouraged by school-masters, because it assisted in geography lessons. I think the only geography I ever learnt was from my collection of stamps. It was looked upon then as a hobby, but now it has become a very serious and scientific occupation for a large number of persons, and one sees what a growth there has been, not only in the number of stamps, but in the interest taken in them. Take, for instance, the catalogues. The first catalogue, I think, contained a few pages only; and the last catalogue really amounts to a large book. And also, looking back as one does to the old collecting books which had, as a rule, only the name of the country printed at the head, and a certain number of blank spaces, now you have page after page of detailed accounts and illustrations of various stamps belonging to the country, and indeed the matter has become rather the despair of the collector, both from the point of view of numbers, and the point of view of cost. I have endeavoured to find out from your Chairman, and other friends here and elsewhere, the actual number of stamps, obsolete and existing, which have been issued, but I am sorry to say that their mathematical capacities are not equal to the task. I believe they are as numerous as the sand, and amount to almost hundreds of thousands of issues of various countries. Then, of course, when it comes to the matter of cost, one sees from the sales the high prices that some of these stamps fetch. I believe that very recently £1,500 was given for a Post Office Mauritius stamp. Well, of course, there is something to be said for and against that. In the case of a picture, you do pay something for its approximate beauty as a picture, but you have to pay a great deal, of course, for the name in the corner. As regards stamps, it is exactly the other way; the worse the design, the worse it is engraved, the worse it is printed, the more expensive and the more excellent these stamps become. In an auction catalogue the other day I saw "Lot 5, an unique vase (lot not

fine"; "Lot 6, ditto to match." I think a good many collectors are envious of those who have unique stamps and want to have a ditto to match.

Now it is really a remarkable thing what an increase there has been in postage stamps in a comparatively short space of time, first, because the practical postage stamp was first introduced, as you know, about 1840, and was the first English black stamp. I believe people regard the introduction of penny postage as a landmark in English postal history, and do not consider what occurred at the same time which really made penny postage a practical measure, namely, the system of prepayment instead of payment on delivery of the letter. And the two things really went together, because it would have been of very little use to reduce the postage if the postman still had to call in each case with each letter and ask for the postage on that letter. It was the combination really of prepayment as well as the reduced postage which made the penny postage such an enormous success.

Well, the first suggestion of Rowland Hill was that the letter should be put in a wrapper with a stamp upon it in the form of the old Mulready envelope. This, however, was found very cumbersome, and the public did not care about it, and finally Mr. Chalmers may claim to have actually invented the first postage stamp, no doubt with the co-operation of Mr. Rowland Hill, with gum on the back, which was called for a long time "the little bit of sticking plaster."

It is curious for us to note that although 1840 was the first year in which stamps were in use in England, it was some years before they were introduced abroad. The first stamps, I believe, were introduced into the United States in 1846, in Russia in 1848, France 1849, and the first of our colonies adopted them somewhere about 1846-7, and New South Wales in 1849. So it is curious to know how very slowly the entry of the postage stamp developed and took hold. I believe in 1865, or thereabouts, there were only about 1,400 different sorts of stamps issued. Now, of course, we know that every country issues stamps, and several countries issue stamps perpetually, and some countries, Brunei, near Borneo, for instance, issued stamps without having post offices, any postmen, or any postmaster-general. They issued these stamps, and I believe that collectors collected them. I believe that one of our Crown Colonies—Solomon Islands, which was, at any rate for some time, occupied by cannibals—have got their new postage stamps. I do not know their design, but I should think it would be "cold missionary pie." But, of course, there are these sorts of bogus issues too often produced. The smaller the country, as a rule, the larger the number of issues; and really, some of the Central American or South American countries like Mexico, Colombia, and others, seem to pour out an innumerable number of new issues, I should think to the disgust of the collectors. I should think that the collectors who happen to collect any of the Central American States stamps, and stamps of that kind, must regret very much that Columbus ever discovered America. Of course many of these issues are a source of revenue, and some of the smaller places, and certainly in the case of some of our smaller colonies, occasionally lead to regrettable incidents in the history of stamps. I remember a good many years ago, when I was in the Colonial Office, a certain person, I won't

mention his name, ran out of the 2½d. stamps they used, and in collusion with four or five friends got about 200 of the 1s. stamps and overprinted them 2½d. His friends came into the office, bought up the whole of the 200, and had them put on envelopes and stamped over the counter so as to make them appear as a genuine issue.

That gentleman left the Post Office. I think what is more remarkable about stamp collecting is this, how enormously the designs of the stamps have improved in artistic merit and in the way they are engraved and the way they are printed. I do not think the same can be said of the English stamps. I do not think the English stamp, either in design or artistic merit, is worthy of this great country, but of course that is a question of taste and also of cost, as any alteration in our stamps would of course be a very expensive matter. For my part I think the French are not only as pretty and beautiful in design as any of the stamps, but the idea of the harvesting is rather an attractive detail. Although we have, as you will see in this Exhibition, a very large number of very beautiful stamps, some of our Colonies, I think—some of our Crown Colonies especially—have some stamps comparatively unique in design. A new design for the English stamps was suggested to me the other day. Some artistic author who said he did not like the idea of an envelope with a deep mourning band round it, thought it would be much better and more artistic if I were to issue a mourning stamp, the ordinary stamp with a black band round it, the depth of the black band showing the relationship of the dead person. I thought this a very good idea, and I rather inclined myself to issue a very small number of these stamps, which I am quite sure will appeal to philatelists, and I hope they will buy them up at high prices. Now, in conclusion, I have to say what a pleasure it is to me to be here this afternoon and to open this Exhibition, and to say a word on behalf of this Society.

I am glad to think this Society has made great progress in late years, numbering now, I think, nearly 700 members, numbers of whom, I am assured by the Chairman (though I have some doubt), are not only collectors of stamps but also have such an interest in them that they study the whole postal history of the country they collect, and although your President, the Chairman and practically the founder of the Society, says it is so, I am bound to say I have some doubt about how far they study these matters. The interesting thing about this Exhibition is that we have here specimens from all the various Colonies, and it rather struck me it was something to be proud of. As members of the British Empire we always boast that the sun never sets on it, and I was glad to find also that we can run from one end of the alphabet to the other, from Antigua to Zululand, and we have every colony here fully represented. I think this sort of collection is much more interesting than a sort of hodge-podge of every country. And now thanking you for allowing me to be here this afternoon, I declare this Exhibition open. (Cheers.)

A cordial vote of thanks was tendered by the Chairman to Mr. Sydney Buxton for his kindness in opening the Exhibition, which was seconded by Major Evans.

Mr. Buxton, in his reply to the vote of thanks, mentioned the fact that the Post Office possessed a good collection of English stamps,

that he hoped when the new building in King Edward Street was finished they would be able to set apart a room in which these stamps could be exhibited.

It now only remains for us to give our readers a general review of the exhibits of stamps, but before doing so special mention ought to be made of the fine exhibit of philatelic literature (part of his collection) made by Mr. E. D. Bacon, and several rare books by Mr. B. T. K. Smith, the exhibits of the British and several Colonial Governments and Government Printers, that of Messrs. Perkins, Bacon & Co. being, as usual, specially attractive.

Antigua.

John H. Taylor.—A pretty collection, the mounting of which reflected great credit upon the owner, consisting of used and unused stamps in singles, pairs, and blocks. Some of the stamps were also included used on the original envelopes. A fine pair of the first issue, unused, with margins. Strip of four 6d. on original, of 1863 issue, postmarked A18. Copy of 1d. vermilion 1863, imperf. marked specimen.

D. S. Darkin.—Another collection.

Australian Commonwealth.

U. A. Mabille.—A practically complete collection of the postage due stamps issued bearing the new designation of "Australian Commonwealth."

Barbados.

H.R.H. The Prince of Wales, K.G.—An exceedingly fine collection, including all the unissued stamps, amongst which are the first perforated 1s. printed by error in blue instead of black. The collection contained some fine pairs and blocks of all the early issues and an especially fine range of the varieties of the 1d. on half 5s., including an unused pair and two singles and pairs and many singles used.

A. H. L. Giles, R.N.—A collection containing fine used and unused copies. All issues well represented.

O. K. Trechmann.—Another collection.

Bermuda.

D. S. Darkin.—Nice lot, noticeable varieties being 3d., orange pf. 14, mint, 3d. yellow buff pf. 14, and superb pair of same value pf. 14 × 12½, 3d. on 1s. in fancy capitals, 1d. on 3d., and 1d. on 1s.

O. K. Trechmann.—Another collection.

British Bechuanaland and Bechuanaland Protectorate.

The Rev. Hayman Cummings.—A collection mostly of unused, in pairs, in very fine condition.

J. C. Sidebotham.—A collection of used and unused British Bechuanaland, complete except for the £5 1887, and the 2d. with green surcharge, and also a collection of used and unused Bechuanaland Protectorate to 1889.

British Central Africa.

J. C. Sidebotham.—This collection contained the first issue up to the £1, the two provisionals of 1892-93, and the 1895 issue to the £1 : mostly used.

Lieut. A. E. Stewart.—A fair collection, containing the first issue up to the 10s.; three shillings on 4s., 1895-97. A fine collection.

British Columbia.

Edgar Nelton.—Collection of mixed used and unused, complete except for the 5 cents rose of 1865, and included a number of interesting pieces on original covers. Mint entire sheet of the 3d. blue, 1865.

British Guiana.

W. Dorning Beckton.—A small collection of all issues, specialised principally in regard to the 1882 provisionals, which were shown in entire panes and in various settings, and also entire sheets and strips of the various surcharges of 1881.

British East Africa.

Mrs. E. C. Bazett.—A collection of used and unused, containing two out of three of the rare first issue; the 1890-91 issue complete, including a number of imperforate specimens. Of the 1891 MS. surcharges two specimens were shown. The 1895 local surcharges were represented by an almost complete set used and a number of mint blocks and pairs. The later issues were shown used and unused complete. The collection also contained a number of post cards and envelopes.

J. C. Sidebotham.—A collection of used and unused, practically complete to and including the 1896 issue. The collection was only short of three of the MS. surcharges, and included a fine range of shades throughout.

Lieut. A. E. Stewart.—A collection of used and unused, almost complete, and containing several of the rare manuscript surcharges.

British Honduras.

J. C. SIDEBOTHAM.—A collection of used and unused, containing a fine lot of shades, all issues to 1896, and several split provisionals. The collection lacked the 3c. on 3d. brown perf. 12½, and the "Two" in black on 50c.

British New Guinea and Papua.

ALBERT ASHBY.—Collection commenced with a display of Queensland stamps used in the island with "BNG" and "NG" postmarks. The first regular issue was shown in complete sets in pairs, blocks of four and six, and complete sheets of most values. Collection of used on entire original covers, shades and varieties of postmark, etc.

Type I. of the Papua overprint was shown in blocks of both four and six, complete; and sheets of most values; also used on original covers, and others. Type II. in blocks of both four and six, with sheets of several values; also used collection.

Of the new permanent issue blocks of four and six, and also sheets were shown of all values which have reached England up to the present.

E. H. F. SALT.—A second collection of this recent stamp-issuing Colony was shown in singles, complete, including both types of the Papua overprint.

British Solomon Islands.

U. A. MABILLE.—Showed several varieties of shades, unused only.

British Somaliland.

MRS. FIELD.—Queen's heads complete, including the 3 rupees with inverted overprint. King's heads and official stamps complete, including several of the rare varieties without stop after M of O.H.M.S.

U. A. MABILLE.—A collection mostly in blocks showing many of the varieties of surcharge. The officials were complete with the exception of errors.

E. H. F. SALT.—A third collection practically complete in singles, but omitting officials.

British South Africa.

J. C. SIDEBOTHAM.—A collection comprising used and unused, including the first issue complete, the 1891 provisionals, mint, and all other issues to 1896 complete. A fine range of shades.

LIEUT. A. E. STEWART.—A nice collection, containing the 1890 issue up to £10, postally used; 1891, set of four provisionals.

Brunei.

U. A. MABILLE.—Complete, unused, with the exception of the error 1c. black overprint.

Canada.

MAJOR H. C. FRENCH, R.A.M.C.—This collection showed the pence issues in fine states, both used and unused. The 10 pence were represented by 3 mint copies, and the 6 pence perforated also by 3 mint copies. The 1c. on laid paper was shown mint, as was the 10c. of 1859, of which there were 12 superb copies. A number of interesting essays and proofs on India paper.

Cape of Good Hope.

PERCY BRIGHT (S).—Triangulars. A very fine lot, principally specimens with good margins, and in the case of used copies, lightly cancelled.

1853. Perkins, Bacon & Co.
Bluish paper.

Good range of shades. 1d. and 4d. unused. 1d. used, 69 specimens, including 12 pairs, 6 blocks of 4, 1 block of 8, mostly in superb condition. 4d., 20 used specimens, including 3 pairs and a block of 4.

1855-58. White paper.

1d., 28 unused specimens, including 3 pairs and 2 blocks of 4; 37 used specimens, including 8 pairs and 1 block of 4, the latter with red postmark.

4d., 11 unused specimens, including 2 blocks of 4; 139 used copies in various shades, with numerous pairs and blocks, including a block of 8 with red postmark.

6d. lilac, reddish lilac, slate lilac and purple, 14 unused specimens, mostly very fine, including 3 on bleuté, and a pair of the lilac shade, rare thus: 53 used specimens, including 6 pairs and a block of 4 in a remarkable series of shades, also several specimens of the "worn plate" variety.

1s. yellow green, 4 unused specimens; 29 used specimens, including 7 pairs and a block of 4.

1s. dark green, 5 unused specimens, including 2 pairs; 22 used specimens, including a pair, block of 4, and on original cover.

1861. Provisional issue.

A very fine lot. The 1d. was not shown unused, but 4 specimens of the rare brick-red shade, and 23 specimens of the carmine shade, including 2 pairs and blocks of 3 and 4, the latter on original cover were present and in superb condition.

4d. light blue. A fine unused specimen and 23 used specimens, including 3 pairs; one pair and several singles being on original covers.

4d. medium and dark blue, 10 fine used copies in various shades.

1d. Error.

A superb specimen, with fine margins.

1863. Printed by De la Rue & Co.

1d. carmine red unused in blocks of 8, pairs, etc. 1d. carmine red used block of 4, pair, etc.

1d. brown red unused and used in blocks, pairs, etc.

4d. blue, 24 unused specimens, including blocks, pairs, etc., and a superb specimen of the "worn plate" variety; 76 used specimens in various shades, including blocks, etc.

6d. bright mauve, 13 unused specimens, including blocks and pairs; 15 used specimens, including block of 4 and 2 pairs.

1s. pale yellow green unused, in pairs.

1s. emerald green, 3 unused pairs and 11 used specimens, including a pair.

Variety, Watermark, Crown and C.C.

A mint pair of the 1d.

The Rectangular Issues.

These were very complete, including many pairs and blocks unused. The following may be noted: 5s. C.C. 2 unused specimens; the errors "THE.EE" and "PENCB." The short figure "3" on threepence inverted, unused; the error "One Half-enny," 4 used specimens of the 5s. C.A., including a pair and numerous other scarce varieties. The Mafeking issues were also present.

W. H. Tarrant.—This exhibitor had mounted his stamps since Leicester, and they showed to greater advantage by reason of not being so crowded. He has a nice collection of them, but it naturally suffered in comparison to the collection just described. A letter sheet was shown bearing 6d. slate-lilac and half of the 4d. blue to cover 8d. postage. Three stamps were shown rouletted, including 4d. and 6d. from the Roberts collection. The woodblocks included the rare retouched corner, two 1d. brick-red, four crimson (one with shaded letters "one penny"), of the 4d. six pale blue and three dark blue. Included with these were two on original letters, one showing postmark Port Elizabeth, March 5, 61, the earliest known, and the other, a very fine dark blue, postmarked Port Elizabeth, No. 5, 61. The De la Rue series of 1863 showed a fine variety in all shades. The rectangular issues were in a large variety of shades, and were nearly all mint specimens. There was a very fine pair of the 5s. C.A. used, and the provisional issues were also well represented. Mafeking Siege Stamps: A set of these stamps.

Ceylon.

O. K. Trechmann.—Of all the exhibits this struck the eye as being the property of a philatelist—a name unknown hitherto as a specialist, which rendered the exhibit all the more interesting. It was well mounted, the condition of the stamps was high watermark, and quality well represented. The property of one who was not known to possess such a fine lot occasioned the greater pleasure to those privileged to view the exhibit. If Mr. Trechmann proceeds he will indeed soon have to be enrolled as a Great Mogul.

U. A. Mabille.—The King's head stamps were shown complete, mostly in pairs with control numbers. The officials used and unused.

J. C. Sidebotham.—A single specimen collection.

Cyprus.

Major H. C. French, R.A.M.C.—Practically complete, the used being mounted separately from the unused. The plate numbers were shown used, and included most of the known errors and varieties. The later issues are well represented by mint blocks of four, from 1882 to 1908. An uncatalogued variety is the ½ piastre green, C.C. watermark, surcharged with large "1" in "½" on left, used.

Dominica.

J. Stelfox Gee.—Practically complete, used and unused, showing two 1d. and a half of a 1d. of first issue used as 2½d. Surcharged bisected stamps of 1882-3 shown in variety, also strips of nine on three original envelopes, 1d. of 1887 bisected used, also entires.

East Africa and Uganda Protectorates.

H. Bean.—A collection.

Falkland Islands.

J. Stelfox Gee.—Practically all catalogue varieties, used and unused, with shades, proof of 6d. stamp in blue. Half of 1d., both with and without surcharge, used on original envelopes, right and left halves surcharged unused and used (right half of latter with double surcharge), and unsevered pair used. 2s. 6d. and 5s. used and unused, block of four 5s. unused, etc.

This was a nice exhibit, but, like his Dominica, suffered from being too crowded in the arrangement of the stamps. It would have been materially improved if double the number of sheets had been used in the mounting, a fault which Mr. Gee can, and we feel sure will, remedy next time.

Fiji.

W. Dorning Beckton.—A collection.

Gambia.

Douglas Ellis.—This exhibit showed shades in the unused and various cancellations in the used. Entire sheets of the 1886-7 issued showing the different comb perforations; in the 3d. and 6d. the different plates; and of the ½d. green the various printings. Of the later issues blocks were shown with plate Nos.

E. A. Leigh.—A simplified collection of this colony, leaving out the numerous shades of the embossed type, but otherwise complete.

Lieut. A. E. Stewart.—A complete collection of mostly mint specimens and fine shades of all issues.

Gibraltar and Morocco Agencies.

G. Fred. H. Gibson.—A representative collection of Great Britain stamps used in Gibraltar before the control of the post office there was assumed by the local authorities. Contained 2d. large crown, perf. 16, postmarked "G"; the 9d. emblems and 9d. spray, and 10d. brown, spray. Collection showed all the varieties of postmarks used, by which alone these stamps can be distinguished from Great Britain stamps used without overprint at home and elsewhere.

H. W. Westcott.—A comprehensive collection, comprising a number of stamps of Great Britain, as used in Gibraltar from 1857 until the end of 1885, and illustrating the various postmarks employed there during that period. The 1889 error (carmine stamp—*value omitted*). A curiosity was mounted showing, it was claimed, a faintly printed inverted 25c. surcharge upon the 1d. carmine stamp of 1889; but we failed, in spite of many endeavours, to get a glass strong enough in the Exhibition to bring out the so-called error; neither could we get anyone who was able to confirm Mr. Westcott in his opinion. We fear this error must be received *Cum grano salis*.

Morocco Agencies.

H. W. Westcott.—Seventeen pages were devoted to stamps used in the thirteen British Postal Agencies in Morocco. Gibraltar stamps bearing obliterations which prove that they emanated from some of these offices before the overprint was adopted, were shown in singles and pairs on the first page.

A good collection, practically all single specimens of the overprinted stamps, including the varieties and examples of the 1898 (40c. and 50c.) overprint in indigo.

Grenada.

W. Dorning Beckton.—A collection.

Griqualand West.

R. B. Yardley.—A specialised collection arranged after the handbook written by Lieut. F. H. Napier, R.N.

All the different printings and settings of the overprint were represented and clearly indicated.

Amongst the rarities were the following:—

1874. Manuscript surcharge, pair unused, also a single specimen.

Overprinted with the large "G" printed in red or black (Lieut. Napier's "all red" setting). There were many unused specimens of the rarer types of the 4d. with and without frame, and of the 6d., 1s. and 5s.; the rarest type, "2b," of the handbook being represented unused in the 6d., 1s. and 5s. There was a strip of three of 1d. overprinted with the second setting of the large "G," black, a very interesting piece (Lieut. Napier's B setting).

Overprinted with the large "G" printed in black (Lieut. Napier's "all black" setting). There was a vertical strip of the 4d. mint, also a complete set of the rare types on the 6d.; and an almost complete double pane of the 1d. with all the rarest types represented in position.

The smaller antique "G," Roman or Italic were almost completely represented, including the double and the inverted overprint, and the rare specimens of the Roman and Italic "G" varieties, *se tenant,* normal and inverted. Included were a vertical strip of three of the 6d. Italic overprint unused (very rare in this condition), and the ½d. overprinted with the Roman "G" in black, normal, and the Roman "G" in red, inverted.

There were three specimens of the 4d. with outer frame, with Italic or Roman antique overprints.

Heligoland.

J. C. Sidebotham.— A representative collection.

Hong Kong.

Joseph Brooks.—Nice collection, with the exception of a few rarities, showing all the issues (including King's heads) in used and nearly all in unused condition.

Thomas H. Hinton.—The second collection was fairly complete, only lacking some few of the rare errors of surcharge and fiscals which have not been in general circulation.

India.

D. C. Gray.—A specialised collection of the first issue in used condition, which displayed good philatelic knowledge and formed a most interesting exhibit. The collection contained representative specimens of the four transfers of the ½ anna, the three transfers of the 1 anna, and the three settings of 4 anna stamp. A feature was made of the inclusion of pairs and blocks, and of the various shades of the ½, 1 and 2 anna stamps. Among the scarcer stamps were several specimens of the retouched ½ anna stamp die 1, and a strip of four of the pointed bust variety of the 1 anna.

G. Gearing Hiatt.—A small but interesting collection was also shown of Indian stamps bearing Persian postmarks.

Lieut. A. E. Stewart.—A good display including 1854, various mint blocks of the ½, 1, 2 anna values, 4 annas red and blue first transfer, strip of four; second transfer a pair.

1860. 8 pies a blueté mint.

1883. ½a. green double print.

Service, provisional, 2a. black and purple, mint pair.

The collection contains mint blocks of all varieties of the issues from 1865-95.

E. W. Wetherell exhibited several sheets in the above collection.

Whitfield King & Co.—A large mint block of the ½a. green 1882-88 issue, double impression.

U. A. Mabille (China Expeditionary Force).—Complete in mint pairs and strips, including the variety "O" for "C" in the overprint C.E.F., in ½, 2 and 4 annas values.

Indian Convention States.

J. S. Higgins, jun.—A collection of the stamps of India, surcharged for the Convention States of Chamba, Faridkot, Gwalior, Jhind, Nabha, and Puttialla. Contains all the general issues and Service stamps unused; also varieties of surcharge, etc.

Indian Native Feudatory States.

Alexander J. Sefi.—Part only of this exhibit, which was a very large one, was shown. It comprised all the States, but those of Jammu and Kashmir were the most interesting and important. This collection was a very large one, and is highly specialised. Of the circulars only two sheets were shown illustrating the three types, and including, amongst other things, fine copies of the ½ anna slate-blue on native paper of 1877, and the ½ anna yellow on European laid. Of the early rectangulars several sheets were shown illustrating plating, etc. The later rectangulars were more fully represented, and included a large proportion of used copies; they included singles, pairs, sheets, and reconstructed sheets, also stamps used on original covers, and forgeries, some postally used, and reconstructed sheet of the 8 anna "Missing Die" was shown. The 1878 set, printed in orange, was complete, and included six used copies of the ½ anna, one on original cover, and two fine unused. Of the rarity, the ¼ anna ultramarine on laid bâtonné paper, three copies were shown, including a magnificent used pair. There were reconstructed sheets of the 4 annas green, and 8 annas blue, used; a fine block of the ½ anna bright blue unissued type; also the ¼ anna of the same character. An interesting piece was the error of colour, ⅛ anna sage green instead of brown. The service stamps were also shown in singles, pairs, sheets, and reconstructed sheets, and included some fine used blocks, also two copies of the ¼ anna on extremely thick white wove paper. Impressions in black from all the dies and plates presented to an Indian officer by Mr. Kiernander, P.M.G. of the Kashmir State, who had these plates defaced. The plates are now in the Treasury at Srínagar.

J. G. Horner (Hyderabad).—A small collection consisting chiefly of used copies. The first stamp was shown imperf. horizontally and the 3 annas imperf. all round. There was a copy of the 12a. in the scarce pale grey green shade, and the later printings of the ½a. of 1871-1900 in vermilion were fully represented both surcharged (¼a.) and unsurcharged.

Ionian Islands.

Owen Fearnley, R.N.—An extremely interesting exhibit of the three stamps of these islands showing how they were appropriated as to value. Unused: ½d. single, 1d. pair, 2d. pair from corner of sheet showing full margins. Used: Eighteen on entires including four ½d., strip of three 1d. and strip of three 2d., also various combinations of the values.

The exhibit also included several interesting entires showing the postmarks employed prior to the introduction of adhesives, and concluded with an entire showing the introduction of the stamps of Greece, but cancelled with the date stamp employed for the British issue.

Jamaica.

Dr. E. W. Floyd.—A small collection of English stamps used from various sub-post offices in Jamaica, several on the entire covers.

J. Stelfox Gee.—A practically complete collection used and unused, with variety of shades, inverted watermarks, etc. Half of 1d. blue used as ½d. on original, 1890 issue 4d. surcharged "Two pence half penny," shown with the normal type used and unused, Pennk and Pfnny unused *se tenant*, Pfnny used, and double surcharge both used and unused. Postal fiscals, officials, entires and strip of six Telegraph stamps 3d. value, used postally on original cover.

Lagos.

Joseph Brooks.—A collection.

D. S. Darkin.—Another collection.

Levant.

Dr. E. W. Floyd.—Fine specialised collection used and unused showing minor varieties of the overprints on English stamps; and also the English stamps used without overprint at Constantinople, Smyrna, Beyrout, Salonica, and Stamboul. The collection contained two mint copies and one used of the 12 piastres on

bleuté paper, and the 40 paras on ½d. vermilion used; 1 piastre on 2d. Levant, used, etc.

Maldive Islands.

U. A. Mabille.—A mint set.

Malta.

J. C. North.—His well-known collection.

Montserrat.

J. C. Sidebotham.—A collection.

U. A. Mabille.—Another collection.

Natal.

W. Tunstall.—Recent issues.

Nevis.

A. H. L. Giles, R.N.—A collection.

New Brunswick.

Edgar Nelton.—Collection of used and unused. The first issue was represented by mint copies of the 3d. and 6d. and six used singles and one pair of the 3d.; seven singles used of the 6d. and two used shades of the 1s. In the second issue the 5c. sap green, 5c. brown (Connell) were represented by mint specimens. An interesting series of covers was shown, including two used in 1857 and in 1860 on which the postage prepaid is denoted by handstamp in red. Fine copies of the 3d. and 6d. of the first issue and a number of the second issue including half of the 10c. used as 5c. were shown.

Newfoundland.

Bernard Kirby.—A collection of this colony, including first, second, and third issues, printed by Perkins, Bacon & Co., used and unused. The later issues were shown in mint blocks, and in singles used and unused.

New South Wales.

Harvey R. G. Clarke.—His well-known and superb collection of Sydneys, the finest exhibit on view. The later issues were also shown, including the retouches on the 2d. blue, 1854-6 issue.

A. H. L. Giles, R.N.—A nice lot.

New Zealand.

H. L. Hayman.—A large collection of the stamps of New Zealand, first type only, of the issues from 1855 to 1872, the greater part unused, and many shown in large blocks, pairs, and strips. Amongst them were mint copies of the 1856, thick paper, no watermark, 1d., 2d., and 6d., and several of the pelure paper and of other scarce stamps—nearly 1,000 in all.

W. B. Edwards, B.Sc.—A fine collection of the pictorial issues in singles and blocks, all mint, including all varieties of paper, watermark, and perforation.

O. K. Trechmann.—Another collection.

U. A. Mabille (Aitutaki, Niue, and Penhryn Islands).—Collections of the stamps of New Zealand, surcharged for these Islands, many in large blocks.

Niger Coast Protectorate.

The Rev. Hayman Cummings.—A small collection showing 1892 used and mint, 1894 used and unused, 1898 mint blocks of four.

E. A. Leigh.—An interesting display of this Colony, most of the stamps being shown both in unused and fine used condition. Several of the provisionals issued locally in 1893 were represented, also various shades, and varieties of postmarks of the later issues.

North Borneo.

Mrs. Field.—This collection contained all the normal varieties of the early issues and many rare errors, including a pair of the 3c. on 4c. pink of 1886 showing both varieties of "3" *se tenant*. The low values of the 1886-7 issues were shown in complete sheets to illustrate the two printings. All the later issues were practically complete, and two rare errors—1881-2 6c. on 10c. inverted surcharge, and 1904-5 4c. on 10 dollars with inverted surcharge were shown.

Northern Nigeria.

E. A. Leigh.—A small collection, complete with the exception of the £25 King's head.

U. A. Mabille.—An unused collection.

Nova Scotia.

A. H. L. Giles, R.N.—A small but interesting collection of this Colony. The pence issues were represented by a mint copy of the 1d. red brown, two unused shades of the 3d. deep blue, and a used copy of the 6d. yellow green on blue paper.

Edgar Nelton.—Another collection of both used and unused. The first issue was well represented, and included a single unused and a single and pair used of the 1d. red brown, the 1s. mauve used, and several fine shades of the 6d. The 1860-63 issues were shown used and unused; imperforate proofs of this issue were included. The collection also contained a nice lot of pieces on entires, and included the 1s. mauve, several fine shades of the 6d., and half of the 6d. used as 3d.

Orange River Colony.

Mrs. Field.—In this collection a strong display of the Orange Free State issues, including many of the rare types and errors of surcharges was shown.

The Orange River Colony were a magnificent lot, and included most values without stop after "V," 6d. blue without figure of value, 2½d. on 3d. with antique

"2" and Roman "I" in "½," all varieties with thick "V" and 5s. with short top to "5." All the stamps were mint.

W. Archibald Boyes.—South African War Stamps, a collection.

Prince Edward Island.

Edgar Nelton.—A collection containing used and unused, practically complete and including a nice lot of pieces on covers. The first issue, perf. 9, was well represented by used and unused specimens, and used copies on the original covers.

Queensland.

O. K. Trechmann.—An interesting collection.

St. Christopher.

J. C. Sidebotham.—The issues to the C.A. watermark were complete, and contained many fine shades. Later surcharges not so complete.

St. Helena.

H. H. Harland.—A nice collection of all issues, containing halfpenny with double surcharge.

F. J. Newitt.—Another collection.

St. Kitts-Nevis.

H. Bean.—A collection.

St. Lucia.

O. K. Trechmann.—A collection.

St. Vincent.

Joseph Brooks.—This was Mr. Brooks' (who is one of the most enthusiastic amongst the Juniors) strongest exhibit, and it contained the 1866 4d. blue unused, and 1s. slate grey used, 1869 4d. yellow used and unused, 1s. brown used, 1875 1s. claret unused, 1877 4d. blue unused, 1881 ½d. on half sixpence unused, and unsevered pair used, 1d. drab unused, 1886 6d. lavender unused, and King's Heads.

O. K. Trechmann.—Another collection.

Sarawak.

Humphrey Bennett.—This was a highly specialised collection and a very large one. Only a portion of it was displayed. Our readers will remember it was the one to gain the Silver Medal at the recent Exhibition at Leicester. We have before, in these columns, spoken in high terms of this exhibit.

Seychelles.

J. W. Heath.—This Colony was shown practically complete in both used and unused condition. The numerous surcharges with several of their varieties, particularly of the 1902 issue were displayed. The King's Heads, single and multiple watermarks, were complete.

Sierra Leone.

E. A. Leigh.—A collection.

Soudan.

B. W. H. Poole.—This Colony was shown practically complete, including the five types of the first issue and the most noticeable minor varieties in singles and blocks, and a copy of the 1m. with inverted surcharge. The Camel series were complete, including the 5m. and 1p. with inverted surcharge. Postage dues were shown in singles and blocks. The official issues perforated "S G," with punctured letters inverted and reversed. The "OSGS" with their numerous varieties, the "Army Official" and "Army Service" were also complete.

South Australia.

Wm. W. Munn.—A collection principally of the line engraved stamps, from the Perkins Bacon plates, London and Colonial printings. An attempt to show by the comparison of dated specimens, the sequence of the extraordinary range of shades perpetrated by the Colonial printers in their attempt to get the colour of the London printing. The collection included many of the shades unused and most of the compound perfs.

O. K. Trechmann.—Another collection.

Southern Nigeria.

E. A. Leigh.—A complete collection of this Colony, including the Queen's Head 10s., King's Head single watermark £1, etc. The lower values of each set were shown used and unused.

Stellaland.

Whitfield King & Co.—A fine assortment of both postage and revenue stamps.

Straits Settlements.

Dr. F. W. Abbott.—Collection, including mint copies of the 1st issue, 1879-82 and 1883 provisionals. The 1892 issue was shown with many varieties of lettering, one cent on 6 cents double surcharge, one inverted, and the 32c. carmine rose surcharge omitted.

The Native Protected States were fairly well represented, and included many rare and interesting varieties.

Tasmania.

R. B. Yardley.—A specialised collection, including :—

1853. 1d. unused, and a strip of four used; 4d. cut square unused, including one on laid paper.

Watermarked star. 1d., pair mint, 2d. two single specimens unused.

No watermark. 2d. emerald green, unused, 1d. pelure, strip of three mint.

Watermark double-lined numerals. 2d. emerald green mint, 2d. blue green unused, 6d. London print unused, 6d. red lilac imperforate mint.

Watermark "2." 1d. perf. 12 penmarked; 1d. perforated 12 compounded with 10 unused.

Surface printed stamps of De la Rue type.

Watermarked T A S 1st type. 1d. vermilion, 2d. yellow green, 5s. glacé paper, perf. 12.

Provisional ½d. on 1d., entire sheet of two panes, one stamp being the error with "al" misplaced, and another complete sheet with the error corrected.

Recent Issues of Landscape Stamps.

(*a*) On paper watermarked V and Crown, ½d. and 2d., compound perforations 11 × 12½.

(*b*) On paper watermarked A and Crown, 1d. and 2d. perforated 11 (Melbourne machine) compounded with the Hobart perforation 12.

Tobago.

J. C. Sidebotham.—A collection.

Tonga.

J. H. Abbott.—A practically complete and highly specialised collection in blocks and sheets. In the 1897 issue the 7½d. was included with inverted head. The service stamps were also shown unused.

Transvaal.

J. C. Sidebotham.—Late issues. A most interesting exhibit.

Trinidad.

Francis Ransom.—The first issues were represented by used and unused specimens showing varieties in shades and papers, and including stamps on original envelopes. The lithographed issue of 1852 showed the various stages of the plate, and included five pairs and an entire sheet of 54 stamps of the (1d.) red. Amongst the pin-perforated stamps of 1859 was a corner block of the 1d. red. The later issues included many blocks and pairs, and there were three copies of the "Lady McLeod."

Uganda Protectorate.

Mrs. E. C. Bazett.—This collection contained 19 stamps of the 1895 (Cowrie) issue, and 24 of the 1896 (Cowrie) issue.

Virgin Islands.

W. Dorning Beckton.—A collection.

Victoria.

The Rev. Hayman Cummings.—A collection chiefly of used.

A. H. L. Giles, R.N.—A collection of used and unused, containing many fine copies of the early issues.

O. K. Trechmann.—Another collection.

Western Australia.

L. L. R. Hausburg.—A magnificent collection, running Mr. Harvey Clarke's New South Wales a good race for the championship.

1854. 1d. black block of 4; proof in black of 4d. litho; 4d. inverted swan, or more properly *inverted frame*; chart of the complete sheet of the 4d., showing all the transfer varieties and their positions, including that of the inverted; another transfer variety with AUSTRALIA squeezed together, which does not occur on the sheet, and was probably corrected at the same time as the inverted swan; a vertical strip of the 1d. rouletted (used); a pair of the 4d. blue litho rouletted horizontally only, and containing two of the chief transfer varieties, PE close and the letters RALIA shorter.

1857. 2d. unused (six); 6d. (three), one showing bronze, several being mint. 2d. rouletted, Indian red, used.

1861. Perf. not so clean cut: 1d. block of four, 2d. block of twenty, 4d. (three), 6d. (three), 1s. (one). Rough perf.: 1d. block of nine, 6d. *blueté* (two), 1s. dark green (two).

1864. No watermark, 1d. and 6d. on very thin, almost pelure, paper.

1865. Crown and C.C. watermark, 4d. and 6d. double prints; 2d. in colour of 6d. mint; 1d. on 2d. block of twelve and ditto surcharged three times, used. Crown and C.A. watermark, 1d. 12 × 14, two mint. All later issues shown in blocks of four, with sheets of the surcharges.

Zanzibar.

Thomas William Hall.—His well-known and highly specialised collection.

Zululand.

Dr. E. W. Floyd.—A complete collection up to the £1 value of the 1894 issue, including all varieties.



The earliest information as to New Issues will be much appreciated by us, and will be duly credited to the correspondent, or firm, sending it. Our foreign subscribers can materially help us in this direction. When possible, a specimen should accompany the information, and be addressed to

G. Fred. H. Gibson, *Fairfield, Crumpsall, Manchester.*

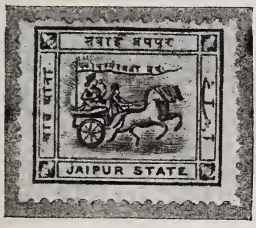
The British Empire.

Cayman Islands. — Provisionals here seem to be of weekly occurrence ; this time the 4d. value has been surcharged "2½d." in black. Two sheets only were treated thus.

Adhesive.

2½d. in black on 4d. brown and blue.

India. Jaipur.—*Ewen's Weekly* mentions a new shade of the current 1a., bright red in lieu of brown-red.



Adhesive.

1a. bright red.

Newfoundland. — Mr. W. H. Peckitt informs us that he is advised that there is not going to be any change in the current 1c. stamps, as was recently reported.

New Zealand.—*Ewen's Weekly* reports three novelties under this heading, and with regard to the first-named we cannot do better than take the following paragraph from the *Daily Telegraph* of the 4th instant :

"Stamp collectors will have their appe-
"tites whetted by the arrival in this country
"of the first of the letters transmitted by
"mail from the shores of King Edward
"VII.'s Land. They come from the
"exploring-ship Nimrod, and bear a post-
"mark 'Antarctic Expedition, Jan. 15th,
"1908.' The stamp employed is the New
"Zealand penny red, the words 'King
"Edward VII. Land' being printed in black
"letters across the face. The mail was
"brought by the steamship Koonya, which
"left the Nimrod a mile or so from the ice-
"pack near King Edward's most southerly
"possession. Lieut. Shackleton, leader of
"the present expedition, was formally
"appointed Postmaster of King Edward
"VII.'s Land some little time back. This
"is the first time that letters from the
"South Polar regions have been transmitted
"all the way to England for a penny."

Adhesive.

1d. rose. Surcharged "King Edward VII. Land," in two lines in black.

Adhesives.

½d. green. Perf. 14 × 13½.
4d. yellow-brown and blue. Perf. 14 × 13½.

Papua. — According to *Gibbons' Stamp Weekly*, the remaining values of the permanent set have now been issued. We have already chronicled the ½d. and 4d., the others being as follows :—

Adhesives.

Wmk. Crown and A. Perf. 11.

1d. black and red.
2d. ,, ,, violet.
2½d. ,, ,, ultramarine.
6d. ,, ,, green.
1s. ,, ,, orange.
2s.6d. ,, ,, brown.

St. Christopher and Nevis.—*Ewen's Weekly* reports the 6d. value upon multiple watermark paper.



Adhesive.
Wmk. CA and Crown multiple.
6d. violet and black.

South Australia.—*Ewen's Weekly* has received the current 8d. stamp in a different shade of blue to heretofore—dull pale blue instead of ultramarine.

Southern Nigeria.—The ½d. all green, chronicled in September last year, has now been issued, Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. sending us a specimen.

Straits Settlements. JOHORE.—The *Monthly Journal* states that the current set has been enriched by the addition of a 10 dollar stamp.



Adhesive.
10 dollars green and black.

FEDERATED MALAY STATES.—The same paper reports the issue of the 5d. stamp upon multiple watermark paper.

Adhesive.
Wmk. CA and Crown multiple.
5d. green and blue.

Foreign Countries.

Afghanistan. — *Gibbons' Stamp Weekly* states that a 1r. has just been issued, design similar to that of the 1906 issue.

Adhesive.
1r. blue on bright blue.

Austria.—The same paper gives particulars of some new Journal stamps recently issued; so far four values have been seen, all imperforate and without watermark.

Adhesives.
2h. deep blue.
6h. orange.
10h. rose-carmine.
20h. chocolate.

Belgium.—*Ewen's Weekly* is informed that the Belgian Government has opened several offices in China. The stamps to be issued are the 5c., 10c., 25c., and 50c.; they will be overprinted "Chine," and the value in Chinese currency.

Holland. DUTCH INDIES.—The 2½g. of the new type has at last been issued, Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. sending us a specimen.

Italy.—*Ewen's Weekly* lists three new Postage Due, or Segna Tasse stamps, of the usual design.

Unpaid Letter stamps.
Adhesives.
2c. grey. Value in red.
3c. brown. ,,
6c. green. ,,

Nicaragua.—The *Stamp Collector's Fortnightly* reports the current set overprinted "Costa Atlantica B." Messrs. Whitfield King & Co, also send us the 50c. surcharged "Vale 10c." vertically, in blue.

Adhesives.
Surcharged "Costa Atlantica B."

1 centavo		green.
2 centavos		red.
3	,,	violet.
4	,,	brown orange.
5	,,	blue.
10	,,	light brown.
15	,,	olive.
20	,,	claret.
50	,,	orange.
1 peso		black.
2 pesos		green.
5	,,	violet.

Adhesive.
10c. in blue on 5cc. orange.

Paraguay.—Mr. W. W. Munn sends us the 5c. dull blue Official stamp, inscribed 1904, surcharged "Habilitado," with a bar below. It is used, together with four of the ordinary postage stamps, all dated 1904. The letter was posted on the 28th January, the writer stating that the first-named was issued on that day.

Adhesive.
5c. dull blue. Surcharged "Habilitado" in black.

Servia.—We are indebted to *Gibbons' Stamp Weekly* for the following information:

"All the values of the current set, with "the exception of the 3din., have been "issued on thicker paper, laid horizontally, "the perforation being now 12 × 11½, "instead of 11½."



Adhesives.

1p. black and pale grey.
5p. ,, pale green.
10p. ,, rose-red.
15p. ,, lilac.
20p. ,, yellow.
25p. ,, blue.
30p. ,, grey-green.
50p. ,, deep brown.
1din. ,, buff.
5din. ,, violet.

Spain. Rio de Oro.—Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. send us four provisionals; three are formed by overprinting certain values of the 1905 set with date and new value in three lines; but in the case of the fourth, a large green fiscal stamp has been employed; here the name and value appear at the sides, with "Habilitado Para Correos" in three lines in the middle.

Adhesives.

"1908 2 cens" on 2p. yellow-brown.
"1907 10 cens" on 75c. purple.
"1907 10 cens" on 50c. dark green.
"5 cens" on 50c. green.

Notes and News.

Manchester Philatelic Society.

The 266th meeting was held at the rooms of the Geographical Society on Friday evening, February 21st, Mr. Beckton in the chair.

He gave a display with notes of the stamps of Sweden, pointing out the different varieties. Through the kindness of Mr. C. J. Phillips, his collection of reprints of the first and second issues was also shown, special attention being called to the rare series made in 1885.

Mr. Abbott presided at the next meeting on March 6th. Mr. Frank Barton was elected a corresponding member. The Hon. Secretary read a letter received from the family of the late Miss Boutflower, in acknowledgment of the vote of sympathy passed by the Society, and it was ordered to be placed upon the minutes.

A Sub-Committee was appointed to suggest a place for the annual picnic, and to report to the next meeting.

Mr. Bernstein read a paper on "The Universal Postal Union," which he described as the parliament of the world's post. He explained the want of system existing in postal arrangements prior to 1862, when Mr. Blair, Postmaster-General of the United States, suggested a conference to discuss the adoption of international postal relations. He gave a short account of the subsequent conferences, and pointed out that all the civilised countries of the world are now represented in the Union. We hope to publish the paper in due course.

Junior Philatelic Society: Manchester Branch.

A meeting was held on Thursday, March 5th, at the Deansgate Hotel, Mr. I. J. Bernstein, the President, in the chair. Mr. W. D. Beckton, the President of the Manchester Philatelic Society, gave a highly interesting paper on "Stamps and Stamp Collecting." So many incidents of interest were given by Mr. Beckton that space permits us of only giving a few.

Members of Parliament were allowed to autograph their correspondence, which was then carried free by His Majesty's Post Office, previous to the use of adhesive stamps. This privilege, however, was cancelled upon the introduction of penny postage. Various methods were already known previous to the introduction or invention of stamps to signify the prepayment of postage—namely, the Sardinian letter-sheets of 1813 to 1836, the envelopes of Sydney, N.S.W., the latter being used during the Postmaster-Generalship of Sir D. Cooper, afterwards President of the London Philatelic Society. Also the free posts of Batavia, Dutch East Indies.

The earliest press notice of the collecting of stamps in "Notes and Queries" was by S. F. Cresswell, of Tunbridge Schools, calling attention to the collection of some 300 to 400 stamps made by a boy in his class, who quoted the authority of Rowland Hill that there were already some 500 varieties in existence.

A Mr. Moody issued the first catalogue in 1862, listing about 300 distinct varieties, but probably ignored many.

Mr. Beckton caused much amusement by giving a few details of his own initiation into the mysteries and fascinations of Philately, by the finding of a Porto Rica stamp during a game of cricket, about the year 1879. From then, to the time he first purchased an album; that, by the way, he never filled, fearing that by so doing he would spoil the newness and appearance of the book. In those days of Laliers' and Oppens', Mr. Beckton said he often feared anyone stealing his philatelic gems, so he carefully fixed them to the albums by means of an adhesive called "gragaline," which one had to place in heat before it became a liquid—and once it stuck anything there was no removing that object.

His earliest recollections of purchasing stamps were from a Mr. Ranck, who was the first dealer established in Manchester, and who died about 1898 or 1899. His first album was of German make

(Mr. Beckton did not know the meaning of Protection in those days!), and published by a firm whose name started with a "Zsch—" and ended with something like a sneeze. The stamps were provided for on the right-hand side of the opened book, and the description was given on the left-hand page. This was about 1880; so since then we can assume Mr. Beckton has never forsaken his hobby. In closing, he advised all not to specialise unless they felt they knew the seriousness of that branch of collecting. That the Manchester President knew what he was talking about, was evinced from the fine albums of his collection he handed round for the members' perusal.

A hearty vote of thanks brought a close to a more than usually interesting evening—probably more so on account of the lecturer's no mean conversational art.

Business Alteration.

We are asked to inform our readers that the title of the firm of Martin, Ray & Co. has been altered to Harmer, Rooke & Co., and that the business is now carried on under the direction of Mr. E. G. Harmer and Mr. M. Rooke.

* * *

A reader in the *Revue Postale* lately bought a small collection in a Moëns-Album of 1867. He was dumbfounded on reading amongst the good rules given to collectors printed on the inside of the cover the following two:—(1) "Collectors are recommended to cut all the perforations off the stamps"; and (2) "The publisher of the album would like to counsel the collectors to paste the stamps with the four corners in the book." The times and good rules have changed since then.

Correspondence.

Colombia and Cayman Islands.

To the Editor of the "Philatelic Record."

DEAR SIR,—*Colombia.*—We have been making enquiry concerning the provisional stamps issued for Cucuta and Santander last year, as we had been informed that a decree was issued in 1903 forbidding the use of separate issues of postage stamps in the various departments. We wrote to the British Consul at Bogota asking him to make enquiries, and we enclose copy of his reply. The stamps referred to will be found in Stanley Gibbons' catalogue, page 123, Nos. 49 to 69, and page 124, Nos. 32 to 46. We think the stamps have been made officially, but in view of this letter we can hardly believe that they were intended for postal use, but most likely were surcharged in order to get rid of the stock.

Cayman Islands.—There will probably be an article in this week's *Truth* with more details than have hitherto been published.—Yours faithfully,

WHITFIELD KING & CO.

Ipswich, *March 3rd, 1908.*

[COPY.]

British Consulate General,
Bogota,
January 22nd, 1908.

Gentlemen,—In reply to your letter of the 30th November last, I beg to inform you that I have shown the enclosed stamps to the Postmaster-General of the Republic, who confirms your supposition as to the impossibility of their being genuine. He informs me that you are also correct in believing that a decree still exists prohibiting any further issues of postage stamps by the different Departments, and he remarked that the surcharging of the stamps was, to his mind, in itself conclusive. I have also shown the stamps to an acquaintance of mine who is a collector, and he informs me that some, at least, of the stamps are obvious forgeries, and that they all look to him doubtful.

I beg to return the stamps, as requested, and remain, Gentlemen, your obedient servant,

(Signed) Victor Huckin,
Vice-Consul.

Whitfield King & Co.,
Ipswich.

Security of Postal Service.

To the Editor of the "Philatelic Record."

DEAR SIR,—In your editorial note upon the loss of a registered packet, the property of the "Palace Exchange Club," you mention especially that £5 is poor compensation for the loss of stamps worth £80. True as that is, there is another side to the question, and in justice to the P.O. one must remember that letters can be insured for a much higher sum by paying a small additional fee, and it is a high testimony to the general efficiency and security of our Postal Service that so many people are content with mere registration of high value packets.

Is there not a much more simple solution of the unstamped letter difficulty than the one you suggest—namely, that such letters should not be forwarded, but sent to the Dead Letter Office and a double fee to be paid by the sender on return of the letter?—Yours truly,

E. A. ELLIOTT.

16, Belsize-grove, Hampstead,
March 4th, 1908.

THE

Philatelic Record.

APRIL, 1908.

Editorial Note.

THE April number of the *Colonial Office Journal* contains some interesting news concerning the future of Colonial stamps. The effect of the announcement briefly is that the bi-coloured system of printing the Colonial stamps at present in vogue is to be abandoned, and in future all low values, that is, those under 3d., are to be uni-coloured, whilst those of 3d. and over are to be printed on coloured paper. In making the announcement the *Journal* says :—

Colonial Stamps.

"In our last issue we stated that we hoped to be in a position to discuss definite schemes for rendering impossible the manipulation of the values of stamps.

"One method would be for all the Colonies which employ the Universal key-plate system to purchase a new set of duty plates for use with a new Universal key-plate, which has been made and which shows only the head of His Majesty the King in an oval frame, somewhat similar to the Transvaal key-plate. The cost of this change, however, would have been very great. The following alternative plan which is on the point of being submitted to the various Colonial Governments would involve no expenditure except in a very few cases. We may be able to announce the decisions arrived at in our next issue. The scheme, which will allow of the existing plates being retained, is the adoption of single singly-fugitive colours for all stamps of less value than 3d., stamps of the value of 3d. and upwards being each printed partly in doubly-fugitive ink on the following coloured papers, *i.e.*, red, yellow, blue or green. It would occupy too much space to detail the varieties thus obtainable, but it would be essential for all Colonies to agree upon the same colour for the same, or approximately the same, values. The colours chosen will be seen as the issue of stamps of the different values is announced from time to time.

"Of the four coloured papers mentioned above, red, yellow, and blue have been fairly frequently used in the past, but it so happens that green paper has only been used for the 25 cents. stamp of Mauritius.

"We may mention that a fifth kind of paper of a buff colour has hitherto been used in the case of the five and eight cents. stamps of Mauritius, and the 4d. stamp of Trinidad, but in all probability no more of this paper will be made.

"The only Colonies whose stamps so far have been, or are being, printed in accordance with this new colour scheme are Grenada, Cayman Islands, St. Helena, and the Nyassaland Protectorate, the issues of each of them being of a description to a greater or less degree new."

Notable Philatelists.

O. Kramer Trechmann, J.P.

THOSE lovers of our hobby who flatter this journal in the dual sense of paying their subscriptions and also reading the contents will recall the words of praise given to an exhibit of Ceylon at the recent Exhibition of the Junior Philatelic Society at Caxton Hall. This exhibit bore the imprint of the Philatelist, and as such attracted general attention and admiration, the pleasure it aroused being heightened by the fact that it was the property of a collector hitherto unknown in the Exhibition arena.

That gentleman is the subject of our sketch this month, and after reading the history of his stamp career our readers will perceive that Mr. Trechmann is another grand example of the old-fashioned general collector, following upon years of good honest collecting, blossoming forth as a philatelist in the truest meaning of the word.

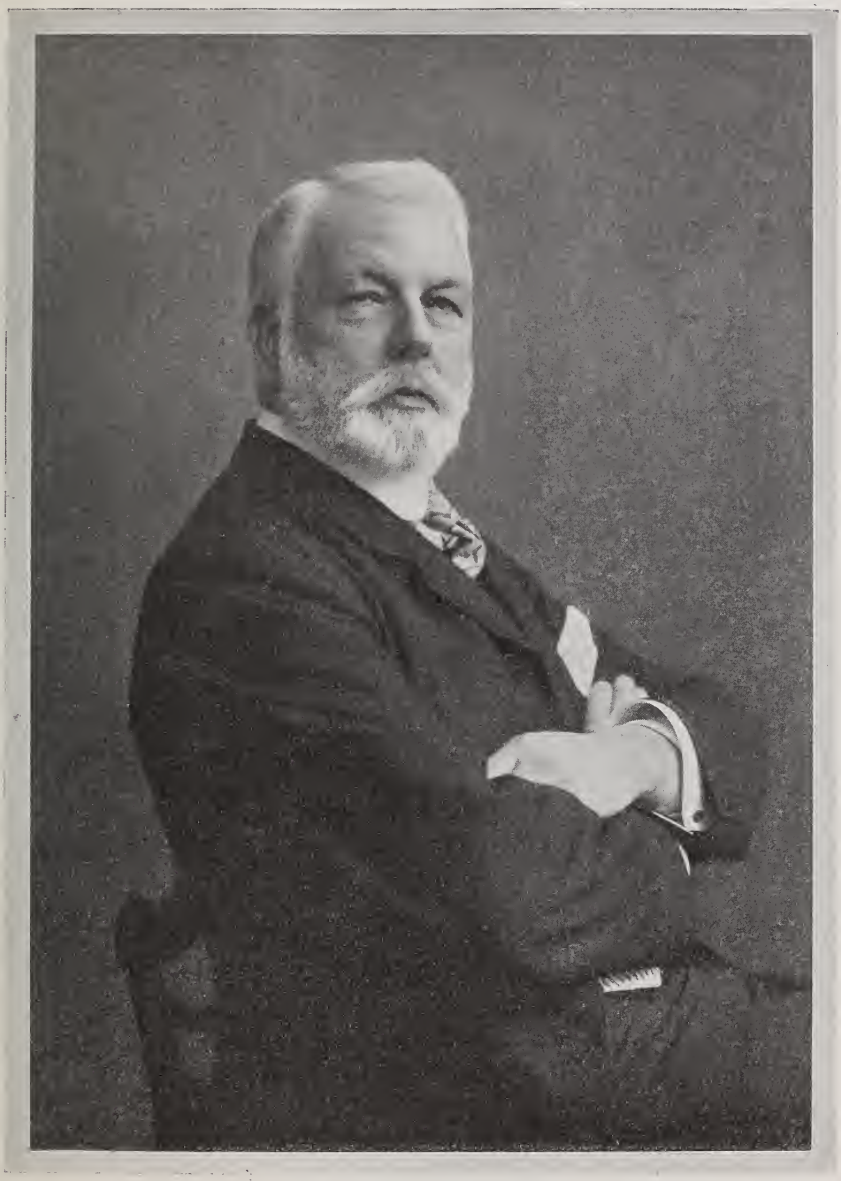
Prefacing the story of his stamp career, which we propose to give in his own words, we may say that Mr. Trechmann was born at Hartlepool in 1854, is a large ship-owner and cement manufacturer, the Director of five companies; Imperial German Consul, and upon the Commission of the Peace for the county borough of Hartlepool. He is a member of four provincial Philatelic Societies, but up to very recently has taken no active part such as would bring his name prominently before his brother collectors. We believe we are correct in stating that it was only in February last that he gave his first display with notes at a Society meeting, the favoured one being the North of England Society, which holds its meetings at Newcastle-on-Tyne, and that the recent Exhibition of the Juniors was the first occasion upon which he was induced to show; yet, as the following words of his show, Mr. Trechmann has been collecting a great many years.

"I commenced collecting in a vague manner when quite a boy and had many opportunities of securing the old German stamps in my father's office, but as it was sufficient at that time to keep only one specimen of each stamp, I gave away or exchanged all the others. Nor were we as boys very particular about the condition of the stamps.

"Many were exchanged later on at school, possibly for the more attractive 'tuck' to a lad at boarding-school; in fact, whilst at Richmond Grammar School, I cannot remember giving any attention to stamps, though some boys received approval sheets from Smiths.

"When in Hamburg, between the age of fourteen and eighteen, I added to my Germans and remember 'pasting' them into copy-books, but still only one specimen of each stamp, and of course taking no notice of perforations, watermarks, etc.

"It was not till late in the eighties that I bought a cheap Senf album and attempted to get some order out of the chaos of books, but soon found there was no room for new issues; so picked the album to



O. Kramer Trechmann, J.P.

pieces, and perforated the leaves at the left side, interleaved blank sheets for new issues, and filed them on pilot files, thus commencing the system of interchangeable leaves. I remember explaining this to a representative of Stanley Gibbons, which *may* have given them the idea of interchangeable leaf albums, as these appeared on the market two or three years later. Early in the nineties I joined several Exchange Clubs and got rid of many old German duplicates in that way—but evidently priced them very low—(I had no catalogue to go by at that time)—as I found the secretaries generally collared the lot at the time. From 1892 for some years I was too busy to give any time to philately, and it was only some years later that my zeal was revived, probably by my friend, Mr. Higinbottom, of Rochdale, who was then living here; but finding it was impossible to give sufficient time to all countries, as the number of those issuing stamps had increased so much, I turned my attention more to British Colonials. To these I have devoted the whole of my attention during the last ten years, more especially to some of the West Indians, Ceylon, and Australians.

"Having a brother at the Sydney University for some years, he got the dealers, Messrs. Smythe & Nicolle, to send me selections from time to time. Except in Ceylon, of which I collect both used and unused, having purchased a collection some years ago from Mr. A. Baysham, which contained many of the latter, I have remained true to the stamps which have done their duty, and this was after all the original idea of collecting stamps, though in this I consider it is entirely a matter of taste with each individual; in my opinion, the collecting of unused stamps has led to much speculation, and has turned philately more into a business matter than a simple hobby, which it has always been to me. I think the most of my time has been devoted to re-arrangements of the various countries, as new discoveries in both albums and stamps have come out from time to time, and such have always given me the greatest pleasure.

"Philately has indeed been a 'good pal' to me for many years, and we have spent many enjoyable winter evenings and dreary (as regards weather) days together—in fact, anyone devoted to this fascinating pursuit cannot grumble at finding time hanging heavily on his hands. The difficulty is to find the time to do all one wants at it; my own is, alas, very limited now, as on account of failing sight, I have for some years had to give up working at stamps by artificial light, and as I am engaged in business on week-days, Sundays are the only ones left to me now to do any 'work.'"

The Earliest Catalogues of Postage Stamps.

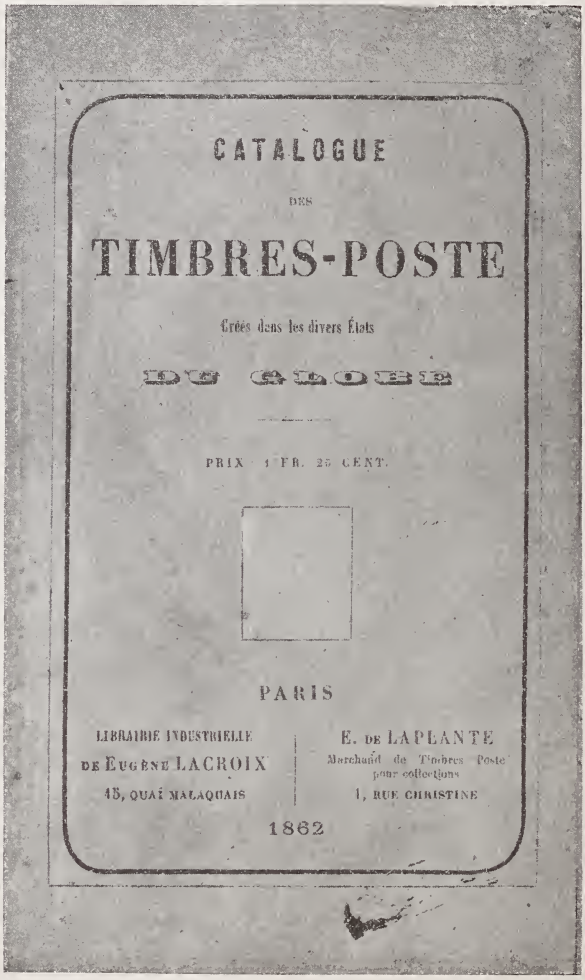
By Bertram T. K. Smith.

THE first catalogue of postage stamps ever published was that of "Alfred P." [Potiquet], which appeared in December, 1861; but before I proceed to describe this, some reference must be made to the privately-issued lists of stamps, known as the "Berger-Levrault" lists, which began before September, 1861, and on which Potiquet's *Catalogue* was largely based.

According to Suppantschitsch, Oscar Berger-Levrault, the son of the widow Berger-Levrault, who possessed a bookseller's shop and printing house in Strasburg, began to collect stamps as early as 1860. Friends soon requested him to arrange collections for them, and as these requests became more and more frequent, he conceived the idea that the arranging of stamps in a systematical manner could be no longer deferred. He therefore made up a manuscript list of all the stamps known to him, and copies of this, also in manuscript, were made by one of his clerks. In this way he issued three consecutive lists, and then, beginning in September, 1861, he issued three further editions, also in manuscript, but mechanically reproduced by lithography. These were followed (June, 1862 to 1864) by ten printed editions, which bore no author's name, but simply the heading, "TIMBRES-POSTE." I have seen an interesting marked copy of one of these editions with the words, "Les timbres souslignés sont ceux qui me manquent," in Berger's handwriting; and it is curious to note that, although there are many stamps underlined, nearly all of these are "essais," or else imaginary varieties, such as 4d. octagonal Van Diemen's Land, *brown*; Sydney, 3d., *flesh*; Bavaria, 1850, 12kr., *chocolate*; etc., etc.; all evidently reported to him from "changeling" specimens. He had none of the "circular Guianas," of which he mentions a "1c. red, 4c. yellow, 8c. green, 12c. blue," from which it would seem that although the 2c. rose was not discovered until 1878, there was, at a very early period, some hinted tradition of its existence. Those desirous of obtaining further information as to the Berger-Levrault lists, will find a bibliography of them in the *Bulletin de la Société Française de Timbrologie* (June, 1877). As regards Berger-Levrault himself, and his other publications, the reader is referred to Suppantschitsch's article, translated in the *Stamp News Annual* of 1896.

Although the first edition of Potiquet's *Catalogue des Timbres-Poste Créés dans les divers Etats du Globe* was dated 1862, it actually appeared on December 21st, 1861, as is shown in the notice affixed to the second edition mentioned later on. It is now a work of surpassing rarity in its primitive form, though the second edition is still not uncommon, and it may therefore be well to describe the first in detail, and show in what respects the two editions differ.

As the annexed illustration shows, the cover of the first edition bore no author's name, but only the names of the joint publishers—Lacroix, the bookseller; and Laplante, the stamp dealer.


CATALOGUE

DES

TIMBRES-POSTE

Crées dans les divers États

DU GLOBE

PRIX 1 FR. 25 CENT.

PARIS

LIBRAIRIE INDUSTRIELLE
DE EUGÈNE LACROIX
45, QUAI MALAQUAIS

E. DE LAPLANTE
Marchand de Timbres Poste
pour collections
1, RUE CHRISTINE

1862

The author is, however, indicated by the preface, which is signed "Alfred P." The work consisted of 43 pages, followed by two blank leaves, the whole enclosed in a thin biscuit-coloured wrapper. To this was affixed an unused specimen of the 1 centime French Empire stamp then current, though in the case of the copy illustrated the stamp has been taken off by some former owner. The imprint at the bottom of page 24 reads:—"A^ne M^on Bénard.—Poitevin, Seringe et Cie, place du Caire, 2"; and in the middle of the fourth page of the wrapper is another imprint, in two lines:—"IMP. BÉNARD.—POITEVIN, SERINGE ET Cie, SUCC., | PLACE ET PASSAGE DU CAIRE, 2."

The second edition differs from the first in containing 48 pages, without blank leaves. The cover, also with a 1 centime stamp, has the words, "2e ÉDITION | Revue, corrigée et augmentée" added, and,

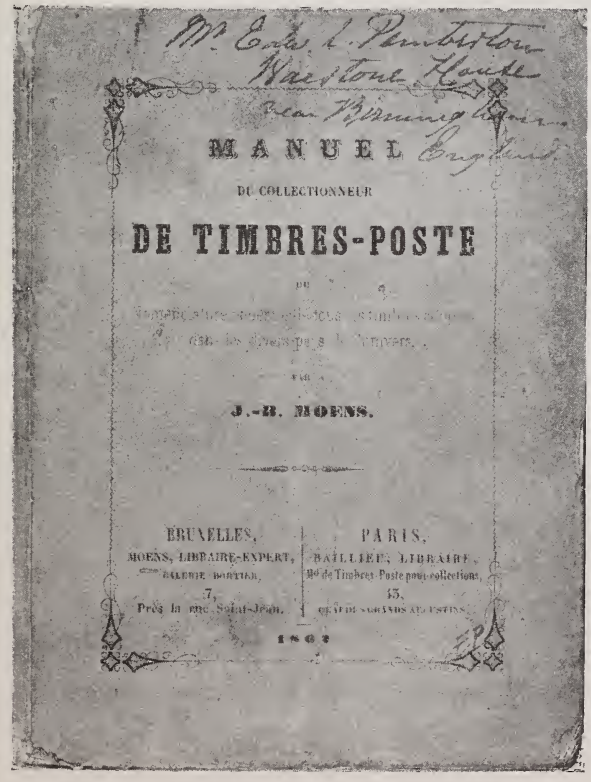
most important of all, no longer has Laplante's name as joint publisher, but only that of E. Lacroix. The fourth page of the cover is occupied by a list of Lacroix's publications, and on the second page of the cover is pasted a publisher's note, which translated is as follows :—

"When the first edition of the *Catalogue des Timbres-Poste* . . .
"was put on sale (December 21st, 1861), no pamphlet relating
"to postage stamps had yet been published, on account of the
"difficulty there was in collecting the material required for writ-
"ing a work of this kind; but the *Catalogue*, so rich in documents,
"opened the way to publications on this subject, and two little
"brochures, *almost entirely copied* from M. Alfred Potiquet's work,
"have just been made—one in Brussels and the other in Paris.

"We might have taken legal proceedings against their authors,
"but we prefer to confine ourselves to pointing out their borrow-
"ing from M. Alfred Potiquet's catalogue, a borrowing which is
"so complete in the case of each brochure that it even includes
"the material errors contained in the first edition.

"March, 1862." "Eugène Lacroix.

These "two little brochures" were Moens's *Manuel* and Laplante's *Timbres-Poste*; and from this fact, and the consequent absence of Laplante's name from the second edition of Potiquet's *Catalogue*, we can draw only one conclusion — that Lacroix and Laplante had quarrelled.



The biscuit-coloured wrapper of Moens's *Manuel du Collectionneur de Timbres-Poste* is illustrated herewith from a specimen that presents an additional interest in having been, as the inscription shows, Edward Pemberton's own copy. The interior consists of 72 pages, and is printed throughout on pale sea-green paper. Like Potiquet's *Catalogue*, it bore a double imprint—that of Moens, the Brussels "libraire-expert"; and Baillieu, the Paris stamp dealer. The preface is dated January, 1862, and in it Moens says that as far back as June 4th, the *Manuel* was announced for publication shortly, but "information having delayed in reaching me, it is only to-day that I have the pleasure of submitting it to the good-will of collectors."

The second edition of Moens's *Manuel* also appeared in 1862. The earliest copies have a dark green* wrapper, and affixed to the second page of this wrapper is an "avis de l'auteur." In this notice, Moens defended himself against Lacroix's attack, and said :—

> "On account of unforeseen delays, the first edition of my "Manuel, advertised in the *Etoile Belge* of June 4th, 1861, "appeared shortly after that of M. Potiquet, a fact which has "made the publisher say that I have almost exactly copied his "work.
>
> "No doubt he is aware that M. Potiquet is indebted to me for "a great part of his information, which I gave him without any "mistrust, after I had told him of my intention of publishing a "catalogue of postage stamps—an intention which he hastened "to put into execution.
>
> "Besides, the errors I noticed in his work would alone have "prevented my copying it, if such had been my intention, and "it is sufficient to confront the two works to judge of the little "resemblance there is between them."

He then goes on to attack Laplante's *Timbres-Poste* :—

> "Since then, some other very inexact brochures have appeared, "among others, *Timbres-Poste*—a word which includes every-"thing, even the name of the able copyist of the two catalogues, "who has not hesitated to class *Ocean Penny Postage* in Oceania!!
>
> "But where his real talent is noticeable is in the United States "locals, where he has copied everything, without troubling him-"self if the *Steam Packet Office* stamp really existed, or if it was "not a bait thrown out to copyists of his kind who made cata-"logues at other people's expense.
>
> "The alphabetical order he seemed to follow at first stops short "at the New York and New Jersey locals, and his ardour was so "great that he fell into the trap without noticing, doubtless, that "he copied the identical order I followed."

(To be concluded.)

* Of the second edition of Moens's *Manuel*, I have seen only two varieties. The first, which I assume is the earlier, has a dark green wrapper with a double imprint—Moens's and Baillieu's. The title-page, however, has only Moens's imprint, over which Baillieu, when he sold these copies, pasted his own address-label. The second has a similar wrapper, but of pale green paper, with only Moens's imprint on it; the title-page is unchanged. It would seem, however, from Tiffany and de Bosredon, that there must be a third variety of wrapper (? pale green) with another double imprint—that of "Misonne [or Missonne] & Bonnet, Libraires, Bruxelles," and of Moens.

Morocco.

By George B. Duerst.

(Continued from Page 46).

Line II. Mogador and Morocco.

The distance is about 130 miles.

Mogador or Suera is the chief seaport of Morocco on the Atlantic. It is the second city commercially. The town is built upon a rocky promontory, is fortified, and has a good harbour. Some of the mosques are splendid specimens of architecture.

August, 1892.

Large figure of value on horizontally-lined ground, in a double oval, inscribed "Service de Courriers" at the top; "Mogador à Maroc" at the bottom; the four corners contain five-pointed stars on horizontally-lined ground. Coloured impression on white wove paper. Perf. $11\frac{1}{2}$.

This stamp reminds one very much of the first issue of the Mazagan-Morocco service, which seems to point to it being simply an imitation.

20 centimes ... ... red.

This service is said to have been suppressed in the following year by the Sultan, who established his own service between these two towns. Whether this is correct, I have no means of proving. The probability is that the Sultan was desirous of reaping the benefits accruing from the postal service. His service was, however, bad and unreliable, because already in 1895 we find another private service in full swing, with a new set of stamps, which are engraved and nicely printed. The spelling of the name of the capital "Marrakesch" hints that Germans had something to do with the introduction of this service, as Marrakesh is the German spelling for Morocco.

July, 1895.

Mosque with mountain in background, surmounted by rising sun in a double upright rectangular. On the left, "MOGADOR"; on the right, "MARRAKESCH"; at the top and below the design, Arabic inscriptions; and in the bottom label, centimos or peseta; in the upper corners, six-pointed stars; and in the lower corners, figures of value. Coloured impression on white wove paper. Perf. 13.

5	centimos	.. ...	pale green, olive.
10	,,	... ..	light to dark rose.
15	,,	... ...	ultramarine.
50	,,	... ...	dark brown.
1	peseta	... ...	reddish brown.

1896. Provisional issue.

The 15c. ultramarine value, surcharged in blue and in black, with 10 centimos in two lines. Perf. 13.

(*a.*) *Surcharge: 10, 5mm. high; centimos, 16mm. long.*

10 centimos on 15 centimos ... dark blue on ultramarine.
10 ,, ,, 15 ,, ... black on ultramarine.

(*b.*) *Surcharge: 10, 6mm. high; centimos, 21mm. long.*

10 centimos on 15 centimos ... black on ultramarine.

1902.

Arabian with mail bag on back, marching; at the back, minaret and mosque; at the top and below the figure, Arabic inscription; on the left, "Mogador"; on the right, "MARRAKESCH"; at the bottom, value in figures and letters. Coloured impression on white wove paper. Perf. 13½.

5 centimos	...	...	dark green.
10 ,,	...	...	red.
20 ,,	...	...	dark blue.
30 ,,	...	...	brown-orange.
50 ,,	...	...	light brown.

This service must also have been run by Germans, on account of the spelling of the name of the capital.

Line III. Tangiers and Fez.

The distance is about 175 miles.

Charles Gautsch & Cie, the representatives of the branch house of the Parisian store, "Le Printemps," owned by Jaluzot & Cie, applied in 1892 to the authorities for the permission to institute a private postal service between Tangiers, where the branch was established, and Fez, the second capital of Morocco. A regular service by the English had existed for some years, but complaints were made that this service was slow and too infrequent. The authorities gave the permission, and in order to compete with the English service, special efforts were made. A bi-weekly service was instituted, relays were established, so that the entire distance of 175 miles could be done in three days. The permission was, however, to expire at the end of the year, and the regular official French service was to commence on January 1st, 1893.

Tangier or Tangiers (Latin, Tingis), a seaport on the Straits of Gibraltar, is the chief commercial town of Morocco. It contains a large mosque, a fort, and the Sultan's palace. All the foreign diplomatic representatives reside there. The town is for the English historically interesting, because in 1662 it was ceded to England as part of the dowry of Catherine of Braganza, wife of Charles II., but in 1684 it was given back to Morocco. Population, about 30,000.

Plate III.













II.







II.









Plate IV.



IV.



V.



VI.



VII.



VIII.





IX.





X.



XI.



XII.



XIII.



XIV.



Fez, founded in the year 793, is a holy city, and the second capital of Morocco. It is situated inland on a plateau, and surrounded by walls. Old Fez contains the mosques, bazaars, and caravanserais; and New Fez the official buildings, the palace, and the "Mellah," or Jewish quarter. The most beautiful of the 130 mosques is that of "Bu Ainan"; the largest, the "Kairuin," forming part of the university. The sanctuary of "Mulai Idrîs," the most holy place in Morocco, contains the tomb of the founder of the city. From 1202-1548, Fez was the capital of an independent kingdom; in the sixteenth century it was conquered and annexed to Morocco. Population, about 140,000, amongst which are 10,000 Jews.

This postal service also served the towns of Laraiche and Alcassar.

1st July, 1892.

Palms overhanging shield, with large figure of value and sea in background in centre; at the top, "POSTES"; at the bottom, "TANGER-FEZ"; at the sides, Arabic inscriptions; in the upper corners, values. Printed in colours on white and tinted paper. Perf. $11\frac{1}{2}$ and $13\frac{1}{2}$.

5 centimes	...	pale green on cream.
10 ,,	...	black on pale rose.
15 ,,	...	blue on white.
25 ,,	...	black on pale buff.
50 ,,	...	rose on ,,
1 franc	...	olive on pale olive.
5 francs	...	lilac on cream.

In the 1 franc value there are five varieties, which differ in the distances between the figure 1 and the letter F in the shield. The illustration will clearly show these varieties. These stamps were sold at the French Post Office in Tangiers.

On the 1st of January, 1893, this service was taken over as arranged by the French Post Office; the private stamps, however, could be used until the 1st of April, 1893.

Line IV. Fez and Sefro.

The distance is about 20 miles.

In chronological order, we now come to a service which is not above suspicion; in fact, many say this service has never existed, and the stamps are the productions of a speculative Frenchman in one of the seaports.

Sefro, or Safra, about 20 miles south of Fez, is a small town with nothing extraordinary to mention. Why a special service should be necessary, I do not understand; and particularly why a stamp of the value of 1 peseta should be created, I do not know. Until we get more proofs, I should counsel my readers to consider this service and its stamps as apocryphal.

1894.

Tower, most likely a minaret, in an oval; at the top, a scroll containing the inscription, "SERVICE DE COURRIERS"; at the

bottom, in a straight label, the value in figures and letters; in the upper corners, in small circles, 18 on the left, and 94 on the right; in the lower angles, in curved bands, "FEZ" on the left, and "SEFRO" on the right. Coloured impression on white and tinted wove paper. Perf. 11½ and 13.

5 cents.	... ...	carmine on white.
10 ,,	... ...	violet ,, ,,
25 ,,	... ...	green ,, ,,
50 ,,	... ...	orange ,, ,,
1 peseta	... ...	brown ,, buff.

Obliterated specimens exist in plenty, but this does not prove the real existence of the service.

Line V. Tangiers and Arzila.

The distance is about 27 miles.

Arzila, or Asila, is a small seaport south of Tangiers, on the Atlantic.

1st December, 1895.

Six-pointed star, formed by two triangles, one inverted, and containing an Arabic inscription in a circle, above which is a scroll with the inscription, "SERVICIO DE CORREOS MARRUECOS"; at the bottom, in a straight label, the value in figures and letters. Coloured impression on white wove paper. Perf. 13.

5 centimos	...	...	...	mauve.
10 ,,	..	...	...	red.
20 ,,	...	...	...	yellow.
25 ,,	...	...	...	dull blue.
50 ,,	...	...	...	grey-brown.
1 peseta	...	...	...	red-brown.
2 pesetas	...	...	...	grey.
5 ,,	..	...	...	pale green.

To judge by the inscription, it is evident that this service was instituted by some Spanish subject. A correspondent in Tangiers writes that the Spanish Government did so. This is possible, but for such a short distance, surely 5 peseta stamps were not wanted.

(To be continued.)



The earliest information as to New Issues will be much appreciated by us, and will be duly credited to the correspondent, or firm, sending it. Our foreign subscribers can materially help us in this direction. When possible, a specimen should accompany the information, and be addressed to

G. Fred. H. Gibson, *Fairfield, Crumpsall, Manchester.*

The British Empire.

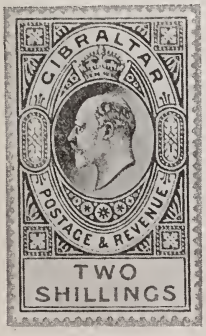
Antigua.—Some time back we chronicled the 1s. value upon multiple paper in error. *Ewen's Weekly* states that it has now been actually issued.



Adhesive.
Wmk. CA and Crown multiple.
1s. lilac and blue.

Canada.—Mr. W. H. Peckitt informs us that there is no immediate prospect of the issue of a 13c. value, as recently suggested.

Gibraltar.—*Ewen's Weekly* lists the 20s. upon multiple watermark paper as having just been issued.



Adhesive.
Wmk. CA and Crown multiple.
20s. lilac on red.

Jamaica.—Mr. W. H. Peckitt has shown us a specimen of the recently chronicled 2½d. upon multiple watermark paper.

Montserrat.—The *Monthly Journal* reports the 1d. value in single colour.



Adhesive.
Wmk. CA and Crown multiple.
1d. carmine.

New Zealand.—The small 3d. value now comes with the new comb perforation, 14 × 13½.

Adhesive.
3d. brown. Perf. 14 × 13½.

St. Christopher and Nevis.—The single coloured 1d., recently chronicled, has now been issued, Mr. W. H. Peckitt sending us a specimen.

Sarawak.—The *Monthly Journal* mentions a new value, a 3c. in the current type, printed in lilac.

Adhesive.
3c. lilac.

Straits Settlements.—Owing to currency changes, the colour of the 3c. and 4c. values have been transposed, the 3c. coming in carmine and the 4c. in lilac.

Adhesives.
Wmk. CA and Crown multiple.
3c. carmine.
4c. lilac.

Sudan.—*Ewen's Weekly* chronicles the 5 piastre brown and green with multiple Star and Crescent watermark.

Adhesive.
Wmk. Star and Crescent multiple.
5p. brown and green.

Transvaal. — Messrs. Whitfield King inform us that the error of inverted "p" instead of "d" in the 5d. value of the Postage Due stamps has now been corrected.

Trinidad.—*Ewen's Weekly* chronicles the 4d. green and blue upon single watermark paper—a curious revival.

There seems to be some mystery about the 1s. lilac on yellow. There are none on sale at the Port of Spain office, and this appears to have been the case for some time. Mr. W. H. Peckitt informs us he received this stamp in October of last year, but has been unable to get any since.

Adhesive.
Wmk. Single Crown and CA.
4d. green and blue.

Foreign Countries.

Abyssinia.—The *Monthly Journal* adds the following to the recent provisionals :—

Adhesives.
Unpaid Letter stamps.
With one of the varieties of the overprint "malakathe" and a large letter "T."
½ guerche.
1 ,,
2 ,,
4 ,,
16 ,,

With the same overprints and the value surcharged in French currency.
05 on ¼ guerche.
10 on ½ ,,
1.60 on 8 ,,
3.20 on 16 ,,

France. Offices in Morocco.—*Gibbons' Stamp Weekly* lists four low values overprinted for use here.

Adhesives.
1 centimo on 1c. grey.
2 centimos on 2c. claret.
3 ,, on 3c. orange-red.
4 ,, on 4c. brown.

Holland. Surinam.—*Mekeel's Weekly* is informed that the low values of the small type have at last made their appearance.

Adhesives.
1c. olive.
2c. brown.
2½c. green.
3c. orange.

Iceland.—Mr. W. T. Wilson sends us a new low value of the current set; in this case the value is spelt "eyr."



Adhesive.
1 eyr red and yellow-green.

Italy. Foreign Offices.—We copy the following items from *Ewen's Weekly* :—

Adhesives.
20 para 20 on 10c. rose of 1906.
80 para 80 on 50c. violet of 1901.
20 para 20 on ,, ,, "Albania" in addition.
80 para 80 on ,, ,, ,, ,,

Japan. Offices in China.—The 6s. marone is mentioned in *Gibbons' Stamp Weekly* as having been surcharged for use here.

Adhesive.
6 sen marone. Overprinted in black.

Paraguay.—The following novelties are reported in *Ewen's Weekly* :—

Adhesives.
1c. dark blue-green (1904 type).
30c. lilac. ,,
1 peso olive and black (pictorial).
Official stamp.
20c. violet.

We have also received from Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. :—

Adhesive.
1c. pale blue (current type).
Official stamps.
5c. dark blue (Surcharged "Habilitado").
5c. blue-green ,, ,,

Switzerland. — Another value of the new set is reported in *Ewen's Weekly*, a 12c.



Adhesive.
12c. orange.

Turkey.—The *Monthly Journal* chronicles a new issue, "similar in style to that of the "issue of 1905, but has the central device

"and an elaborate inscription in a circle, "and the figures denoting the value in two "circles, side by side below."

Adhesives.

5 par. bistre.
10 par. green.
20 par. rose.
1 pias. blue.
2 pias. grey.
2½ pias. brown.
5 pias. violet.

Unpaid Letter stamps.

1 pias. black on rose.
2 pias. ,,

Uruguay.—The same paper states that the official stamps have received a fresh variety of surcharge, the word now being in upright capitals, but thinner than the 1901 type, applied diagonally as usual.

Notes and News.

Manchester Philatelic Society.

The last meeting of the session was held at the Rooms of the Geographical Society on Friday evening, March 20th, Mr. J. H. Abbott being in the chair.

The resignation of Mr. C. S. Milner as a corresponding member was accepted with regret.

The dates of the annual meeting and of the picnic were fixed for May 8th and June 20th respectively.

Messrs. Higgins, junr., and King were appointed Auditors, and the nomination paper for the officers for next session lay on the table.

Mr. Abbott gave a display with notes of the stamps of the Soudan, issued under the joint control of the British and Egyptian Governments, and printed by De la Rue & Co. He called attention to the fact that the French spelling of the name of the province was used in the first issue, which consisted of the contemporary stamps of Egypt surcharged. For the later issues special designs were prepared.

Junior Philatelic Society: Manchester Branch.

Meeting held Thursday, March 19th, the President in the chair. After the usual business, Dr. Floyd read an interesting paper on the stamps of Hayti. He said previous to the use of the Republican issues of the Black Republic, British, French, and German stamps were used in the towns of Jacnel and Port-au-Prince. The continual revolutions of late years made it necessary, in 1906, to issue a separate set for foreign postage, on which the values were expressed in "centimes of a Gourd" on the ordinary issues—a centime of a piastre being equal to a cent or half-penny, and are only sold for silver currency. The earlier issues were copied by a native in Port-au-Prince and offered to the Government at a very low rate: evidently he did not offer enough "palm oil," as his tender was not accepted; but eventually his efforts passed through as payment of postage. Dr. Floyd showed two values (2c. and 5c.) of the 1898 issue overprinted Nova Alexis, and dated 21st December, 1902: neither have been catalogued. Mr. J. Maling afterwards gave a paper on collecting, to illustrate philatelic magazines by interleaving them with blank pages and mounting the various stamps described opposite their descriptions. The President, remarking on the originality of Mr. Maling's idea, lapsed into several classical phrases. In conclusion, the Secretary gave a few incidents of his visit to the London J.P.S. Exhibition, which were received with interest.

Birmingham Philatelic Society.

February 27th.—Inspection of Auction Lots, and adjourned Annual Meeting.

It was decided to hold an Exhibition of stamps at the Midland Institute Conversazione in January next. The Press Show would be on January 11th, and the Exhibition January 12th to 15th inclusive. As the average attendance for many years past has been over 6,000 for the four nights, it was thought to be a very favourable opportunity for such an exhibition.

It was resolved that the following additions be made to the Rules:—

"Property.—The whole of the assets of the Society shall be vested in the officers and Committee as Trustees, who shall take all reasonable care of the said assets, but be exempt from any personal liability.

"In case of winding up the Society, the assets shall be disposed of according to the wishes of a majority of the whole of the members. Every member shall be supplied with a voting paper at least seven days before the meeting called for the purpose. If not filled up and returned, the member not writing shall be considered neutral."

March 5th.—Auction. 327 lots belonging to members of the Society were dis-

posed of at fair prices. Messrs. Bright & Son were thanked for a copy of their complete Catalogue for 1908, and Mr. C. Nissen for his 1908 Stamp Collectors' Annual.

March 19th.—Paper, "Turkey," Mr. P. T. Deakin.

Mr. F. C. Henderson, Colonel G. H. Robinson, Messrs. H. L. Hayman, and J. H. Lewes were thanked for donations to the Permanent Collection.

In view of the Exhibition, it was decided to postpone Messrs. Hollick and Stephenson's display of Victoria from next meeting (April 2nd) till next season, and invite members to bring their collections of those Colonies they would prefer to exhibit, with a view to selecting those required.

Mr. P. T. Deakin then gave a paper, illustrated by his own collection and enlarged illustrations, on (*a*) the two types of Turkey, 1890, provisional (Gibbons, No. 132); (*b*) the varieties, catalogued and otherwise, of Turkey, 1869-73.

Herts Philatelic Society.

The sixth general meeting was held at No. 4, Southampton Row, London, W.C., on Tuesday, March 17th, 1908, at 6.30 p.m. The Vice-President took the chair.

The minutes of the meeting held on February 18th, 1908, were read and signed as correct.

The following resolutions were proposed and duly carried :—

(*a*) That the annual meeting be held on Tuesday, May 19th, 1908, at 6.30 p.m., and that the Hon. Secretary make the necessary arrangements for proper accommodation, &c.

(*b*) That the annual dinner be held in May.

(*c*) That visitors be invited to the dinner.

(*d*) That the President, Vice-President, the Hon. Secretary, and Messrs. J. C. Sidebotham and J. R. Laing be appointed as a Dinner Committee, and that the proposal that ladies be invited be referred to them to act on their discretion.

Mr. Boyes was co-opted with Mr. Cool as Curator of the Forgeries Collection.

The Hon. Librarian reported several valuable donations of philatelic publications and literature received during last month.

Mr. Frentzel reported donations to the Entires Collection from the President, Messrs. O. Firth, W. Lane Joynt, M. G. Kuttner, and M. Weinberg.

A fine collection of forgeries was presented by Mr. A. G. Wane.

All these donations were duly acknowledged, and an expression of the thanks of the Society was recorded on the minutes.

The Curators of the Society's Collections brought the albums for the inspection of the members, and the contents were inspected and appreciated. Although members have been generous in sending duplicates, many blanks still remain to be filled up.

A general display of interesting stamps (not exceeding 25 in each case) was given by a great number of members, and proved a great success. The collections were passed round and examined with much interest.

At the conclusion of the display, an auction sale was conducted by Mr. Boyes, who, in the absence of Mr. Hadlow, proved a worthy wielder of the hammer. Mr. Nissen handed the lots round, and considerable keenness in bidding was displayed.

Lots were submitted by Messrs. Gilbert Biggs, Bounds, Wane, and Weinberg, and the total sales amounted to £7 5s. 6d. As an experiment, the sale fulfilled all expectations, and it is hoped they will prove a great attraction to the meetings in future.

After a vote of thanks passed to the Chairman, a most interesting meeting terminated at 9 p.m.

International Philatelic Exhibition at Amsterdam.

The Dutch Philatelic Society will celebrate in May, 1909, their twenty-fifth jubilee by holding an International Philatelic Exhibition at Amsterdam, to which undertaking we wish every success. The last Exhibition in Holland was held at The Hague in 1901, and proved in every way a very pleasant gathering.

The Executive Committee on the present occasion has been formed as follows :—C. Wafelbakker, Chairman; Jhr. J. A. A. von Schmid, Hon. Treasurer; C. C. Altena; L. A. Beausar; A. W. Polman; G. J. Stork; M. Z. Booleman, Hon Secretary.

We hope to publish further particulars in a few months.

Penny Postage with the States.

In January last Mr. Henniker Heaton received a private informal letter from the Postmaster-General of the United States declaring his readiness to open negotiations for the establishment of penny postage between the two countries. He asked for information as to the views of the British postal authorities on the subject. If they were favourable, he proposed to visit London in the early spring to discuss the matter. It is believed by members of both Houses who have been actively engaged in working for the reform, that the Chancellor of the Exchequer has been won over, and that his forthcoming Budget may contain proposals for carrying it into effect.

Dog Days are Coming.

In an article entitled "Leaves from the Diary of an Amateur Detective," there appears the following statement :— "The police found the ashes of an envelope, and as it was deemed important to know where the envelope had been posted, trials were made with burning various stamps and comparing the ashes with those found. In this manner it was found out which stamp had been used to frank the letter."

What would have happened if the stamp used had been a Post Office Mauritius the author does not tell us. It it a pity the author has not pursued the subject a little further : the ashes of an unused stamp will, we take it, differ materially from that of a used, and in the latter case much would depend upon the condition of the stamp. What the specialists in used English are pleased to term the A condition would present a very different appearance in the ash to those of the X Y Z condition. Any reader having a little spare time and plenty of spare cash might like to make some experiments, and communicate them to us for the use of future generations.

Crete.

Lately we received from this island two new stamps—one 10 lepta red-brown, and one 30 lepta blue, with large figures of value in the centre. Some said they were unpaid letter stamps, and others they were official stamps. The inscription of the 10 lepta says :—"Receipt for the delivery of judicial papers in small actions-at-law"; and on the 30 lepta, "Delivery of judicial papers in small actions-at-law." It is therefore evident that these stamps are of a fiscal character. It is possible that papers and letters franked with them are delivered free, and we ask some of our readers in Crete for further information.

Siam.

The postal officials in Siam must have had a lively time from December 12th to 16th last year, when owing to the non-arrival of 1 att stamps from Europe all letters requiring stamps of this value had to be inscribed by hand as follows :—

"One att stamps run short.
"Postage Paid.
"Fack."

One can imagine the relief with which they hailed the arrival of stamps surcharged 1 att on 24 atts of the 1887 issue, on the evening of December 16th. The work of inscribing all envelopes proved too laborious, and as the fresh supply had not arrived from Europe surcharging was had recourse to. An excuse, whether good, bad, or indifferent, is always made for a provisional.

British Post Office at Tientsin.

British merchants in Tientsin report that there is a probability of the British Post Office there being closed. At the end of 1907 the deficiency in revenue was £750, and as the British Municipal Council of Tientsin have guaranteed any loss that the Hong Kong Government may suffer until the 30th of September, 1908, it is feared that the Post Office will then be closed. This would be a great loss to British merchants established there, as the postal rates would revert at once to 2½d. for the first 20 grammes instead of 1d. per ounce as now.

Penny Postage with France.

A deputation from the British Chamber of Commerce in Paris waited upon the Postmaster-General, and was introduced by Mr. Henniker Heaton. The President of the Chamber explained that their object was to establish penny postage with France, and said that the French Minister of Posts and Telegraphs had told him that he had suggested the change to the Minister of Finance, and that the latter had suggested that the proposal should be submitted to the British Government. The Postmaster-General, in his reply, declared that the reduction of the postage to France from 2½d. to 1d. would mean a loss on the first year of £80,000, and that if it were granted, a similar reduction would be demanded by all the other Continental nations. In the present state of finances, and owing to large demands made upon the Exchequer, he could not undertake to introduce penny postage to France. Incidentally, the deputation also asked for the reduction of telegraph and telephone rates to France.

Post Office Blunder.

The registered mail letters which were said to have disappeared in transit from London to New York have turned up at Yokohama.

Instead of to New York, it appears, they had been enclosed, by some mistake, with the mails for Yokohama in the dispatching office.

It was at first thought they had been stolen when they did not arrive in New York by the "Celtic," but in the course of the investigations something occurred which induced the authorities to suspect they might have been mis-sent, and a cable of enquiry was despatched to Japan. A reply has been received that the missing packets, numbering 57, are there, and would be sent to New York by the first mail steamer.

The purser of the "Celtic" said there was a mistake about the number of bags he received—there were fourteen, not fifteen. This agrees with the fact that one was sent elsewhere.

Stanley Gibbons' Catalogue. Part I. 1908.

Two catalogues have been lying upon our table for some time waiting for review, the first being that issued by Messrs. Stanley Gibbons dealing with the stamps of the British Empire. Two alterations from previous editions strike us particularly, one being the variation in the method of describing the perforations of the stamps of such countries as New South Wales. For this we have nothing but commendation, but we cannot say as much for the decision of the publishers not to list stamps on chalky paper separately, but to indicate by the letter "C" where it is possible for the chalky paper to occur. While we have every desire to reduce the number of minor varieties, it strikes us as somewhat inconsistent to give prominence to the issues of the Portuguese Colonies on chalk-surfaced paper, and to relegate those of the British Empire to more or less obscurity. India has been re-written on the lines of the recent handbook, and the whole catalogue is wonderfully accurate and up-to-date.

Bright's "ABC" Catalogue of Entires.

Since the decision some years ago of Messrs. Stanley Gibbons to discontinue dealing in Entires, collectors in this country have looked upon Messrs. Bright & Son as their high priest. No separate catalogue of Entires has, we believe, been issued since 1899, and even if the present one had few or no merits, it would be an important volume to all interested in what is sometimes profanely called "postal stationery." It contains, so far as we can see, a very fair list of the issues of the various countries, not so full of detail, of course, as the pages of Senf, but still quite adequate for the average collector, and a vast improvement upon anything previously issued in this country. It is well known that in many cases used cards are infinitely rarer than unused ones, and noticing, as we do, that a large number of these used are unpriced, and judging from other evidences, we believe that the prices given throughout the book are reliable as far as it is possible to be. The illustrations, to a large extent, are from clichés bought from Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, and the catalogue has been thoroughly revised up to the date of going to press.

Another Confederate Local Discovered.

Mr. B., in Boston, a few months ago found in the possession of an old lady in Alexandria, Va., an uncatalogued stamp of Alexandria. It is the 5cts. of the known type, but in black on light blue instead of on buff. It is said that a collector in Cleveland has paid £500 for it.

Disunion in the U.P.U.

The following postal administrations have not yet introduced reply coupons, which were sanctioned at the Congress in Rome in May, 1906 :—Argentine Republic; Australian Federation (excepting New Zealand); Bolivia; British Colonies: Ascension, Bermudas, Leeward Islands (excepting St. Lucia), Guiana, Cyprus, Falkland Islands, Gambia, Mauritius, North Borneo, Orange River Colony, Sarawak, St. Helena, Sierra Leone, South Nigeria, and Zanzibar; Colombian Republic; Congo State; Ecuador; French Colonies: Grand Comoro, Indies, Indo-Chine, Congo, Gaboon, Guadeloupe, Reunion, and Madagascar; Guatemala; Liberia, Montenegro; Nicaragua; Dutch Indies; Panama; Paraguay; Persia; Peru; Portugal and Portuguese Colonies; Russia and offices in China; Salvador; Dominican Republic; Servia; Spain; Spanish Colonies and offices; Turkey; Uruguay, and Venezuela.

Bosnia and Herzegovina.

Mr. Markl has given in the *Berliner Briefmarken Zeitung* a proof of the painstaking labour of a devoted and enthusiastic philatelist. He has undertaken the laborious and tedious work of chronicling all the various perforations of the 1906 issue of the stamps of Bosnia and Herzegovina, and the following is the result, which no doubt will gladden the heart of the new issue specialist :—

A. Two Perforations.

		6½	9			6½	12			9	12				
2 × 6½		*2 × 9*		*2 × 6½*		*2 × 12*		*2 × 9*		*2 × 12*					
6½	6½	9	9	6½	6½	12	12	9	9	12	12				
6½	9	6½	9	6½	12	6½	12	9	12	9	12				
6½	9	9	6½	6½	12	12	6½	9	12	12	9				
9	9	6½	6½	12	12	6½	6½	12	12	9	9				
9	6½	9	6½	12	6½	6½	12	12	9	12	9				
9	6½	6½	9	12	6½	12	6½	12	9	9	12				
3 × 6½		*9*		*3 × 6½*		*12*		*3 × 9*		*12*					
6½	6½	6½	9	6½	6½	6½	12	9	9	9	12				
6½	6½	9	6½	6½	6½	12	6½	9	9	12	9				
6½	9	6½	6½	6½	12	6½	6½	9	12	9	9				
9	6½	6½	6½	12	6½	6½	6½	12	9	9	9				
3 × 9		*6½*		*3 × 12*		*6½*		*3 × 12*		*9*					
9	9	9	6½	12	12	12	6½	12	12	12	9				
9	9	6½	9	12	12	6½	12	12	12	9	12				
6½	9	9	9	12	6½	12	12	12	9	12	12				
				6½	12	12	12	9	12	12	12				

B. Three Perforations.

2 × 6½		*9*	*12*	*2 × 9*		*6½*	*12*	*2 × 12*		*6½*	*9*				
6½	6½	9	12	9	9	6½	12	12	12	6½	9				
6½	6½	12	9	9	9	12	6½	12	12	9	6½				
6½	9	6½	12	9	6½	9	12	12	6½	12	9				
6½	12	6½	9	9	12	9	6½	12	9	12	6½				
6½	12	9	6½	9	6½	12	9	12	6½	9	12				
6½	9	12	6½	9	12	6½	9	12	9	6½	12				
9	6½	6½	12	6½	9	9	12	6½	12	12	9				
9	6½	12	6½	6½	9	12	9	6½	12	12	12				
9	12	6½	6½	6½	12	9	9	6½	12	9	12				
12	6½	6½	9	12	9	9	6½	9	12	6½	12				
12	6½	9	6½	12	9	6½	9	9	12	6½	12				
12	9	6½	6½	12	6½	9	9	9	6½	12	12				

C. Even Perforation.

Perf. 12	Perf. 9	Perf. 6½

Austria: Issue of 1908.

We hear that the handsome set of stamps issued so recently as January last in commemoration of the sixtieth year of the reign of the Emperor Franz Joseph I. are to be withdrawn. They seem to have been produced regardless of cost, and for the purposes of artistic effect, to have been printed upon chalk-surfaced paper. It is now found that the postmark can be easily effaced and the stamps consequently used a second time. Report says that the cost of the issue has already amounted to some £10,000, but the Government has apparently decided to make the best of a bad business, and pocket the loss.

Red Tape for Ever.

The *Hamburger Fremdenblatt* contains the following curious item :—"Two postmen deliver letters, etc., from Bergstedt to Lemsahl-Mellingstedt and Kukenhan. One is on duty one week, and the other the next. One possesses a bicycle and uses it for delivering; the other does not possess one, and walks. The consequence is that one week the letters are delivered much earlier than the next. One of the inhabitants complained about this to the head office, and the official order just promulgated forbids the happy possessor of the bicycle the use of the same when on duty. He will have to walk in future, and the inhabitants of the villages will therefore receive their letters always late."

Chili.

The new tariff is as follows :—

Letters up to 20 grammes, local, 2c.; outside, 5c. Every further 20 grammes, 2 resp 5c.

Postcards, only containing a printed communication, 1c.; ordinary, 2c.

Parcels, up to 3kr., 30c.; 3 to 5kr., 50c.

Printed matter, 1c. per each 50 grammes.

Commercial papers, up to 50 grammes, 5c.; every further 50gr., 1c.

Samples, up to 50 grammes, 5c.

The Lindenberg Medal.

Our congratulations, rather late (they were crowded out last month), but none the less hearty, to Major Evans, who has for this year been awarded the Lindenberg Medal. This medal was founded by the Berlin Philatelic Club three years ago, and called after its distinguished founder, Carl Lindenberg. It is awarded by a Committee consisting of all the present holders of the medal, and bestowed as a mark of distinction upon those who have won special fame in philately, chiefly through contributions to philatelic literature. The present holders are :—Mr. Theodore Hass, Leipsic; Dr. Legrand, Paris; Dr. Diena, Rome; Mr. E. D. Bacon, London; Mr. M. L. Hancian, Brussels; and Major Evans, Sydenham.

MISCELLANEOUS.

For the next Postal Congress in Madrid the following requisitions have already been sent in :—Reduction of the international letter rate from 25 centimes to 20 centimes; reduction of the rate for commercial papers from 25c. to 10c.; increase of weight for parcels; increase of weight for samples to 500 grammes; introduction of direct money orders to England, United States, and Russia.

* * *

The cost of the *Times* on its first issue was 3d., as it is to-day. But in 1796 it was raised to 4½d., and in 1799 to 6d. Ten years later another halfpenny was added, and in 1815 it became 7d. a copy. The next movement was towards reduction in 1836, when the *Times* was lowered to 5d.; in 1855 to 4d., and in 1861 to the original and still existent 3d. The newspaper tax had, of course, a great influence upon the price.

* * *

Australia has raised the duty on albums from 25 to 35 per cent., and on catalogues from 3d. to 6d. per pound.

* * *

In Vienna the postal administration has opened an office where collectors can buy all the current Austrian stamps, Crete and the Levant included; also newspaper and Unpaid Letter stamps and all entires with the inscriptions in all languages of the Empire.

* * *

Belgium and Holland have just concluded an agreement under which the rate per single letter from one country to the other has been reduced to 20 centimes (respectively 10 cents.) up to 20 grammes. This rate has been reduced to 10 centimes (respectively 5 cents) when the two places are only 20 miles distant.

* * *

The high value provisional stamp of 10, 20 and 40 ticols of Siam are not sold to the public. They are only used for the internal service, and very few will be saved, as they are put always on the mail-bags.

* * *

Abyssinia has now entered the Universal Postal Union. French postal officials work the service, which is provisionally under the direction of the head office at Djiboutè.

* * *

Anybody can have his own envelopes and postcards impressed with stamps by the Post Office in England provided he orders a certain quantity at a time. The same course is followed in France and Germany. In Austria and Switzerland the Post Office will execute any order, no minimum being fixed.

Last November was a very busy time at the post offices of all countries affiliated to the U.P.U. From the 1st to the 28th inclusive of that month all mail matter passing through countries, which were not the despatching or distributing parties, had to be carefully weighed. The result of the 28 days is multiplied by 13 to arrive at the total yearly correspondence, upon which the charges are based. This basis will last until the year 1913 inclusive. The central bureau at Berne acts as a kind of clearing house for this branch of the U.P.U.

* * *

Bavaria intends to issue a new set of stamps, and for this purpose invites artists to send in drawings. The first prize is £50.

* * *

If possible, the new Swiss stamps are going to be improved. A new value of 5fcs. will be added to the series.

* * *

Good news for collectors. An official decree has been published, that the new Austrian stamps are to be perforated quite regularly and uniformly. *Qui vivra verra.*

* * *

Count Durrien, the well-known specialist of the French stamps, has been elected a member of the "Académic des Instructions and Belles-Lettres."

* * *

Forged 15c. stamps of the current Italian issue have been found on letters, obliterated in Rome. To philatelists, the forgery is not a dangerous one.

* * *

Of the sixpenny and shilling values of the Cayman Islands, with head of King Edward and single watermark, only 1,440 each have been printed.

* * *

Turkey has sold the remainders of the Thessalian Occupation Stamps for £1,500. It is said that the buyers put forged obliterations on them to please those of their clients who only collect used stamps.

The Austrian Unpaid Letter stamps of 72 and 100 heller have been withdrawn.

* * *

From the 15th of February telegrams can be handed in at all the larger French telegraph offices franked with postage stamps. Up to the present time the cost had always to be paid in cash.

* * *

According to a writer in the *Deutsch Briefmarken Zeitung*, 309 entires picked from the new Senf catalogue total up to £4,700; quite a respectable amount.

* * *

Bavaria is the third German State issuing "Zahlmarken." They are intended as official stamps, and are used for franking official correspondence of the railway service which belongs to the state. The ordinary postage stamps 3—50 pf. are used and a large letter E (Eisenbahn) is surcharged on the 10 and 50 pf. in green on the remainder in carmine.

* * *

The 30 centimes stamps of Switzerland, last issue, shows a fault in the engraving which is easily seen—namely, the I in HELVETIA resembles a badly-formed T.

* * *

The remainders of the Servian stamps of 1901, 1903, and 1904 were sold in March last.

* * *

The design for the first two issues of the Japanese stamps was taken from the bank notes then current.

* * *

In commemoration of the Exhibition in Rio de Janeiro this year, the Brazilian Post Office contemplates issuing special stamps of 100 reis, and post-cards of 50 reis.

* * *

Austria has just issued a fresh set of four newspaper stamps.

* * *

The Sociedad Filatélica Argentina intends holding a Philatelic Exhibition in 1910.

THE

Philatelic Record.

MAY, 1908.

Editorial Notes.

IT was with the utmost regret that we heard of the death of M. Moens, which took place at Brussels, on the 29th of April last, after a long and painful illness. Jean-Baptiste Philippe Constant Moens was born at Tournai on Whit Monday, May 27th, 1833. It was a fête day, and there was dancing in the house on the day of his birth. Psychologists may possibly be able to say whether the joyous circumstances attending his birth had any influence on his future character; but one thing is certain—that he was ever of a kindly and joyous disposition, earnest in work, merry in relaxation.

The Late M. Moens.

M. Moens was a bookseller, devoted to books from his early boyhood, and soon became a bibliopolist; but this portion of his career may be passed over with the bare mention of the fact that by diligence, combined with great activity, his business rapidly increased.

At the age of fifteen he commenced to occupy his leisure time in collecting specimens of the postage stamps which had then appeared, and four years later, in 1852, he commenced to trade in them in a modest way. Year by year he found this portion of his business rapidly developing, not only in Belgium but beyond, as he made new openings and made fresh connections; and in 1862 he published his "Manuel du Collectioneur de Timbres-Poste," and the first edition of his "Album de Timbres-Poste" made its appearance not long after. In February, 1863, M. Moens published the first number of "Le Timbre Poste," which appeared regularly until 1900, when he retired from business.

The late M. Moens claimed for himself what no one can deny—to have been the first who commenced actual trade in postage stamps. His rectitude in all his transactions speedily gained for him a world-wide reputation, and he always numbered amongst his customers the very cream of collectors. He was the first and only dealer in the early days to regularly import current unused stamps, and the manner in which his stock was kept, the stamps being stored in envelopes and drawers and not hinged, coupled with the fact that he never pushed his stock, made it a happy hunting ground in later years for some of the finest mint copies of many old and scarce varieties, singles, pairs, and in many instances, blocks, and which are now the pride of many of the great Moguls of to-day.

This of itself would have made his name ever famous in the annals of philately, but he did a great more for philately. Many serious articles on philatelic questions appeared in his Journal and many difficult problems solved. Some of these papers have been published, with additions, in his "Bibliothèque des Timbrophiles," published at intervals from 1877, and to which have been added treatises written quite independently of what had appeared in his paper.

In the midst of all his work the late M. Moens never neglected his duties as a citizen. For twenty-six years he served in the battalion of the Chasseurs éclaireurs of the Civic Guard and for some years as an officer; he retired in 1888, when his King conferred upon him the grade of an honorary officer; he was also Ancien Conseiller Communal d' Ixelles, Président Honoraire du Comité de Charité du Haut Ixelles, Décoré de la Croix Commémorative du Regne de la Magis le Leopold II, Chevalier de l'Ordre Royal d' Isabelle d'Espagne; Officier de l'Ordre du Libérateur du Vénézuéla, Officier de l'Ordre Hospitalier de la Croix-Rouge de Geneve, Décoré de l'Etoile du Mérite de Roumanie.

Postal Anomalies.

The terms "Universal Postal Union" and "Universal Tariffs" are known to all, and we hear people talk very glibly about Universal Postal Rates. These may apply to letters, post-cards, printed matter, and sample packets, but when we come to parcels, all our beliefs in universality get shattered. It may seem scarcely credible when we say that England has the dearest foreign parcel service of all European nations. Why this should be so, it is very difficult to explain, because we do not imagine that foreign postal administrations lose on their parcel service, in order to confer benefits upon England. Yet an 11 lb. parcel from Germany to England costs only 1s. 5d., whereas a similar parcel from England to Germany costs 2s. Why should there be this difference of 7d.? The two parcels are forwarded by the identical routes, train, boat and train.

The following are some further illustrations for 11 lb. parcels:—

	German rate. s. d.	English. s. d.
To Norway	1 0 ...	2 0
,, Austria	0 6 ...	2 6
,, France	0 10 ...	2 2
,, Great Britain	1 5 ...	—
,, Italy	1 5 ...	2 6
,, Roumania	1 5 ...	3 0
,, Russia	1 5 ...	3 0
,, Servia	1 3 ...	2 9
,, Germany	— ...	2 0

In most cases cited above the English rate for a 3 lb. parcel exceeds the German 11 lb. rate. It is true that with regard to some of the countries referred to, Germany is in a more favourable position geographically than we are, but that fact is not sufficient to explain the wide differences in the rates. It is clear that either Germany is

losing on its foreign parcel post service, and that we cannot believe, or our Post Office is not giving us the cheapest service possible.

This is a matter of considerable importance to a "nation of shop keepers," and we hope ere long such arrangements will be made by our postal authorities, that our traders may have accorded to them facilities equal to those enjoyed by the foreigner.

A Practical and not A Legal View.

How to make meetings of Philatelic Societies more attractive, and thereby secure a larger attendance of members. This is a subject which has engaged the attention of the various executives of societies for some years, with, alas, but indifferent success. The percentage of numbers who attend the meetings varies, we suppose, from 10 to 20 per cent., the average being about midway between those figures—surely an unsatisfactory state of affairs. Why so many continue paying their subscriptions when they are deriving no tangible benefit from so doing has always been a mystery to us. It is fortunate, perhaps, for many societies that they do, otherwise the amount of the subscriptions would have to be materially increased, or the societies would have to close their doors; very possibly this has a good deal of influence with many who although quite unable to attend have the hobby so much at heart, and are ever willing to do what in them lies to foster it through the channels of the different societies.

Our attention has been called to a meeting of the Herts Society, on April 14th, when the Vice-President gave a display of the stamps of Spain. The collection was divided into three periods, 1850-68, 1870-74, and 1875 to date. Each period was preceded by a most interesting lecture by Mr. Percy Ashley, giving the principal historical, economics and political events of the country of origin. The innovation was welcomed as a great success, and the Society, through its Vice-President, has taken the lead in finding something both novel and instructive.

Another hint to secretaries in the direction indicated in these notes is to be traced to the Luxemburg Philatelic Society, where it is the practice to ballot for certain stamps at each meeting. The ballot is confined to those members present, and when the lucky winner happens to be a delinquent in the past, it is conceived that the effect may have very happy results in the future.

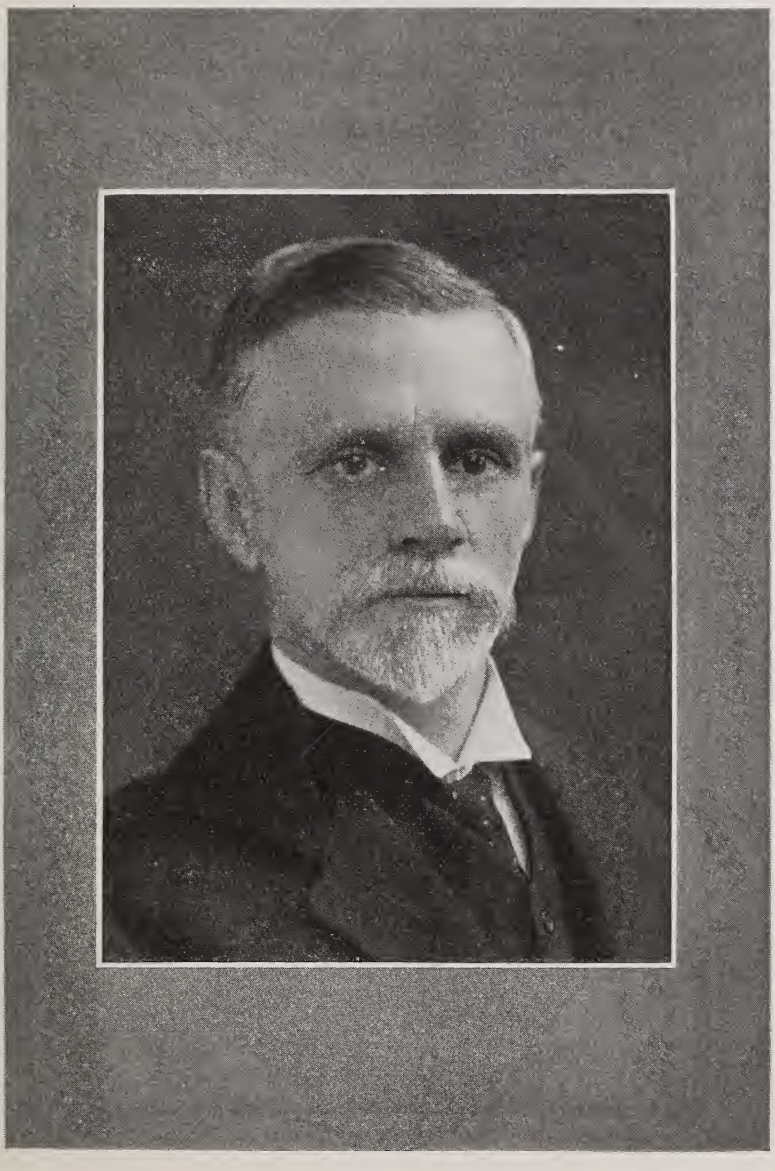
Notable Philatelists.

Francis Ransome.

THE subject of our notes this month was, we believe, born at Hitchin in the year 1859, and, he tell us, commenced to collect at the end of 1865 or the beginning of 1866, since when Mr. Ransome's interest has never flagged, and his only regret is that he was unable to then avail himself of the opportunities of picking up more bargains in those early times. His interest in collecting was much increased in 1878 by association with his friend, Mr. Shorthouse, of Birmingham, who was then, as now, a very keen and enthusiastic collector. Mr. Ransome commenced, of course, as a general collector, and seems to have so continued up to December, 1884, at which date his general collection ends, the only exception he makes being Great Britain, which is collected up to date. Mr. Ransome is principally known for a very fine collection of the stamps of Trinidad, which has been exhibited on several occasions, and were recently on view at the Junior Philatelic Society's Exhibition at Caxton Hall. Mr. Ransome displayed exhibits at the London Exhibition in 1897, and at Manchester in 1899, obtaining medals in both instances. He is a member of the Royal Philatelic Society and of the Herts Philatelic Society, and expresses himself concerning our hobby in the following terms:—

"I consider that philately is now on as firm a basis as numismatics. It is obviously becoming impossible for collectors to embrace all countries and all periods. Personally I prefer to confine my attention to one or two countries in particular and to one period for the remainder. The earlier issues of most countries appear to me of much greater interest than recent productions, so many of which are not required for legitimate use. I regret that so little attention is now paid to so-called postal stationery. Postcards, entire envelopes, and newspaper wrappers appear to me to be of far more importance than surcharged officials, railway stamps, and British stamps posted abroad. The ordinary postal issues of Great Britain are in my opinion the safest investments. I further consider that philately is of great interest in encouraging the habit of close observation which is essential in distinguishing minute differences of design as well as in detecting forgeries. It is also of value from geographical, historical, and artistic standpoints, and in forming friendships amongst those who have similar interests.

"Amongst the specimens in my collection, which I particularly value, is the 12d. black Canada, on wove paper, used. I am aware that this stamp is regarded with disfavour by some authorities, but, personally, I consider it of more value, on account of its greater rarity, than the laid paper. Other undoubted used specimens exist in America, and I think there can be little doubt that a limited number was issued to the public for postal use. I have a fair collection of old German entire envelopes and consider it a pity that they now receive so little attention in this country. In my early days of collecting I well remember cutting out the stamps from some of the rarest Prussian envelopes in order to make them fit into the spaces provided in the albums of those days. I consider that the compilers of such albums are morally responsible for much of the unfortunate mutilation of early envelopes."



Francis Ransome.

The Earliest Catalogues of Postage Stamps.

By Bertram T. K. Smith.

(Continued from Page 72).

WITHOUT entering into this ancient controversy, I may say that Lacroix's complaint against Moens was fully justified. There is no doubt that Moens did copy barefacedly from Potiquet, though he certainly made additions and corrections of his own. On the other hand, Moens's complaints against Laplante were unfounded, for Laplante, whatever use he made of Potiquet's and Moens's work, certainly showed more originality than Moens had done. As far as my comparison of the three publications enables me to judge, I have formed a very high opinion of Potiquet's work (though to what extent he was helped by Berger-Levrault we shall probably never know), and also a high opinion of the original investigation displayed by Laplante.

In one point, Potiquet's work was superior to either of the others, for to his description of each stamp, he added the method by which it was produced. It is true that he was often at sea in the matter, for he classes as a *typographed* the "Perkins Bacon" New Brunswick, Newfoundland, etc., the Sydney Views, the "bulls-eye" Brazil, and the lithographed Oldenburgs; as in *taille-douce*, the earliest stamps of India ("Inde Transgangétique," he calls it) and Victoria, and the typographed Sierra Leone; and as *lithographs*, the typographed Cape "woodblocks." Still, the attempt was a meritorious one, and it is a curious reflection that while in 1861 the earliest French catalogues distinguished between perforated and imperforate stamps, as late as 1878 English dealers' catalogues were appearing in which no such varieties were indicated.

I need not enlarge on the many curious varieties of stamps found in Potiquet's work; his quaint colour designations, such as "cachou," "hortensia," "rose giroflée," "café au lait," "vert-de-gris," "minium," "rouge de saturne"; and his careful inclusion of a score of little German principalities, "Saxe Meiningen-Hildbourghausen," "Schwarzbourg-Sonderhausen," "Reuss-Lobenstein-Ebersdorf," and the like.

Laplante's Catalogue is undated and bears no author's name. The title is simply *Timbres-Poste*, followed by the imprint, "en vente: | chez Laplante marchand de timbres-poste | pour collections | 1, rue Christine | Paris.

Edard E.-A. Laplante (or de Laplante, as he seems to have called himself sometimes) was born in 1820, started as a stamp dealer in 1861, and sold his business to Wilhelm Georg, of Basle, in 1869. There are some curious biographical details regarding him in the *Schweizer Briefmarken-Zeitung* (1901, 1903), from which it appears that his life was a varied one. Beginning as an engraver on stone, he was successively a soldier, secretary to Prince Jerome Napoleon, postmaster at some small post offices, clerk at the Préfecture de Police under Piétri, and then a stamp dealer. He afterwards started as a vine planter in Algeria, where he remained until his death in 1881.

M. Maury's reminiscences (*Coll. de T.-P.*, 1866) bear out what I have said as to the relative merits of Potiquet's and Moens's works. He had seen posters in the streets of Paris advertising Moens's *Manuel*, and hastened to Baillieu's shop, where he found a crowd of people. Baillieu's speciality was the sale of autographs, but at that moment he devoted himself entirely to stamps, for the veritable stamp mania was raging. "Having bought the Manuel," wrote M. Maury, "I sat down on a seat in the street, and read it right through from beginning to end. I did not much care for it. I heard soon afterwards that Lacroix's library had published another handbook [Potiquet's] from which the one I had had been copied; I bought it and found it excellent. Thenceforward I could collect stamps systematically and seriously; there was only one thing wanting . . . the stamps themselves."

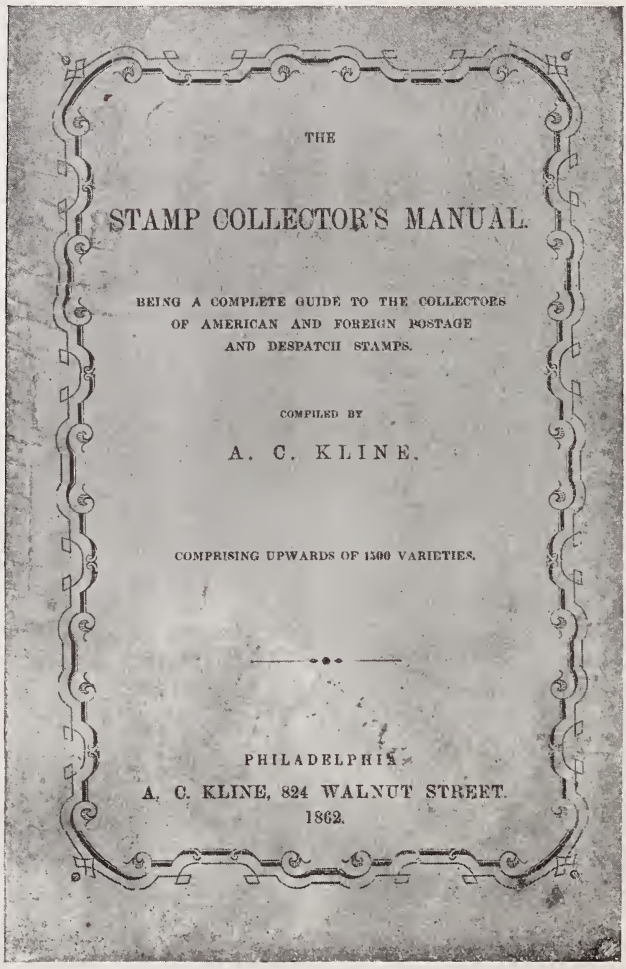
In 1863, M. Maury paid another visit to Paris, and this time he called on Laplante. "I knew him only from his queer correspondence, and he began by telling me that his name was not 'Laplante,' but 'de Laplante.' Then he got into a wild rage when I told him I had exchanged some 'fileuses' (as we called the first Victoria stamps) at the Bourse aux Timbres; he inveighed against the people who frequented the Bourse, and against all his rivals in general, and then showed me what a simpleton I was to have taken stamps worth a sou a piece for my rarities. 'Now look here,' he said, 'I am going to give you in exchange for all your Victorias, the same number of these Moldavian stamps I have just had sent me. They have never been seen before, and you can sell them like hot cakes at Boulogne.'

"I did not much care for the stamps, for they were ugly, yellow looking, and badly printed. However, I took two to conciliate him, and asked him to let me have something else. But he would have it that I must take his Moldavians, which, by the way, I sold at 25 centimes shortly afterwards, and he got into such a rage that I began to wonder if he was in his right mind, and what was going to become of me, a frail young fellow, shut up with this raving colossus; but he quieted down all of a sudden, smiled, and changed the subject."

In the *Philatelic Record* of 1905, I wrote an article on Frederick Booty, whose *Aids to Stamp Collectors* (1862) was the first English catalogue.

The cream-coloured wrapper of the first American catalogue is shown in the accompanying illustration. It was issued in December, 1862, and was a piracy of an English work—Mount Brown's *Catalogue*

—the only difference between the two works being Kline's addition of a very complete list of United States locals, and the curious heading, "So-called Southern Confederacy," sandwiched in between "South


THE

STAMP COLLECTOR'S MANUAL.

BEING A COMPLETE GUIDE TO THE COLLECTORS OF AMERICAN AND FOREIGN POSTAGE AND DESPATCH STAMPS.

COMPILED BY

A. C. KLINE.

COMPRISING UPWARDS OF 1300 VARIETIES.

PHILADELPHIA:
A. C. KLINE, 824 WALNUT STREET.
1862.

Australia" and "Spain." The first edition has 48 pages, and on the last page of the wrapper, at the foot of the advertisements, is the imprint, "T. SINEX, PRINTER, 619 JAYNE STREET." Later editions appeared in 1863 and 1865.

Morocco.

By George B. Duerst.

(Continued from Page 76).

Line VI. Alcasar and Wazan.

The distance is about 30 miles.

ALCASA, or Alcazar—called in Arabic Kasr-el-Kebir, or short, El Ksar—is an inland town, 60 miles south from Tangier. Here Sebastian, King of Portugal, was defeated by the Moors and slain in 1578. Population, about 25,000.

Wazan, or Ouazzan, is a holy city, 45 miles north-west from Fez, and is the head-quarters of the Grand Shereef. Population, about 107,000.

The French and English postal lines from Tangier to Fez had served these two towns for years, yet an enterprising Frenchman instituted a special service in 1896, which, however, was suppressed within a month, because the Grand Shereef objected and the service did not pay, the commercial intercourse between the two places being very small.

November, 1896.

Camel rider in desert, and the figures 1896 in centre; "MAROC" at the top, and "ALCAZAR A OUAZZAN" in three lines at the bottom; on the left, "SERVICE POSTAL," and on the right, "BI-HEBDOMADAIRE"; in the lower angles, the value in figures and letters; in the upper angles, ornaments. Coloured impression on thick white and tinted paper. Perf. 11½.

5 c (entimes)	...	rose on white.
10 ,,	...	blue on white.
10 ,,	...	blue on yellowish.
15 ,,	...	orange on yellowish.
20 ,,	...	green on white.
20 ,,	...	green on yellowish.
40 ,,	...	dark violet on yellowish.
40 ,,	...	dark violet on white.
50 ,,	...	yellow on white.
1 f (ranc)	...	chestnut on white.
1 ,,	...	chestnut on yellowish.

Line VII. Tetuan and Chechuan.

The distance is about 40 miles.

Tetuan is an ancient seaport on the Mediterranean, but is now about half a mile from it. It is still a fortified place, and is situated 22 miles south of Ceuta. The population is about 25,000.

Chechuan lies due south from Tetuan in the mountains.

December, 1896.

Ship, mountain and rising sun in a circle, surrounded by a six-pointed star, the whole in a double upright rectangle. At the top, "MAROC"; on the left, "TETOUAN"; on the right, "CHECHOUAN; at the bottom, 1896; in the upper angles, six-pointed stars; in the lower angles, value in figures and letters; in the inner rectangle, there are four crescents and stars; and below the central design, an Arabic inscription. Printed in colours on thick white and tinted wove paper. Perf. $11\frac{1}{2}$.

5 c (entimes)	... ...	ultramarine.
10 ,,	.. ..	dark green.
20 ,,	... ...	rose.
25 ,,	... ...	orange-yellow.
40 ,,	... ...	dark violet.
50 ,,	... ...	red.
1 f (ranc)	... ...	brown.

Line VIII. Fez and Mequinez.

The distance is 34 miles.

Mequinez, or Mekinez, is situated in a mountainous region west-south-west of Fez, and contains the summer residence of the Sultan, and the Mulai Ismael Mosque—a royal burial place much visited by pilgrims. Population, about 50,000.

January, 1897.

Head of an Arab to the right in Moorish archway, above which is the word "POSTE"; below, in a straight horizontal label, "FEZ-MEQUINEZ"; and below this, the value in figures and letters, printed in a second colour. Printed in two colours on white wove paper, in sheets of 100, in four panes of 5 × 5 stamps. Perf. various.

	Perforated $11\frac{1}{2}$.		*Perforated 14.*
5 centimes	olive-grey.	Value red.	ditto
10 ,,	carmine.	,, blue.	ditto
15 ,,	blue.	,, orange.	ditto
20 ,,	orange.	,, violet.	ditto
25 ,,	violet.	,, green.	ditto
35 ,,	brown.	,, red.	ditto
50 ,,	red.	,, black.	ditto
1 franc	dark green.	,, brown.	ditto

Horizontally imperforate.

15 centimes blue.	Value orange.
20 ,, orange.	,, violet.

Vertically imperforate.

10 centimes carmine.	Value blue.

Twice perforated.

15 centimes blue.	Value orange.

(To be continued.)



The earliest information as to New Issues will be much appreciated by us, and will be duly credited to the correspondent, or firm, sending it. Our foreign subscribers can materially help us in this direction. When possible, a specimen should accompany the information, and be addressed to

G. Fred. H. Gibson, *Fairfield, Crumpsall, Manchester.*

The British Empire.

Cayman Islands.—Mr. W. H. Peckitt sends us specimens of the new issue for these Islands. They are as follows:—

Adhesives.

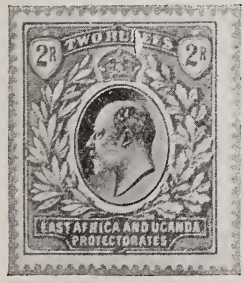
Wmk. CA and Crown multiple.

2½d. ultramarine.
3d. brown on yellow.
4d. black and carmine on yellow.

Wmk. CA and Crown single.

1s. black on green.
10s. green and carmine on green.

East Africa and Uganda.—The set of high values upon multiple watermark paper has now been completed, *Ewen's Weekly* stating that the 50rs. has been sent out to the Protectorate.



Adhesive.

Wmk. CA and Crown multiple.

50r. brown and black.

Montserrat.—Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. advise us of the receipt of the 1s. value upon multiple watermark paper.



Adhesive.

Wmk. CA and Crown multiple.

1s. violet and green.

South Australia.—The latest value to appear upon the new paper is the 5d. value.

Adhesive.

5d. lilac. Wmk. Crown and A.

Straits Settlements. — Mr. W. M. Jack, writing from Singapore, sends us a specimen of the 4c. printed in lilac; we chronicled this in April, but it has only just been issued. The 3c., with which it has changed colour, is yet to come.

Turks' Islands.—Various of our contemporaries chronicle a new value, 3d., printed in brown on yellow paper.

Adhesive.

Wmk. CA and Crown multiple.

3d. brown on yellow.

Foreign Countries.

Argentine Republic. — Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. send us specimens of a new 2c. and 5c.

These bear the portrait of General San Martin in an oval, and are surface printed upon large Sun watermark paper, perforated 13 — 13½.

Adhesives.

2c. chocolate.
5c. dull carmine.

Austria.—Mr. W. T. Wilson sends us specimens of a new set of Unpaid Letter stamps. They are square, showing a large numeral upon plain tablet with arms above, and the word "Porto" beneath.

Adhesives.
Unpaid Letter stamps.

1h. carmine.
2h. ,,
4h. ,,
6h. ,,
10h. ,,
20h. ,,
30h. ,,
50h. ,,
100h. ,,

Costa Rica.—The *Stamp Weekly* is informed that the whole of the current pictorial set have been overprinted with the word "Oficial" for Service use.

Adhesives.
Official stamps.
Surcharged "Oficial" in black.

1c. indigo and chestnut-brown.
2c. black and yellow-green.
4c. indigo and carmine-red.
5c. indigo and orange-buff.
10c. black and blue.
20c. slate and olive.
25c. myrtle and lavender.
50c. indigo-blue and reddish lilac.
1 col. black and sienna.
2 col. myrtle and claret.

German Empire. Offices in Morocco. The *Monthly Journal* gives the 35c. on 30pf. as appearing upon the new paper.

Adhesive.

35c. on 30pf. black and orange on buff. Watermkd.

Holland. Curaçao.—*Ewen's Weekly* lists the following additions to the current set:—

Adhesives.

7½c. grey.
22½c. brown and olive.

Dutch Indies.—And the following here:

Adhesives.

7½c. lilac-grey.
22½c. brown and olive.

Unpaid Letter stamp.

2½c. red and black.

Surinam.—This colony follows suit:—

Adhesives.

7½c. grey.
22½c. brown and olive.

Mexico.—*Ewen's Weekly* gives the following particulars of a set of Postage Due stamps recently issued:—"Line engraved, "figure of value in centre; inscribed "'Timbre Complementario' and 'Correos "Mexico.'"

Adhesives.
Unpaid Letter stamps.

2c. blue.
4c. ,,
5c. ,,
10c. ,,

Paraguay.—Mr. W. H. Munn sends us a number of new provisionals, all indicating a shortage of the 5c. value.

Adhesives.
Official stamps of 1904, overprinted in black.

5c. pale blue.	Surcharged	"Habilitado."
30c grey-blue.	,,	"Habilitado en 5 centavos."
60c. chocolate.	,,	,, ,,
10c. bistre.	,,	,, ,,
30c. bright blue.	,,	,, ,,

Persia.—The *Monthly Journal* has seen a new set comprising seven values and bearing the portrait of the present Shah. They are engraved in taille douce and perforated 11 — 11½.

Adhesives.

13ch. indigo-blue.
26ch. orange-brown.
1k. vermilion.
2k. deep green.
3k. light blue.
4k. yellow.
5k. deep brown.

Turkey.—The following high values are added by *Ewen's Weekly* to the set chronicled in April:—

Adhesives.

10 piastres red.
25 piastres grey-green.
50 piastres brown.

Overprinted Turkish "B" for foreign correspondence.

Adhesives.

10 par. green.	Overprinted	red.
20 par. rose.	,,	blue.
1 piastre blue.	,,	red.
2 piastres grey.	,,	red.

Newspaper stamps.

5 par. bistre.
10 par. green.
20 par. rose.
2 piastres grey-blue.
5 piastres violet.

Notes and News.

Forthcoming Exhibition.

The Manchester Branch of the Junior Philatelic Society have decided to hold an Exhibition in that city on the 18th, 19th and 20th February, 1909.

Mr. I. J. Bernstein has been elected Exhibition President, Mr. J. R. M. Albrecht Exhibition Secretary and Treasurer, and a large and influential committee is now being formed.

The Exhibition will be opened on February 18th next, and will remain open for three days, a number of prominent dealers having already promised to take stalls.

Manchester Philatelic Society.

The seventeenth annual meeting was held at the rooms of the Geographical Society on Friday evening, May 8th, the President, Mr. W. Dorning Beckton, in the chair.

The Hon. Secretary reminded the meeting that he has now held office for ten years, and briefly referred to some of the members with whom he had come into contact during that time. He then presented his report, which showed the present number of members to be 93, made up of 4 honorary, 55 active, and 34 corresponding. The average attendance has been well maintained, six names appearing as having been present at every meeting. He reviewed the work of the session, specially mentioning the papers by Mr. Duerst on "Morocco Locals," by Mr. Beckton on "Sweden," and by Mr. Bernstein on "The Universal Postal Union," and the displays of "Trinidad" by Mr. Yardley, "Sicily" by Mr. Taylor, and "Cape of Good Hope" by Mr. W. M. Gray, Vice-President of the Bradford Society. He alluded to the great success of the lantern lecture, "Some Phases of Philately," given early in the Session; to the picnic to Chester; to the resignation in February last of Mr. G. L. Campbell, for five years the Society's Librarian; and to the Exhibition arranged in London by the Junior Philatelic Society. After an expression of thanks to the publishers of *The Monthly Journal, The London Philatelist, The Philatelic Record, The American Journal of Philately, The Australian Philatelist*, and various other journals, English and foreign, for copies of the papers as issued, to the leading auctioneers for priced catalogues of their sales, and to several members for contributions to the library of books and periodicals, the report concluded by a hearty acknowledgment of the help received from the Hon. Assistant Secretary, Mr. Gee.

The Hon. Treasurer reported a considerable balance in hand, the Hon. Librarian many additions to the Library, which has now so much increased as to necessitate the purchase of a second bookcase, and the Comptroller a steady percentage of sales from the exchange packets.

The President moved the adoption of the four reports, and in doing so spoke of the length of time during which he and the Hon. Secretary had occupied important official positions in connection with the Society, and endorsed the remark which Mr. Gibson had made that it is not for the interest of any Society that its management should remain year after year in the same hands. He noted with pleasure the rising band of younger members, and felt that the time is rapidly approaching for them to take over the chief positions and responsibilities in place of their seniors.

Mr. Abbott, in seconding, spoke of his interest in the exchange packets, and expressed the opinion that there is an opportunity for the sale of a better quality of stamps than are usually found there.

It was agreed that the number of Vice-Presidents may, at any time when it is considered desirable, be increased to four.

The following officers were elected for the coming session :—*President*, W. Dorning Beckton; *Vice-Presidents*, J. H. Abbott, G. B. Duerst, W. Grunewald; *Hon. Secretary*, G. F. H. Gibson; *Hon. Treasurer*, C. H. Coote; *Hon. Assistant Secretary and Comptroller*, J. S. Gee; *Hon. Librarian*, J. R. M. Albrecht; *Committee*, J. H. King, W. W. Munn, J. H. Taylor; *Exchange Packet Committee*, J. R. M. Albrecht, J. S. Higgins, junr.

An application having been received for Life Membership, it was resolved :—"That an Ordinary Member of the Society, whose annual subscription is 10s. 6d., may become a Life Member by one payment of five guineas."

The arrangements for the picnic, as well as those for the programme of next season, were discussed, a suggestion to change the evening of meeting not receiving the approval of a majority of the members present.

It was decided that a capital account in connection with the Society's belongings should be prepared, and a Sub-Committee, consisting of the Hon. Treasurer,

the Hon. Librarian, and Mr. Ostara, were appointed to carry out the work.

The meeting was brought to a close by a vote of thanks to the Chairman.

List of Members.

J. H. Abbott.
G. Adams (*c*).
M. Albrecht.
R. Albrecht.
T. Anyon (*c*).
E. M. Ash (*c*).
E. D. Bacon.
P. Barton (*c*.)
F. J. Beazley.
W. D. Beckton.
A. H. A. Bennett.
H. Bennett (*c*).
I. J. Bernstein.
C. N. Biggs.
R. Borek (*c*).
W. G. Bowden (*c*).
J. Brooks.
W. Brown.
H. C. Burder (*c*).
M. P. Castle.
J. Cooper.
C. H. Coote.
Dr. Corns.
Lieut.-Col. Davies.
A. H. Dearn.
G. B. Duerst.
J. Duiven (*c*).
W. H. Earle (*c*).
J. W. Etherington (*c*).
Major Evans.
E. Fildes.
D. S. Garson (*c*)
J. S. Gee.
G. F. H. Gibson.
O. Gillett.
Dr. Grosvenor (*c*).
W. Grunewald.
R. F. V. Harrison.
L. L. R. Hausburg.
H. W. Hawkins (*c*).
N. Heywood.
J. S. Higgins.
J. S. Higgins, jun.
A. H. Holmes.
J. Hughes (*c*).
Rev. E. W. R. Hutchinson.
Dr. Jago.
B. Jay (*c*).
J. K. King.
W. B. Kirkpatrick (*c*).
K. H. Kricorissian.
H. J. Lee.
E. Leese (*c*)
A. D. Leigh.
E. Levy.
R. B. Martin.
Dr. Marx (*c*).
S. W. Massey.
H. Mayoh.
H. P. Mellor.
W. W. Munn.
R. H. Murray (*c*).
S. W. Newington.
H. K. Nicholson (*c*).
C. Nissen (*c*).
J. C. North.
J. M. Oliver.
D. Ostara.
P. Parker (*c*)
F. J. Paton (*c*).
P. L. Pemberton.
Judge Philbrick.
J. E. Platt.
C. J. Preater (*c*).
L. de Raay (*c*)
V. Roberts.
W. A. Rockliff (*c*).
J. H. M. Savage (*c*).
W. Scott (*c*).
J. K. Sidebottom.
J. W. Simpson.
W. K. Skipwith.
Rev. G. E. W. Spicer (*c*).
J. H. Taylor.
W. H. Terry.
Rev. L. F. Ward.
H. L. Watts (*c*).
J. Watts, jun. (*c*).
J. Westhorp (*c*).
Thos. Whitworth (*c*).
Wilcox Smith (*c*).
H. A. Wood.
J. Woodroffe
R. B. Yardley.

Junior Philatelic Society: Manchester Branch.

The third annual meeting of the Manchester Branch of the Junior Philatelic Society was held on May 7th at the Deansgate Hotel, I. J. Bernstein, Esq., presiding, supported by about thirty members. The reports of the Treasurer, Librarian, and Exhibition Committee were received and adopted.

The following officers were elected for the coming session :—*President,* Mr. I. J. Bernstein; *Vice-Presidents,* Mr. W. W. Munn and Mr. J. J. Darlow; *Packet Superintendent,* Mr. J. Brooks; *Auditor,* Mr. P. S. Barton; *Librarian* and *Assistant Secretary,* Mr. J. Taylor; *Committee,* Mr. J. R. M. Albrecht, Mr. D. A. Berry, and Mr. J. White; *Treasurer* and *Secretary,* Mr. J. S. Higgins, Junr.

Mr. Albrecht having accepted the post of Secretary for the coming Exhibition, felt compelled to resign the office of Secretary of the Society, and a very hearty vote of thanks was accorded him for his highly efficient services and the interest he has taken in the Society since its formation. After the annual meeting a competitive display was arranged, and the following countries were exhibited :—German Morocco, Mr. Barton; Gold Coast and Dominica, Mr. Darlow; Roumania, Mr. Horner; Sicily, Mr. Taylor; Jamaica, Mr. Ward.

Mr. W. W. Munn and Mr. J. King were appointed to judge the exhibits, and awarded the first prize to Mr. J. W. Taylor for his display of Sicily, and the second prize to Mr. J. J. Darlow for his display of Dominica.

Philatelic Society of India.

Annual Meeting.

The annual meeting of the Society was held at Mr. Larmour's residence, Calcutta, on Friday, the 20th March, 1908. There was a very small attendance, and the proceedings were of a purely formal character. Mr. Hoffmann, on taking the chair at 6.15 p.m., called on Mr. Corfield to present the Treasurers' accounts, and these disclosed a prosperous financial position, and were passed unanimously. Approval was given to the final arrangements for the early publication of an elaborate and fully illustrated handbook on the stamps of Afghanistan, a work which, from the nature of the stamps it deals with, from the student's point of view, will meet a long-standing need of the stamp-collecting world. It will be necessarily costly, as the demand for a monograph on the issues of this difficult and expensive country can only be expected to be a limited one. The authors, Sir David Masson and Mr. B. Gordon Jones, each recognised experts in Afghan philately, have, it is understood, spared no pains to prepare an exhaustive and reliable work which will form a notable addition to the standard library of the pursuit. Since the last annual meeting, the Society's Handbook on the Postal and Telegraph issues of British India has been published by Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., London, and has met with the widest approval. The success of the Calcutta Philatelic Exhibition of January last was reported upon and its Committee dissolved. Certain arrangements were ordered to be entered into with the management of the *London Philatelist*, the official organ of the Royal Philatelic Society, London, of advantage to Indian collectors, and after the discussion and settlement of other business matters of a routine nature, the following honorary officers were appointed for 1908-09 :—

Honorary President, Mr. C. Stewart-Wilson, I.C.S.; *President*, the Hon. Sir David Masson, C.I.E., Lahore; *Vice-Presidents*, the Right Hon. the Earl of Crawford, K.T., Mr. Wilmot Corfield

(Calcutta), Mr. L. L. R. Hausburg Weybridge, England), the Hon. C. F. Larmour (Calcutta), Mr. E. W. Wetherell (Bangalore); *Hon. Secretary*, Mr. W. Corfield (Calcutta); *Hon. Treasurers*, the Punjab Banking Co., Ltd., Lahore; *Librarian*, Mr. Th. Hoffmann, Calcutta; *Editor of The Philatelic Journal of India*, Mr. B. Gordon Jones; *Committee*, Mr. J. A. E. Burrup (Calcutta), the Hon. A. G. Cardew, I.C.S. (Madras), Mr. J. T. Chamberlain, I.C.S. (Ellichpur, Berar), Mr. C. S. F. Crofton, I.C.S. (Ahmednagar), Lieut.-Colonel F. H. Hancock (Jhansi), Lieut.-Colonel G. F. A. Harris, I.M.S. (Calcutta), Prof. O. V. Muller (Bombay), and Mr. J. O'B. Saunders (Calcutta).

The Labrador Company.

The following letter has been received by *L'Echo de la Timbrologie* :—

"I have the honour to enclose you a set of three unused stamps that have just been issued by 'The Labrador Company,' of American origin; they are intended to frank letters and parcels both to and from Labrador.

"The said Company have received a Charter from the Governments of the United States and Newfoundland to develop the country, on the condition that a postal service to various parts of Labrador is kept in operation during the navigable season.

"Therefore the Company has issued postage stamps of 3 cents, 25 cents, and 1 dollar; the latter value is intended for use only on parcels and registered matter, and will only be made use of by the postal officials of the Company."

Our contemporary goes on to state the stamps are absolutely hideous, and are badly printed in very unsuitable colours : the 5c. portrays a seal; the 25c., an Esquimax; and the $1 bears a faint resemblance to a map.

Later on we hope to be able to give further particulars about this "Company," but its chief object appears to be exploitation of collectors. We hope that none of our readers will be tempted to buy this bogus rubbish.—*Gibbons' Stamp Weekly.*

The Fraenkel Library.

Few people are aware of the amount there is of printed matter relating to the subject of philately or stamp collecting, but some idea of the enormous extent and wider range of literature to which the hobby has given rise may be had when one sees the thousands of volumes and pamphlets which will shortly be added to the shelves of the library of the Royal Philatelic Society as the result of the munificent gift of the Earl of Crawford, who recently acquired the well-known philatelic library of Herr Fraenkel, of Berlin. Lord Crawford possesses what is undoubtedly the most complete and finest library of the kind in existence, and he has added to it such books from the Fraenkel library as were wanting in his own, presenting the rest of the volumes to the Royal Philatelic Society. Herr Fraenkel's collection of books almost equalled that of the Earl of Crawford, and the number of works taken from the former cannot have been very large. It will thus be seen what a very important and valuable donation has been received by the Royal Philatelic Society. It required no fewer than forty big cases to pack the Fraenkel books for transmission to this country.—*The Liverpool Echo.*

"The Bibliophile."

We have received from the publishers, Thanet House, Strand, the first number of "*The Bibliophile*, a monthly illustrated magazine of literary criticism and bibliography, for readers of culture and taste." We have so frequently alluded to the recognised position which philately now holds that it is by no means a matter of surprise to us to find that amongst sundry literary articles three pages are devoted to stamps, an intimation being given that notes of interest to collectors will appear each month. In the issue under notice these take the form of a very brief sketch of the history of collecting, a reference to the Junior Society's Exhibition, and a list, with several illustrations, of the Diamond Jubilee stamps of Austria. *The Bibliophile* is worthy of high rank amongst existing magazines of a similar artistic character, and is published monthly at the small price of sixpence.

"Prepared for use, but not issued."

Messrs. Stanley Gibbons give notice of the following addition to their catalogue.

"Roman States. No. 42 should be omitted."

After No. 49 add "Prepared for use, but not issued."

Unsurfaced Paper.

10c. vermilion	Unused	0.1
20c. solferino	,,	0.4
20c. magenta	,,	0.2

This announcement is remarkable in several ways.

Firstly, stamps "prepared for use but not issued" are now to be included in the catalogue; some notable instances of such stamps are the Somaliland Official overprinted "Service," 1r. Queen; British East Africa, 2, 3, 5 rupees, small overprint (see note after No. 109); Hayti 1898, 1, 3, 7, and 20c.

Secondly, a distinction is now drawn for the first time in the case of the Roman States between "glazed paper" and "unsurfaced paper"; this looks as if chalk-surfaced paper will be recognised

in the next catalogue, unless the publishers are to forfeit all claim to consistency.

Thirdly, the 20c. magenta was listed as No. 42, an issued variety, at 1d. The above notice states that No. 42 is to be deleted and the stamp classified as an unissued variety at 2d. Why should the altered status of the stamp increase its value by 100 per cent.? We should have thought the reverse would have been the case.—*Ewen's Weekly Stamp News.*

The Collection of Essays.

The proof question was forcibly brought to our notice by the inspection of a superb collection of proofs all printed in black. The filled album was the work of years and represented a considerable cash outlay, but the result was superb and could scarcely be overvalued. Coloured specimens would be more brilliant, but to show off the beauty of the engraving black is the only medium. The collection of proofs and essays is steadily increasing not only amongst the leading amateurs who may be expected to collect everything connected with philately, but also amongst stamp collectors of average means, while not a few confine their efforts solely to proof impressions. Collectors, however much their intelligence may be devoted to their study, can never entirely divorce their minds from the glamour of rarity, and very many, even against their will, must take into account the possibilities of advancing prices before they make considerable investments in the objects of their choice.

It seems to us that outside of high-priced rarities there is no object in the stamp line which is more likely to show big profits than a well-selected collection of proofs, specimens, and essays.—*The Metropolitan Philatelist.*

Brown Gum and White Gum.

An ingenious explanation of the *raison d'être* of brown and white gum on the 3c., crimson, first issue, of Danish West Indies is put forward by *Le Journal des Philatelistes.*

It is said that the first consignment of stamps sent by the Home Government to the authorities of St. Thomas was considerably damaged by sea-water, the sheets being all stuck together on arrival. They were therefore carefully soaked in water, but this proceeding removed all the gum, so there was nothing for it but to re-gum them locally. Two chemists of Ste. Croix, Messrs. Rüse and F. Benzon, were entrusted with this task; but the former made use of a perfectly pure gum, while the latter used a somewhat inferior preparation. This is said to be the real reason why two shades of gum exist on this stamp.—*Gibbons' Stamp Weekly.*

Obituary.

Mr. Edward Samuel Norris, of Lewes, near Brighton, who invented the postal order system, left £45,839. Mr. Norris, who was once Conservative M.P. for Limehouse, was also the inventor of several life saving appliances.

Stamp Slot Machines.

Mr. Donne sends us an extract from the Melbourne *Argus* of March 16th, 1908, to the effect that a slot stamp machine is to be installed at the G.P.O. for public trial. If that is successful similar machines will be attached to pillar-boxes and stationed in hotels and clubs and every part of the city, so that a stamp may be obtained at any hour by anybody provided with a penny.

The machine is most simple in mechanism, and at the same time most ingenious. It has three slots. Into one a penny is placed. If the penny is a good one the machine gurgles and clicks for an instant, and a penny stamp is protruded through a second slot. If the penny is a bad one, or a foreign one, or an imitation coin; if, in fact, the coin placed in the slot is anything except a British penny, there is a rattling sound, and it is shot out of a third slot on to the ground. The internal mechanism of the machine is capable of detecting the most minute differences in coins. Florins, sovereigns, foreign pennies are all promptly rejected; but the British penny brings forth a stamp every time.—*The Australian Philatelist.*

Washed Ashore.

Postage stamps valued at upwards of $100,000, forming a consignment in process of shipment from New York to Newfoundland, have been washed ashore at the island of Cuttyhunk from the wreck of the steamer *Sylvia.* The stamps are of the current Newfoundland issue and were being shipped by the American Bank Note Co., of New York, to the Newfoundland Government. They are in two and five cent denominations; one woman is said to have possession of all the five cent stamps, alone valued at many thousands of dollars.—*Mekeel's Weekly.*

British Central Africa Protectorate.

The name of this Protectorate having been changed to Nyassaland Protectorate, it has been necessary to make a corresponding alteration in the stamps of the Protectorate. They will in future be printed from the two new Universal keyplates and will be the first stamps to be so printed. The stamps will not be despatched until April, and their colours will follow the Universal colour scheme. There will be one new value, *i.e.*, ½d.; the other values ordered being 1d., 3d.,

4d., 6d., 1s., 2s. 6d., 4s., 10s., £1, and £10. The new colour scheme will be followed throughout, and the 1s. stamps, of which 60,000 are being supplied, are on single watermark green paper. The last four values are of the large size, and have, in our opinion, a very fine appearance.—*Colonial Office Journal.*

Simplified Catalogue.

We have received from Mr. Field a new catalogue intituled as above dealing exclusively with "The Stamps of the British Empire," and we gather from the preface that the primary object of the publication is to test whether there is any *bona fide* demand for such a publication, in which event a second volume is to be published treating the stamps of the rest of the world in the like manner.

After all that has appeared in some stamp journals during the last three years upon the need of such a publication, one would think there was little doubt of this. It may very easily be that such a conclusion is based upon attaching too high an importance to the many contributions to the philatelic press on this subject—a subject upon which it is so much easier to write than an article dealing with stamps themselves.

In the initial stages of the discussion on the subject which was encouraged by some of our contemporaries, we pointed out that a simplified catalogue had been on the market for some years in the shape of Whitfield King & Co.'s catalogue; but objection, strange to say, was taken to this publication on the ground of its being too simple—in other words, in its exclusion of certain varieties which some of the simplagettes had no desire to see excluded from catalogue rank.

The present publication seems to meet the objection taken—in a word, it is not so simplified as the publication to which we have referred, neither is it by any means as complex as Stanley Gibbons. In the words of the preface, the catalogue is confined to the main, straightforward and essential varieties only, and all minor varieties of perforation, watermark, shade, type, and surcharge are eliminated. To further bring the number of the world's postage stamps within reasonable proportions, all but actual adhesive postage stamps—*i.e.*, officials, postage dues, etc.—have been omitted. Inverted surcharges and other errors are further considered unnecessary in a simplified collection and consequently omitted, and in regard to perforations, the only distinction drawn is between stamps which are perforated and those which are not. When we come to watermarks, however, the Editor has allowed himself more scope, and distinctions are made between Star and Crown CC and between the latter and Crown CA.

The book is extremely nicely printed and illustrated, and the Editor appears to have taken a good deal of trouble in its compilation. If there is any *bona fide* demand for such a publication the present one ought in every way to command the success which Mr. Field naturally hopes for; that he himself is a believer in it is indicated by the fact that the expense of producing the present volume must have been considerable, and its selling price is the popular shilling. It is, of course, an experiment, and one which we trust Mr. Field will not regret.

Stanley Gibbons' Monthly Journal.

Some three months ago we heard a whisper that this well-known organ was to be discontinued at the end of the current volume in June next, and although knowing our source of information was quite sound, yet we refrained from publishing the fact until some announcement had been made by the firm in their own journal, hoping all the while that other counsels might have prevailed, or that Mr. Phillips would relent.

The announcement which we publish below from the pen of Mr. C. J. Phillips in the last issue of the *Monthly Journal,* however, ends the matter, and it only remains for us to express our very deep regret at the demise of an old friend. It makes us think how old we ourselves are getting to see so many of our contemporaries, and the very cream of them, disappear one by one, *Le Timbre Poste, The American Journal of Philately,* and now *The Monthly Journal.*

We and many collectors had grown to love the *M.J.,* and its place cannot be taken in the same way by its offspring the weekly.

We publish below Mr. Phillips' announcement, and the comments of two contemporaries which reach us on the eve of going to press :—

"It is with considerable regret that I have to announce that from June 30th next the *Monthly Journal* will cease to exist.

"About three years ago I formed the opinion that a paper published only twelve time a year did not afford sufficient publicity for the purposes of our business, and I thereupon started *Gibbons' Stamp Weekly,* and I am glad to say with excellent results. *G.S.W.* is now well established, and has already a circulation some three times as great as the *M.J.,* and as it appears once a week, we are able to bring our specialities under the notice of our readers much more promptly and frequently than we could with a monthly paper only.

"One of the great objects of the *M.J.* was to collect together a really complete list of all New Issues and Discoveries, but this we are now able to do in our

own office in our *Weekly*, and it is useless expense to keep up two papers when one will fully answer all our purposes.

"The great *raison d'être* of the *M.J.* has been the publishing of really original articles by the leading philatelic writers of the day, and during nearly eighteen years, under the editorship of Major E. B. Evans, it has obtained, I think I may say, *the* leading position in philatelic journalism.

"I now propose to include all the old features of the *M.J.* in *G.S.W.*, in the following manner: One number of the *Weekly* in each month will be devoted to original scientific articles, and the usual features will all be omitted, with the exception of the lists of New Issues. I am very glad to announce that the invaluable services of our friend Major Evans will be retained, and each month he will be responsible for this special number of the *Weekly*, the other numbers being edited in our office as usual. I also propose, shortly, to enlarge the *Weekly*, and I intend to do all in my power to make it the most valuable stamp paper published for either the collector or the dealer.

"After June 30th all unexpired subscriptions to the *M.J.* will be transferred to *G.S.W.*, and a card will be sent to each subscriber stating up to what date he is booked for the *Weekly*. It is with real regret that I shall see the end of the *Monthly Journal*. I founded the paper one month after I purchased the business of Mr. Stanley Gibbons, and for a few months edited it myself, until I was lucky enough to meet Major Evans and persuade him to take on this onerous work. I sincerely trust that my readers will find our *Weekly* paper of even more use than the *Monthly* has been to them."

"There will be universal regret on reading Mr. Charles J. Phillips' announcement in the current *Monthly Journal*, to the effect that the June issue of that paper, being the concluding number of the current volume, will be the last to be issued.

"It appears that the fault of the *Monthly Journal*—in Mr. Phillips' eye—is that it does not appear often enough, although, of course, a monthly periodical is in the nature of things restricted to twelve appearances per annum. What Mr. Phillips means is that in this hustling age a weekly paper is more in keeping with the requirements of a firm which desires to keep in continual touch with its friends and clients.

"That is the commercial, rather than the literary, view of the case, and I think I shall be by no means alone in deploring the decision Mr. Phillips has come to. Of course, there is still *Gibbons' Stamp Weekly*, but *G.S.W.*, with all its virtues, has never stood half so high in philatelic estimation as its elder and more learned brother. However, that probably will all be changed, for the literary skill and energy that have hitherto been divided between the two journals will now be concentrated entirely on the *Weekly*—to which I wish continued and increasing success."—Editor of *Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly*.

"It is with great regret we learn that Mr. C. J. Phillips has decided to discontinue the publication of the *Monthly Journal* and sincerely hope, ere it is too late, that he may be persuaded to reconsider his decision. The *Monthly Journal* dates back to June, 1890, consequently it is seven months older than the *P.J.G.B.*, while it has, almost from the very commencement undoubtedly held the premier place of honour in the philatelic publishing world.

"To a great number of collectors the news of the coming dissolution of the *M.J.* will be sad news, for, although *Gibbons' Stamp Weekly* will, to a certain extent take its place, there will still be a feeling with many old time philatelists that no substitute, however good, can quite fill the void that the withdrawal of so important a publication will create.

"We are told that the *Weekly* will be enlarged, while Major Evans is to edit one number every month, the number under his supervision to only contain serious articles of intrinsic philatelic worth and the inevitable new issue list.

"To a certain extent, therefore, we do not altogether lose the *M.J.*, as it will appear in a modified form; nevertheless, we are too conservative but to deplore the decision Mr. Phillips has arrived at. It is not that we do not appreciate the *Weekly*, far from it; as a philatelic home magazine for the young collector it provides excellent reading, at the same time, we see something incongruous in grafting the *M.J.* on to so youthful a stem; if the *M.J.* had to go, we would rather that it sank with all hands at their stations, if Major Evans will excuse so nautical a metaphor, than that it should be incorporated with another publication, which, although excellent, is not, in our opinion, worthy of upholding, at least at present, the time honoured traditions of the *Monthly Journal*.

"The only bright feature of the pending change is that Major Evans will not retire from the field of philatelic journalism. Not only will he be solely responsible for every fourth number of the *Weekly*, but he will doubtless slightly supervise the editing of the other three; in this knowledge we must find our consolation for the loss of the *M.J.*

"In these days, when most collectors subscribe to all, or nearly all, the leading papers, there is little need to refresh their

memories with a list of well-known philatelists who have contributed to the *M.J.* during recent years, and, perhaps, it is almost as unnecessary to enumerate the names of those who contributed to the earlier volumes of our contemporary. The names of Napier, Tamsen, Thornhill, Gilbert Harrison, Donald King, are but a few chosen at random.

"We have yet the May and June numbers of the *M.J.* to look forward to, but the knowledge that the end is so near will tinge their arrival with sorrowful shades of mournfulness." —Editor, *Philatelic Journal of Great Britain.*

Provisional Stamps.

My attention was drawn the other day by a stamp collector to some observations in the *Colonial Office Journal* in reference to what has been said in *Truth* on the illegitimate issues of "provisional" stamps by some of the minor colonies. The *Colonial Office Journal* seems to think that the colonial post-offices are blameless in this matter, and thus sets forth what it supposes to be the point of view of the officials :—

"We will take the imaginary case of a small colony, in which it is believed that an issue of stamps of a certain value would be useful. The official preparing the order estimates the number required for local consumption, and, strictly speaking, that is all he is concerned with. But occasionally it happens that a stamp is in demand by philatelists, and the stock is rapidly exhausted. . . .

"In these circumstances the responsible official considers whether he has a larger stock than is immediately required of some stamps of higher value, and he surcharges these with the value required. These stamps in their turn become valuable, but he would, rightly or wrongly, be greatly blamed if he refused to sell them to dealers at their new face value. . . ."

This is really begging the whole question. Ought it ever to happen that the stock of any particular stamp is exhausted? I should say emphatically No. When the plates have once been made, the printing of additional stamps is an inexpensive matter, and I see no excuse for a postmaster who allows his stock to run out. In making his estimate of the demand, he ought to allow for all contingencies, and there is no reason why he should not have a "margin of safety" to the extent of several thousand stamps in stock. The *Colonial Office Journal* considers that, "strictly speaking," he is only concerned with the demand for local consumption. Why? He knows that stamps are bought by that section of the public which collects as well as by that section which only uses them for postal purposes. He can anticipate the one demand in his estimate as well as the other.

The last sentence quoted from the *Colonial Office Journal* admits that a postmaster can recognise a dealer's order when he sees it—which is quite certain—but suggests that he cannot refuse to execute it. Why not? If a big order comes in from a dealer which threatens to exhaust or unduly deplete the available stock, it is quite open to a postmaster to say that his stock does not enable him to execute the whole order at once, to supply as many stamps as he can without unduly reducing his stock, and to defer the completion of the order until he has had some more printed.

A collector writing to me with reference to the remarks of the *Colonial Office Journal* suggested that if a postmaster, who had allowed his stock of one denomination of stamps to run out, were required, instead of surcharging some of a higher denomination, to sell the latter at the lower price, and pay the difference himself, we should hear no more of stocks becoming exhausted and the resultant necessity for surcharged issues. Of this there can be little doubt. It comes, therefore, to this, that if the Colonial Office gave postmasters to understand that they are not to run out of stamps, and that they will be the sufferers if they do, the recent scandals would cease. It follows that the ultimate responsibility for the scandals rests with the Colonial Office.

For this last reason, it is regrettable that an attempt to explain away the responsibility of postal officials in this matter should be made in the *Colonial Office Journal.* It is true that this is not an official publication, but it is compiled and issued by officials on their own account, and therefore to some extent reflects official opinion. We know that the Colonial Office, like other Government Departments, is in a general way run by the permanent officials, and it seems to me that in this particular instance the permanent officials show themselves more sympathetic toward official abuses than concerned for the public interest. Since the matter was last referred to in *Truth* we have got a new Colonial Secretary and Under-Secretary. I hope that they will bring an independent mind to this question, rather than that of permanent officialdom. The case of the Cayman Islands issue is waiting for a decision. Lord Elgin promised that the matter should be properly investigated. Is this being done? One way or the other, it is about time that we knew the result, and I suggest again that the matter is well worth a question in the House of Commons.—*Truth.*

Telegraph Strikes.

The Indian telegraph strike, after lasting more than three weeks, has been settled. The men returned to work, losing their pay for the period of absence, and the Government has appointed a Commission to tour India and enquire into the grievances of the telegraph operators. The occasion of the strike was the reorganisation of the department, and while it lasted was a serious hindrance to commerce, telegrams being delayed for days and days.

The working of the service itself does not concern us, but a few words about the extent of the Indian telegraphs may be of interest.

The Indian State Telegraph Department controls over 64,000 miles of line, 10,000 miles more than the British Post Office, and deals with more than $7\frac{1}{4}$ millions of messages yearly, of which $6\frac{1}{2}$ are for the public. The system extends from Robat Kilo, on the border of Persia and Baluchistan, to Kengtung, on the extreme east of Burmah. The strength of the telegraph establishment in 1904 was over 10,500 men. The earliest telegraph line in India was experimental. In 1851 Dr. O'Shaughnessy, professor of chemistry in the University of Calcutta, obtained sanction to construct a line along the Hooghly to Diamond Harbour, making, with branches, 82 miles of wire. This line proved successful, and the Directors of the India Company sanctioned the construction of lines connecting the main centres. In 1857—the year of the Mutiny—the system comprised 4,555 miles of wire, with 62 offices open to the public. The Telegraph Department was able to render notable service in connection with the suppression of the outbreak. The Sepoys, who seem to have been acquainted with all the laws of scientific warfare, did considerable damage to the lines in the North-western Provinces and in Central India, about 760 miles being entirely demolished.

Though nowadays the word "telegraph" is confined to the electrical transmission of signals, the word is much older than that invention. In former times it was applied to the method of signalling by semaphore, of which the most notable example was the Admiralty telegraph from Portsmouth to London during the French War. Early in the nineteenth century a proposal was seriously entertained by the Indian Government to construct a series of semaphore towers, 100ft. high and at intervals of eight miles, all the way from Calcutta to Bombay. The scheme did not go very far, but to this day some of the towers then built may be seen along the Hooghly to puzzle the enquiring traveller.

In this country, too, we have had a strike of telegraph clerks. It occurred in 1871, and was unsuccessful. It was in connection with the formation of a Trade Union. The postal authorities exercised an intrusive, not to say impertinent, supervision over any news of the strike transmitted from one centre to another. Such messages were delivered, but they were, it is said, generally accompanied by a comment from Mr. Scudamore, the Superintendent of the telegraphs Department of the Post Office in London. This could easily be done, as all telegrams containing strike news had to pass viâ London.

Imperf. Swiss 25c.

According to several foreign contemporaries, a certain engraver of Geneva has placed on the market a quantity of the 25 centimes with large figures in an *imperforate* condition. These stamps are absolutely unauthorised, and were made from a plate that had been submitted to the Swiss Government, but which had been refused. Proceedings are being taken in Switzerland against the author of this fraud, and meanwhile I would caution my readers against these stamps. —*Gibbons' Stamp Weekly.*

MISCELLANEOUS.

Germany possesses now post offices in the following foreign places (1906) :— Beyrout, Constantinople, Jaffa, Smyrna, and Jerusalem; Alcasar, Casablanca, Fez, Laraiche, Marakech, Mazagan, Mequinez, Mogador, Rabat, Saffi, Tangiers, and Tetuan; Ancoy, Canton, Fooshow, Hankow, Itschang, Nanking, Peking, Shanghai, Swatow, Tientsin, Cheefoo, Chingkiang, Tsinaufu, and W.

* * *

The Servian stamps of the value of 5 and 10 paras appear now on horizontally laid paper. The other values will, it is said, also be issued on this paper as soon as the stocks are exhausted. All the values excepting the 3 dinar have appeared on thick paper, perf 12 × $11\frac{1}{2}$.

THE

Philatelic Record.

JUNE, 1908.

Editorial Note.

A SHORT time ago we received from a subscriber a suggestion that the most interesting of little known articles, or those which are to-day difficult of access to the modern collector, should be republished. Our correspondent pointed out that the younger generation know less, year by year, about what he termed the glorious old days of stamp collecting, and was therefore not interested in the hobby, or actuated by the aims of those who laid the foundation of what our hobby has grown into to-day. We were much impressed by the letter we received, and consequently regretted that we could not quite see our way to carrying out the suggestion.

Old Day Memories.

The matter has been refreshed in our memory by the receipt quite recently of a book published by Monsieur Pierre Mahé, which contains a succinct memoir of the early stamp dealers of Paris, giving a description of the various catalogues published by them. This book necessarily deals with the past—in fact, many of those whose names appear have not only long ago ceased to be concerned in stamps, but they are names which to very many collectors will be entirely unknown, and to others very possibly forgotten. Among the catalogues illustrated in the work is that of Alfred Potiquet, and described and illustrated in these pages only in April last; then there is the old curiosity shop of M. François Valette; and the renowned Madame Nicholas, whose name will long survive as the dealer who handled so many of the famous Post Office Mauritius. Her catalogue, published in 1865, is said to have been the first to mention the watermarks on stamps.

And so we might go on. The pages of the book teem with interest, and cannot fail to attract the reader, and will do much to instruct and interest him in the ways of stamp collecting in the past.

Notable Philatelists.

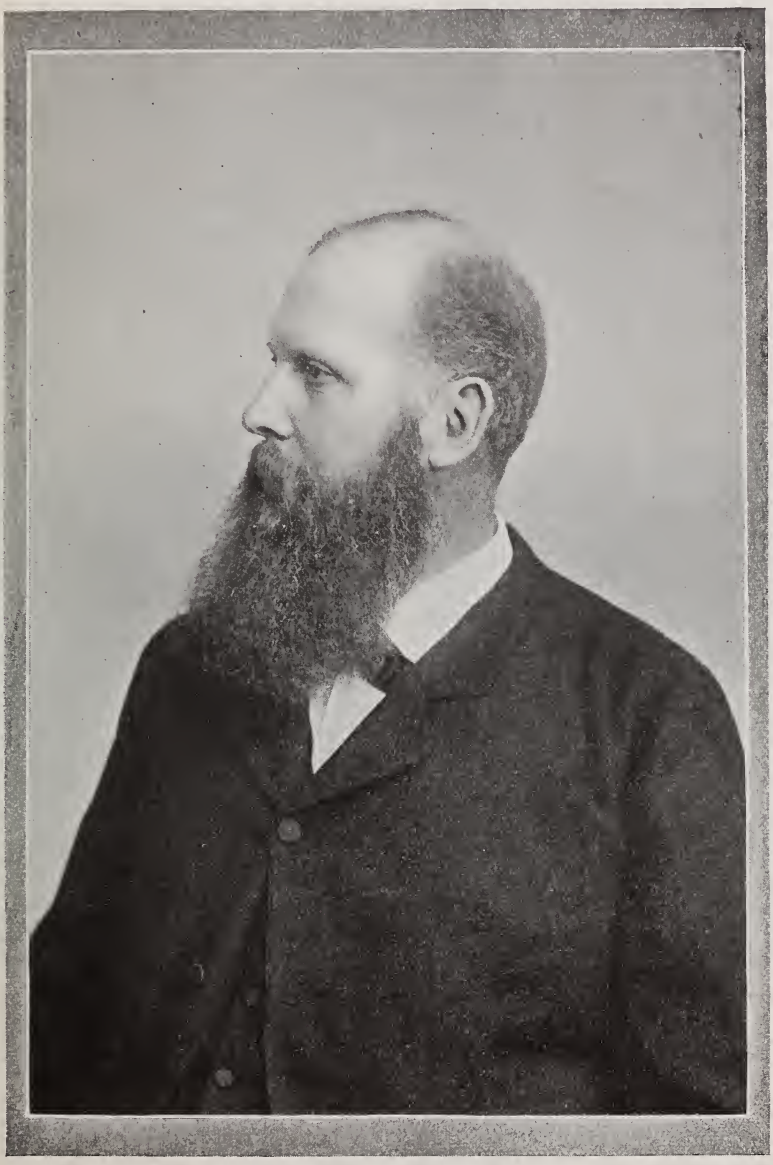
The late Paul Mirabaud.

IT was with very great regret that we heard, just upon going to press last month, of the death of M. Paul Barthélemy Mirabaud, which took place in Paris, on May 13th, after a short illness. M. Mirabaud was a banker and a wealthy man. He was connected with several large and important undertakings; in fact, was a very prominent man in the world of finance, his appointments including Régent of the Bank of France, Director of the Suez Canal Company, and Director of the Paris and Orleans Railways.

He was born in the year 1848, and the foundation of his collection was laid at school when he was able to satisfy his yearning for acquiring fresh stamps for his collection upon a scale not usually vouchsafed to school boys. At the time he bought all current stamps in mint condition, and possessed a collection which now-a-days would have been very valuable; however, he parted with it, and it was not until some years later that he took up the pursuit in earnest.

For the last twenty years he has been a most active collector, spending considerable sums of money, and possessed at the time of his death one of the most valuable collections in the world—probably ranking third or fourth. When speaking of a collection of this standard, it seems invidious to point to any particular country, because they were so many to which he paid special attention. We must, however, mention Switzerland, the Cantonal stamps being plated and mostly in unused condition; in fact, it was very largely owing to his collection that we are indebted to the magnificent illustrations in what at present ranks as the most beautiful work ever published on the stamps of a single country—a work in which he was joint author with his friend Baron A. de Reuterskiöld, entitled "The Postage Stamps of Switzerland, 1843 to 1862," published in 1899 in three languages, English, French, and German.

His collection of France was a remarkable one, consisting of so many sheets or portions of sheets of the earlier issues, showing the position of the *tête-bêche* varieties, a portion only being shown at the Paris Exhibition of 1900, when he gained Gold Medals for Reunion, Switzerland—described by no less an authority than Mr. Hausburg as "without doubt the finest specialised collection of one country ever made"—Mauritius, New South Wales, Canada, New Brunswick, Newfoundland, Nova Scotia, British Columbia, Trinidad, Tasmania, Western Australia; in point of fact, the success of the Paris Exhibition of that year was very largely due to the support of M. Mirabaud, whose charming lady Secretary was in attendance with the collections, and took a very keen interest in philately. The stamps were mounted in a somewhat novel manner, and they were not very handy for Exhibition purposes, which may have accounted, together with the retiring disposition of the owner, to their not being seen oftener at Exhibitions.



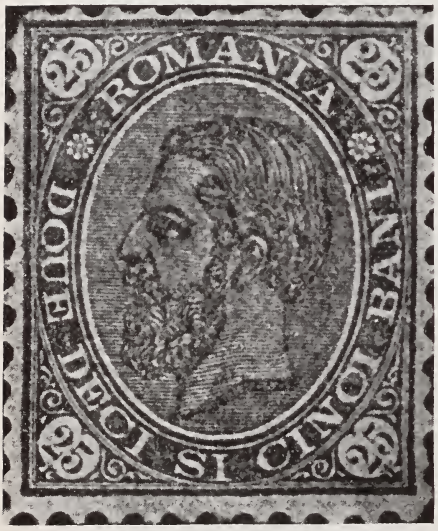
The late Paul Mirabaud.

Stray Notes on the Stamps of Roumania.

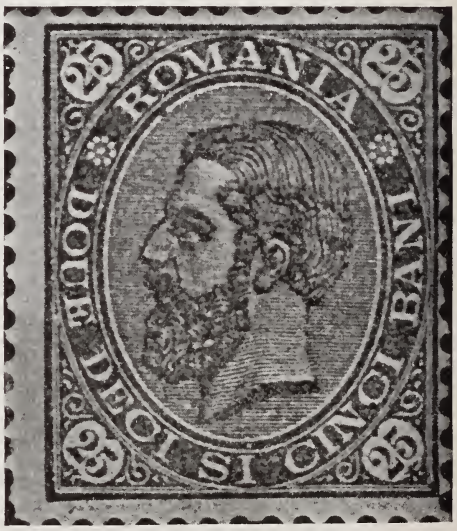
By C. H. Coote.

The Design of 1890.

SOME weeks ago my attention was drawn by Mr. Malings to some specimens of the 25 bani blue of this design, some showing a wider line round the head than others. Since then I have taken the opportunity of going carefully into the matter, and am satisfied that there are two quite distinct types of this value which hitherto have escaped notice. The accompanying enlarged illustrations show these differences fairly well, and they may briefly be particularised as follows:—



Type A.



Type B.

The stamp on the left I have called Type A (for reasons appearing hereafter, I believe it was the first); and that on the right, Type B.

Type A.—The oval composed of horizontal lines, upon which appears King Charles' head to left, is surrounded by what appears to be an oval in white and then an oval in colour. In Type A this latter oval, viz., the blue one, is narrow, and the other one, viz., the white, is broad.

The numerals in the corners are tall and slender in comparison with the other type, and the species of miniature fleur-de-lis ornaments under these numerals of value are clearly defined in Type A.

Type B.—Compared with Type A, what I have described as the oval in blue is appreciably thicker, while the one in white is correspondingly of a thinner character. The numerals in the corners are short and thicker, giving them a stumpy appearance, and the fleur-de-lis ornaments are blotchy and indistinct by comparison.

I think there can be little doubt but that two separate plates were made for this value, and the curious thing about it is that all the rest of the values belong to Type B, Type A only being found in the 25 bani.

In the 25 bani, however, Type A was certainly, in my opinion, the first issued, as it appears on the paper watermarked Arms, in which stamps of this design were first issued in February, 1890. Type B does not occur on the watermarked paper at all, but first came out on the no watermarked paper. The stamps on no watermarked paper, according to Mr. Duerst, were issued in February, 1891, and in all catalogues 1891 is given as the date. I have, however, found that the stamps on no watermarked paper were chronicled in the *Philatelic Record* in January, 1891, and I have in my collection a specimen dated November 23, 1890, this being Type A.

On the no watermarked paper I find Types A and B in general use, and have specimens of both postmarked 1891, 1892, and 1893. In 1894 the issue appeared on paper watermarked P.R., and here again I find both types.

From what I have said it is evident, therefore, that as Type B does not exist in the paper watermarked Arms, Type A was the first plate issued, and that the new plate (Type B) was brought into use late in 1890 when the no watermarked series was issued, and the two plates were used concurrently for printing up to the issue being withdrawn for the new designs.

SYNOPSIS.

Paper watermarked Arms.

25 bani blue (shades). Type A. Perf. $11\frac{1}{2}$, $13\frac{1}{2}$, and compound.

No watermarked paper.

25 bani blue (shades). Type A. Perf. $11\frac{1}{2}$, $13\frac{1}{2}$, and compound.
25 bani blue (shades). Type B. Perf. $11\frac{1}{2}$, $13\frac{1}{2}$, and compound.

Paper watermarked P.R.

25 bani blue (shades). Type A. Perf. $13\frac{1}{2}$. ? compound with $11\frac{1}{2}$.
25 bani blue (shades). Type B. Perf. $13\frac{1}{2}$, $11\frac{1}{2} \times 13\frac{1}{2}$, $13\frac{1}{2} \times 11\frac{1}{2}$?

Morocco.

By George B. Duerst.

(Continued from Page 94).

The following is the official notice posted up at the British Postal Agency at Fez, regarding this service:—

"NOTICE.

"MAILS FOR MEQUINEZ.

"Correspondence for Mequinez may now be sent through the "British Postal Agencies in Morocco, it having been arranged that "such correspondence will be transmitted between Fez and Mequinez "by a private bi-weekly courier service, which is timed to meet the "arriving and departing bi-weekly British Service between Fez and "Tangier.

"It is to be clearly understood, however, that no liability is incurred "by the British Post Office for the transmission of letters, &c., between "Fez and Mequinez, the correspondence being forwarded and received "for account and risk of senders.

"A charge of 5 centimes per half-ounce letter, and sample and book "packets at 5 cts. each two ounces, is made by the above private "service on delivery of the correspondence at Mequinez, or on its "despatch therefrom; or the extra postage may be prepaid in the "special stamps of the Fez-Mequinez Service which are obtainable at "any British Postal Agency in Morocco.

"British Postal Agency. "J. M. MacLeod,
"Fez (Morocco). "*British Postal Agent.*
"*17th March, 1898.*"

"Abrines, Printer, Tangier."

Special Unpaid Letter Stamps were also issued for this service.

February, 1898.

Small shield with value in figures and letters printed in a second colour and surrounded by branches in the centre, above which "CHIFFRE," and below which "TAXE" in two scrolls, the whole in a double upright rectangle; at the top, "POSTES"; and at the bottom, "A PERCEVOIR"; in the upper corners, "F" and "M," meaning Fez and Mequinez; in the lower corners, figures of value in the second colour; and at both sides, Arabic inscriptions. Printed in two colours on various papers. Perf. $11\frac{1}{2}$.

(*a.*) *On white paper.*

5	centimes	light blue.	Value	green.
10	,,	pale green.	,,	rose.
20	,,	rose.	,,	bistre.
30	,,	bistre.	,,	violet.
40	,,	violet.	,,	brown.
50	,,	brown.	,,	lilac.
60	,,	lilac.	,,	red-brown.
1	franc	reddish brown.	,,	blue.

(*b.*) *On yellowish paper.*

5	centimes	light blue.	Value	green.
10	,,	pale green.	,,	rose.
20	,,	rose.	,,	bistre.
30	,,	bistre.	,,	violet.
40	,,	violet.	,,	brown.
50	,,	brown.	,,	lilac.
60	,,	lilac.	,,	red-brown.
1	franc	reddish brown.	,,	blue.

Line IX. Tangier and Tetuan.

The distance is about 40 miles.

1897.

Lion sleeping in the shadow of a palm, over which there is a scroll with the inscription "CORREOS"; below, the value in figures and letters. Printed in colours on thick white wove paper. Perf. $11\frac{1}{2}$.

5	centimos	...	...	pale green
10	,,	...	...	red.
15	,,	...	...	grey.
20	,,	...	...	pale blue.
25	,,	...	...	violet.

Imperforate vertically.

10	centimos	...	...	red.

Evidently this private service was launched under Spanish auspices. Tangier is situated on the Atlantic, while Tetuan is on the Mediterranean. This service would obviate sending mails by water through the Straits of Gibraltar.

(To be continued.)

Queen's Heads.

By C. S. F. Crofton.

From "The Philatelic Journal of India."

The Smaller Manufacturers.

IN previous articles I have dealt generally with the more prominent of the head dies used by Perkins Bacon and De la Rue and I have now to take up the work of the smaller manufacturers, most of whom, with the conspicuous exception of the Nova Scotia heads, have been content merely to plagiarise the work of the leading firms.

In 1860 the American Bank Note Co. engraved a head for the one cent stamp Nova Scotia. It is characterised by a diadem which passes under the hair and has four depressions in its upper rim divided by five points; and by two plain bands, one behind the ear and the other round the chignon. This die was used again by the same firm for the twelve cents Newfoundland in 1866, and for fourteen Canadian stamps from 1868 to 1876. For the latter a negative impression had been taken from the original which results in the portrait facing to the right instead of the left. After a reduced copy of this had been taken for the half cent of 1882, a positive impression with portrait to the left from the original die was once more used for the eight cents of 1893. But the creators of this very beautiful portrait were not to be allowed to have the monopoly of it. In 1866, Perkins Bacon's engraver Jeens produced by the order of the South Australian Government a die which was an almost exact replica of the one cent Nova Scotia. Two impressions were made, one for fourpence and the other for two shillings. When this same Government transferred its patronage in 1868 to De la Rue the latter firm got similar orders to crib the Nova Scotia design, but the two pence die which resulted is far from being as successful as Jeens' copy. In spite of the poorness of the De la Rue head, it was apparently considered good enough for retention and repetition on the 1d. 1874, the 3d., 4d., and 6d. of 1887, and the long unappropriated die for the high values of the same year.

In the middle of 1878 a new firm, Messrs. Bradbury, Wilkinson & Co., were entrusted with the manufacture of four issues of stamps. Apparently mistrusting their own creative abilities they thought they could not do better than draw on our transatlantic cousins, and the four issues, namely, Falkland Is., Transvaal postage, Transvaal and Griqualand West fiscals appeared with the head of the one cent Nova Scotia. The result in this case was so successful that criticism is disarmed.

The coronation picture which we have already seen was copied by W. Humphrey in 1852 for New Zealand and transferred by him in the following year to Nova Scotia, had already been adopted by a New York firm for the twelve pence Canada of 1851. It was subsequently used by the American Bank Note Company for Canada, Prince Edward Is., and New Brunswick; and the late Humphrey edition was copied both for the taille-douce set and the two lithographed sets of

Queensland fiscals. As in the case of the one cent Nova Scotia, this head is found either to the left or to the right according as positive or negative reproductions were taken.

Heath's original design for the one penny Great Britain, characterised by a diadem of alternate Maltese crosses and small roses served as a model not only for Joubert de la Ferte's two first English head dies, but also for a number of the smaller fry, of whose work it is sufficient to mention the ½d., 1c. and 2c. Canada, India 2a. 1854, Prince Edward Is. 1861, Queensland 1882 onwards and Victoria (various). This head in the form of the large Inland Revenue stamp of 1862 was copied, stamp and all, for the New South Wales and Montserrat locally made receipt stamps. An equally interesting type to trace is the 1867 head with two ribbons at the back as used for the small sized Inland Revenue. The whole stamp was copied for the locally made New Zealand receipt (Gibbons' type 55) while the head figures on the Prince Edward Island issue of 1872. Finally we may note that Joubert de la Ferte's first general colonial head, which was used for the De la Rue postage stamps of New South Wales was copied locally for the small receipt stamp of 1873.

Unappropriated Dies.

We have seen that various artifices have been in vogue from the very earliest period of stamp history to secure uniformity and economy in the production of stamps by means of mechanical repetition of the expensive portions of the designs. In the first place a head, once engraved was made to do duty for the dies of several colonies or issues. In the second place a stamp die, once engraved, did duty for the dies of several values of the same issue; but each value had to have its own reproduction of the die and its own plate. It was not, however, until the later sixties, that a third step was reached whereby a single plate was made to do duty for a number of different stamps. This was effected by omitting from the plate the portion of the design wherein the stamps were to differ from each other, and supplying the omission by means of a second printing, consisting of a design so simple that elaborate and costly workmanship might be dispensed with.

At the time this method was inaugurated the process of facing plates with steel had not been discovered, and the ordinary copper plates wore out very quickly when they had to supply the demands for stamps in extensive use. Six new plates were required each year for the one penny postage Great Britain, and ten were required in the same period for the surface printed one penny Inland Revenue. Consequently the new method was only suitable for issues which included a number of stamps of very limited use, such as the postage stamps of the smaller colonies or long sets of high value fiscals confined to special duties. As an instance of the waste entailed by the older system we may point to the set of fifty values of Cape of Good Hope stamp duties issued in 1864. These, at £100 for each plate and die, would probably have cost £5,000 before a single stamp had been printed, whereas if they had been ordered five years later they would undoubtedly have been printed from an unappropriated plate at the cost of perhaps £150, allowing £50 for the overprints of £1 each.

(To be continued).



The earliest information as to New Issues will be much appreciated by us, and will be duly credited to the correspondent, or firm, sending it. Our foreign subscribers can materially help us in this direction. When possible, a specimen should accompany the information, and be addressed to

G. Fred. H. Gibson, *Fairfield, Crumpsall, Manchester.*

The British Empire.

Bermuda.—"Specimen" copies of the ½d. and 1d. values in single colours are reported by Continental exchanges.

British Guiana.—In the same manner the 72c. in changed colours, violet and blue, has been seen.

British Solomon Islands Protectorate.—It is stated by *Ewen's Weekly* that the following are the numbers printed of the recent issues:—

½d.	..	..	..	60,000
1d.	..	..	..	60,000
2d.	..	..	..	60,000
2½d.	..	..	..	60,000
5d.	..	..	..	30,000
6 l.	..	..	..	30,000
1s.	..	..	..	30,000

British South Africa.—We have been sent by Mr. W. H. Peckitt four additions to the current set. The values are 3d., 3s., 10s., and £2. The last named is in the larger design, while the former are in the smaller, and all of the usual type.

Adhesives.
3d. pale pink.
3s. deep violet.
10s. bluish green.
£2 red-brown.

Cayman Islands.—Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. send us a specimen of the "Postage and Revenue" 5s. It is upon multiple watermark paper.

Adhesive.
Wmk. CA and Crown multiple.
5s. green and red on yellow.

Dominica.—We do not appear to have listed the three high values upon multiple watermark paper. We understand they have been issued some time.



Adhesives.
Wmk. CA and Crown multiple.
2s. black and purple.
2s. 6d. green and orange.
5s. black and brown.

East Africa and Uganda.—The Postmaster of Mombasa, writing under recent date, states that the 50r. with multiple watermark is not on sale and there is no immediate prospect of its being put into use.

Gold Coast.—*Ewen's Weekly* mentions that specimen copies of a new 1d. stamp have been seen. The value is shown in each lower corner upon a triangular shield.

Grenada.—Mr. W. H. Peckitt sends us another value of the pictorial set in the shape of a 3d., printed in lilac upon yellow paper.



Adhesive.
Wmk. CA and Crown multiple.
3d. lilac on yellow.

Montserrat.—The 2s. and 2s. 6d. values have now been issued upon multiple watermark paper, Mr. W. H. Peckitt sending us specimens.



Adhesives.
Wmk. CA and Crown multiple.
2s. green and orange.
2s. 6d. green and black.

Natal.—Various stamps of the current set have been changed in colour; one, at least, the 30s., has we believe been issued. The others may not have gone beyond the "specimen" stage as yet.

Adhesives.
5s. carmine and lilac.
10s. brown and lilac.
£1 blue and lilac.
£1 10s orange and lilac.
£5 black and green.
£10 brown and green.

New Zealand.—*Ewen's Weekly* reports the 6d. rose with the new comb machine perforation. The same journal also states that the 20s. rose Stamp Duty has been overprinted "Official" vertically, in black.

Adhesive.
6d. rose. Perf. 14 × 13½.

Official stamp.
20s. rose. Overprinted "Official" in black.

St. Helena.—*Ewen's Weekly* has seen copies of the new issues, and we are therefore enabled to give the following particulars: all are printed from the old "Postage and Revenue" plate with King's Head in an octagon.

Adhesives.
Wmk. CA and Crown multiple.
2½d. ultramarine.
4d. black and red on yellow.
6d. lilac and violet on white.
Wmk. CA and Crown single.
10s. black on green.

St. Vincent.—Mr. W. H. Peckitt sends us the new 2d. value of the pictorial set.



Adhesive.
2d. orange. Wmk. CA and Crown multiple.

Sudan.—The long chronicled 2 piastres upon multiple star and crescent paper is stated by *Ewen's Weekly* to have at last been issued.

Adhesive.
Wmk. Star and Crescent multiple.
2p. black and blue.

Victoria.—*Ewen's Weekly* mentions that the 2½d. value has been issued upon Crown and A paper.

Adhesive.
2½d. blue. Wmk. Crown and A. Perf. 12½.

Zanzibar.—Mr. W. H. Peckitt sends us specimens of the new issue. As will be seen below the designs are handsome, and indeed the only drawback is the inordinate length of the set.









Adhesives.
Wmk. Rosettes.
3c. yellow-green.
6c. rose.
12c. violet.
15c. ultramarine.
25c. brown.
50c. dark green.
1r. yellow-green.
2r. violet.
3r. yellow-brown.
4r. carmine.
5r. blue.
10r. brown and green.
20r. green and black.
30r. dark brown and black.
40r. vermilion and black.
50r. violet and black.
100r. Prussian blue and black.
200r. dark slate and red-brown.

Foreign Countries.

Argentine Republic.—*Ewen's Weekly* gives the following long list of the new set, two stamps of which we chronicled last month; of these the colours do not appear quite to agree.

Adhesives.
½c. bright violet.
1c. ultramarine
2c. purple
3c. orange.
4c. red-violet.
5c. red.
6c. yellow-green.
10c. dull blue.
12c. yellow.
15c. apple green.
20c. sky blue.
24c. brown-purple.
30c. claret.
50c. black.
1p. rose and blue.
2p. green and sky blue.
5p. bright brown and blue-violet.
10p. blue-violet and red.
20p. sky blue and black.

Belgium. Offices in China.—*Ewen's Weekly* gives the following particulars of the new overprinted stamps for use here.

Adhesives.
Surcharged "Chine" and new value.
2c. in black on 5c. green.
4c. ,, on 10c. red.
10c. ,, on 25c. blue.
20c. ,, on 50c. grey.

France. Indo-China.—We are indebted to *Ewen's Weekly* for the following particulars: The set as given below (with the exception of the 45c. value, and in the case of Tchongking the 45c., 2fr., and 10fr.) has been surcharged for each of the following Chinese towns:—Canton, Hoi Hao, Kouang-Tchéou, Mong-tseu, Packhoi, Tchongking, and Yunnanfou. Only the name is given and in one of two colours, thus: the 1c., 2c., 4c., 5c., 15c., 20c. 25c., 30c., 35c., and 40c., and 2fr., 5fr. and 10fr. in carmine; the 10c., 50c., and 75c., and 1fr. in blue.

Adhesives.
Surcharged as above.
1c. brown.
2c. light brown.
4c. blue.
5c. dull green.
10c. carmine.
15c. violet.
20c. violet.
25c. blue.
30c. chocolate.
35c. olive green.
40c. yellow-brown.
45c. orange.
50c. rose.
75c. orange.
1f. carmine.
2f green.
5f. blue.
10f. violet.

Guatemala.—We have just received from Mr. W. H. Peckitt three provisional stamps formed by overprinting the 10c., 12½c. and 20c. of the current issue with new denominations. The surcharge is in three lines, "1908" being at the top with a line below followed by the new value in figures, and words with "centavos" at foot.



Adhesives.
2c. in carmine on 12½c. blue and black.
1c. in black on 10c. yellow and blue.
6c. in black on 20c. mauve and black.

Hayti.—The *Monthly Journal* lists still another provisional, as below.

Adhesive.
2c. in black on 20c. orange.

Italy.—Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. are informed that an Italian Post Office was opened at Smyrna upon the 18th of last month, but so far the ordinary stamps without surcharge are being used.

Mexico.—The *Monthly Journal* lists the 50c. with the frame in a new shade, red lilac. This is both as regards the ordinary and the official.

Nicaragua.—*Mekeel's Weekly* chronicles 4c. of the Waterlow issues overprinted 10c. in the usual manner.

Adhesive.
10c. in black on 4c. brownish orange.

Norway.—Mr. W. H. Peckitt sends us another provisional formed by overprinting one of the old issues. The surcharge is in two lines in block figures and letters.

Adhesive.
15 öre in black on 4s. mauve.

Paraguay.—The 1c. Official of the 1904 type now appears in rose.

Adhesive.
Official stamp.
1c. rose.

Persia.—The *Monthly Journal* adds the undernoted high values to the new set.

Adhesives.
10kr. pink.
20kr. black.
30kr. blackish purple.

Portugal.—The Lisbon correspondent of Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. informs them that the issue of stamps bearing the portrait of King Manuel II. will not take place until the 1st of January, 1909.

Siam.—Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. send us some alterations of colour and additions to the current set.



Adhesives.
2 atts green.
3 ,, purple and grey.
4 ,, carmine.
9 ,, blue.
18 ,, red-brown.

Uruguay.—The *Monthly Journal* states on the authority of a Spanish journal that the following changes of colour have occurred in the current stamps The stamps are once again the productions of Messrs. Waterlow & Sons.

Adhesives.
7c. chestnut.
10c. blue-green.
20c. black and blue.
50c. black and olive.
2p. black and sepia.
3p. black and pale blue.

Notes and News.

International Philatelic Exhibition.

The Hon. Secretary of the Manchester Philatelic Society informs us that he has received a letter signed by the Chairman, Hon. Treasurer, and Hon. Secretary of the Executive Committee of the forthcoming Philatelic Exhibition in Holland in the following terms :—

We respectfully beg to call your attention to the following announcement :

"In May, 1909, the Netherlands Philatelic Society celebrates its 25 years' jubilee, and in connection therewith has resolved to commemorate the event by organizing an International Philatelic Exhibition, to be held the same year at Amsterdam.

"Accordingly we have asked the prominent Netherland Philatelists for their assistance and co-operation, with the result that all gave not only their help and support, but declared themselves willing to join the Committee of Honor.

"This result induced the Executive Committee to continue the work, and now approach your, and the other principal foreign Societies with the polite request for your valuable assistance and co-operation, and also to join the Committee of Honor, exclusively composed of well-known Societies.

"Awaiting the pleasure of your reply."

Great Britain.

1840, 2d. Blue. During the past week we came across a copy of the 2d. blue without lines lettered KJ, the K showing very distinct traces of having been doubly struck. So far as we are aware this variety has not been noted previously, and it would be interesting to know from which of the two plates, used for printing these stamps, the impression was taken.—*March's Weekly Circular.*

Postal Exhibits at the London Exhibitions.

When going the round of the Exhibitions at present being held in London, we noticed interesting exhibits of postage stamps at two of them. At the Franco-British Exhibition, Messrs. Waterlow's display is very attractive, indicative of the excellence of their work in this particular department, but that at the Hungarian Exhibition at Earl's Court appeals more to the collector. We made a short note of the

exhibits at the time which, alas, have been mislaid, so produce below a very good description of them as appearing in the new stamp paper entitled *The Stamp Lover* :—

In the Hungarian Exhibition at Earl's Court, the Poste et Telegraphe Royal Hongrois gives a display which all philatelists visiting the Exhibition should not fail to see. There are two large books of stamps, mostly containing entire plate proofs of Hungarian stamps from 1871 (engraved) to date, the lithographed stamps only being missing. These are printed direct upon the leaves comprising the books, and are in sheets of 100 stamps each. Of the filler issues, in addition to the complete sheets of 100 (without margins), are specimens of the books of stamps which have recently come into vogue in many countries; but here we have four kinds: book of twenty-four 5-filler stamps, price 1k. 22f.; book of twenty-four 10-filler stamps, price 2k. 42f.; book of twenty-four 25-filler stamps, price 6k. 02f.; book of twenty-four 35-filler stamps, price 8k. 42f. All these are arranged in four blocks of six in two rows of three stamps. The new unpaid stamps are shown perforated in sheets of 100 without margins.

In addition to the display in the two large books, there are two frames containing a specimen of each of the postal and telegraph issues.

There are numerous other curiosities, such as the five kreuzer impressed on Savings Bank stamp forms, similar to the forms we use in Great Britain for saving in pennies, but instead of giving the forms away promiscuously as we do, in Hungary you pay your first penny for the form which has the first 1d. saved denoted on it by means of the impressed stamp.

Those who have not seen anything of the workings of the postal departments on the Continent will be interested in the postal exhibits, apart from the stamps. There is the familiar and ingenious Continental contrivance for the street letter box and postman's collecting bag. The postman himself cannot open either the bag or the box. His bag fits on to the bottom of the small letter box, and when it is adjusted the box empties its contents into the bag, and both box and bag automatically lock when the bag is withdrawn. By this means there is no possibility of the collector tampering with letters, a contrivance which should be a boon to some of our colonies, where dubious native labour is employed making the collections. In London the plan would not be feasible, owing to the fact that the small boxes would be totally inadequate for the postal business.

Cayman Islands Again!

The brave and greedy Cayman Islanders care naught for Colonial Office enquiries, exposures in *Truth* or rude remarks in the philatelic journals. They know that Stamp Collectors delight in rare provisionals and are bent on meeting the demand, incidentally taking care that they shall rake in much good gold.

Having surcharged all their old stock or sold it as remainders, they have obtained a brand new stock inscribed "Postage and Revenue," and after selling £1,000 worth or so to subscribers to New Issue services, have actually started to surcharge the remainder! In face of the storm that has been brewing in Europe lately and has threatened to overwhelm the Islanders, their daring in starting so early to surcharge the new issue really deserves the V.C. of philately!

Moreover the Cayman Islanders are really clever. They use a few of the stamps on correspondence; they grant a few more to Collectors who send sixpenny postal orders; and (here is the touch of genius) they refuse every application from a dealer. They know the wretched dealer will be worried almost to death by his clients, who see specimens in the collections of the sixpenny-postal-order-brigade and cannot understand why the dealer should be unsuccessful in getting a supply. Having got the dealer in this terrible plight, they tantalize him with offers of the stamps at 5,000, 10,000 or even 20,000 per cent. premium over face value. The dealer, poor man, yielding to the pressure of his clients, can do nothing but draw out his cheque book.

The ½d. on 5s. and 1d. on 5s. which were issued to the extent of about £24 face value have yielded the Islanders a profit of about £2,000. At present they are changing hands in the islands at 18,000 per cent. and 9,000 per cent. premium respectively.

The 2½d. on 4d. changed hands during May at from 5,000 per cent. to 10,000 per cent. premium and are quoted in England as high as 48,000 per cent. premium.

No wonder the Cayman Islanders are issuing more provisionals!

Stamp Collectors also have nothing to grumble at, as prices are almost daily advancing and purchasers of only a few weeks ago can already congratulate themselves on having got in at a low level. If the present boom [our printers set this word up 'boon,' a by no means inappropriate variation, at any rate as regards the islanders] continues the ½d. and 1d. on 5s. may go to 30s. and 40s. apiece.

We produce the above from our contemporary, *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News*, without any comment beyond

reminding our readers that our opinion on this matter was expressed in no uncertain manner in an Editorial Note very recently.

Italian Post Offices in Turkey.

Italy's commercial relations with Turkey have for years been very large, and her interests seem to be growing from year to year. Other European nations having their own post offices in the principal towns of Turkey, Italy demanded the same rights, and these were resisted by the Porte. That Italy's real purpose is more political than commercial, can hardly be doubted, as well also that the Porte's objection is based upon equally political grounds. The system of extra-territorial jurisdiction is resented not as a slur upon the honesty or the efficiency of Turkish administration—the Turks know all about this as well as the foreigners, and perhaps do not suffer much from that form of sensibility—but as a limitation of Turkish sovereignty, consequently any extension of the system is bound to be opposed. In 1901 the Porte made a decided attempt to suppress all the foreign post offices, and they have never ceased to demand their abolition. But only in one case have they succeeded, and that was in the case of Roumania in 1896.

The following is the official note published in Rome :—

"For a long time past Italian subjects resident in several towns in Turkey have been endeavouring to secure the opening of Italian post offices. The Minister for Foreign Affairs, after setting aside requests emanating from localities where there are only a small number of Italians, decided on the opening of post offices at Constantinople, Salonika, Avlona, Smyrna, and Jerusalem. The Porte, which for several years past has been aware of the intention of the Italian Government to open post offices, received at the end of March, through the Italian Ambassador in Constantinople, a verbal Note announcing the forthcoming opening of the five offices. On the 30th of March the Porte replied to the Embassy, also by a verbal Note, declaring that, in virtue of an understanding, the opening of the offices was not admissible. The Italian Embassy, on the 9th of April, presented another Note, pointing out that Italy's rights were incontestable, and were based on the most favoured nation treatment, and positively denying the existence of any understanding to the contrary. On the 14th of April the Porte replied in another Note, in which it was peremptorily declared that categorical orders had been given to prevent the opening of post offices, and the Italian Ambassador also received information to the effect that these orders, according to the authentic statements of official persons, consisted in directing that armed guards should be placed before post offices in order to forcibly prevent the public from entering.

"In view of this grave and unjustifiable provocation, the Italian Government decided energetically to uphold its dignity and its rights by despatching three naval divisions to Turkish waters, with orders to hold themselves in readiness for any eventuality. Immediately the Italian warships arrive in Turkish waters the Italian Government will address simultaneously a Note to the Powers and a Note to the Porte, in which it will call attention to the violation of rights and international treaties by Turkey, not only with regard to post offices, but also in regard to other matters in which the Porte has acted in a high-handed and violent manner to the prejudice of Italy's rights. The future attitude of the Italian Government and the further movements of the squadron will depend on the answer given by the Porte. The aim of the Italian Government in having recourse to coercive action is clear and definite—namely, to safeguard the rights of Italians in matters where these rights are specifically laid down. It follows that the rumours, to which the news of the mobilisation of the squadron have given rise, to the effect that Italy contemplates seizing an Ottoman province are absolutely fantastic. Italy's policy is not a policy of adventure, but one of legitimate defence, and as such will command the sympathy of all Powers."

No satisfactory answers being received from Constantinople, an Italian squadron was mobilised to make a demonstration in Turkish waters, but at the last moment the Porte yielded, and Italy is now on a level with the other powers, who have long ago established post offices for their own nationalities in the Turkish dominions.

Italy has all along had post offices in Durazzo, Janina, and Scutari, towns which are in Albania, the province nearest to herself. We must not omit to mention that Italy had formerly post offices in Constantinople, Smyrna, and Beyrout, but they were abolished in 1883. From the present time Italy will therefore have eight post offices in Turkey : Avlona, Constantinople, Durazzo, Janina, Jerusalem, Salonika, Seutari, and Smyrna.

The following official note was then issued at Rome :—

"The Ottoman Ambassador called upon the Minister of Foreign Affairs this morning and made the following communication to him in the name of the Sultan and his Government :—

"So long as the Italian Government demands permission to open post offices only in the five towns named, where the post offices of other Powers already exist,

there is no occasion to adopt towards Italy a mode of treatment different from that applied to the other Powers. Since the opening of foreign post offices in the Turkish Empire is based upon no right conceded nor upon any engagement entered into by the Ottoman Government, it remains understood that the Italian offices will be subject to the procedure which will be decided upon in the future with respect to all foreign post offices. It is therefore clear that the opening of these offices will not be interpreted as a specially acquired right."

It will be seen from the wording of the Turkish communication, that the Porte is not content, and only submits because it cannot help itself. But it is evident that further steps will be taken to suppress all the foreign post offices.

What is this stamp worth?

Here is another remarkable instance of varying catalogue prices.

Porto Rico, Baby-head, 1890, 40*c. orange.*

	Cat. price used.
Senf, Germany (1908) ...	20s.
Kohl, Germany (1908) ...	20s.
Yvert & Tellier (1908) ...	12s.
Catalogue Official (1908) ...	12s.
Scott, U.S.A. (1908) ...	8s.
Galvez, Spain (1906) ...	7s.
Stanley Gibbons (1908) ...	4s.
Whitfield King (1908) ...	3s.
Bright & Son (1908) ...	2s. 6d.

The collector who buys at "half-catalogue" in Germany will thus be paying $2\frac{1}{2}$ times the English catalogue price. It is again noticeable how the catalogues of each country follow one another in the matter of pricing.

The Colonial Stamp Market's buying rate for this stamp is 2s., but, perhaps, it is needless to state no transactions have taken place. The collector or dealer who has any naturally sends them on to the Continent, where he will do much better, even if he gets only a third or a quarter of the quotations ruling there. On the other hand, if an English dealer attempts to compete with the Continent by offering say 3s. or 4s. apiece for the stamp, how is he to make a profit? If he attempts to sell it in this country he will be told it is too dear by his clients, whose complete ignorance of its international market value does not prevent them from expressing a very decided opinion. Their only argument is that it is catalogued so much by so-and-so, and they seem to think that is the beginning and end of the discussion.

It will be seen from the above example that a collector may often make a better bargain by paying full catalogue price than by buying at half. In the case of the above stamp the English collector buying at "full catalogue" is better off than the German collector paying half, yet the latter is probably pleased with his "bargain" whilst the former is grumbling at the dearness of his acquisition!

It is very often a fact that a collector who only buys at half-catalogue makes a worse investment than one who pays full price. It stands to reason that a dealer who sells at a big reduction must stock in a large proportion those stamps which are falling in value or stamps which are quoted above their international market value; stamps which he knows to be rising in value he keeps in his safe, whilst those which are quoted higher in foreign catalogues he sells abroad. The collector who buys at a big discount off catalogue is thus filling up his collection with stamps which are falling in value, if only he knew it. The collector who only asks a moderate discount from catalogue gets a much wider choice of stamps, if he is wide-awake. But as few collectors are competent enough to know what is going up, they can only be sure of not missing the good ones by insisting on completeness.—*Ewen's Weekly Stamp News.*

MISCELLANEOUS.

Of the new Norwegian provisional stamp 15 ore black on 4 skilling lilac, 750,000 will be issued.

* * *

The design for the new Roumanian stamps is by the architect Pompilian.

* * *

For the new Bavarian stamps 1,100 sketches have been sent in, but none were approved of by the judges.

* * *

Belgium—can it be in consequence of the transfer of the Congo State—feels itself a great power and intends establishing a post office in China.

* * *

Private envelopes, wrappers, postcards and lettercards are no longer stamped by the French Government.

* * *

All Russian stamps before Mai, 1889 (S.G., 1—82, with the exception of 72), have been demonetised.

* * *

The paper for the new Austrian stamps is made by Eichmann & Co., of Arnou, and the safety coating of chalk on same is made by Albert Emmerich, of Prague.

* * *

The new type of Russian stamps of 7 and 10 cop are ready, and will be put into circulation as soon as the current stamps are exhausted.

THE

Philatelic Record.

JULY, 1908.

Editorial Note.

THE month of July, forming, as it undoubtedly does, a sort of interregnum between the philatelic seasons, affords a convenient opportunity for a brief retrospect and a rough forecast. During the past twelve months there has been, so far as we know, no special event requiring lengthy consideration. Several new Societies have come into existence, and have done steady and useful work, whilst the honour conferred upon the Royal Philatelic Society just over a year ago has not only infused new life into the Society, and brought a considerable influx of members, but has attracted attention to our hobby to the advantage of the public and incidentally to philately in general. But the other side of the picture must not be forgotten. Death has been unusually busy in our midst; the names of Fraenkel, Mirabaud, Moens, Maury, and others will at once occur to our readers as causing gaps in our ranks which will not easily be filled. We note with pleasure that the crusade which this journal, in common with other leading stamp publications, has for several years past waged against unnecessary and speculative issues and surcharges, has been taken up by such an influential paper as *Truth;* but, unfortunately, although to the evident satisfaction of some, who nevertheless call themselves philatelists, no practical results have as yet been achieved.

Looking Backward and Forward.

As regards the future, the Secretaries of our Societies are now busy with their programmes for the coming winter, one enthusiastic gentleman having already completed and published his syllabus. Happy man! We are promised three Exhibitions—one in Paris, one in Holland, and a third in Manchester, which is naturally arousing great enthusiasm amongst the members of the Branch in that city of the Junior Philatelic Society, under whose auspices the Exhibition will be held. In connection with the gathering in Manchester, we understand that it is intended to hold a Philatelic Congress, to which representatives of all the British Societies are to be invited. Needless to say, an undertaking of this kind can only be brought to a successful issue by the hearty co-operation of these various Societies, which we therefore trust will be cordially and promptly given to those who have the matter in hand.

Two or three months hence, when the work of the winter begins in earnest, there will doubtless be other schemes to record; meanwhile, ample indications are given of an interesting and attractive season.

Notable Philatelists.

M. H. Horsley.

THE subject of our sketch this month is a leading merchant and shipowner of the port of Hull. He matriculated at Christ's College, Cambridge, in 1884, and is a magistrate for the county of Durham and the county borough of West Hartlepool, and takes an active part in local, municipal, and educational affairs. For many years he was a well-known athlete in the county, and it is only recently that he has abandoned the sterner joys of cricket for the more fascinating pursuit of fishing.

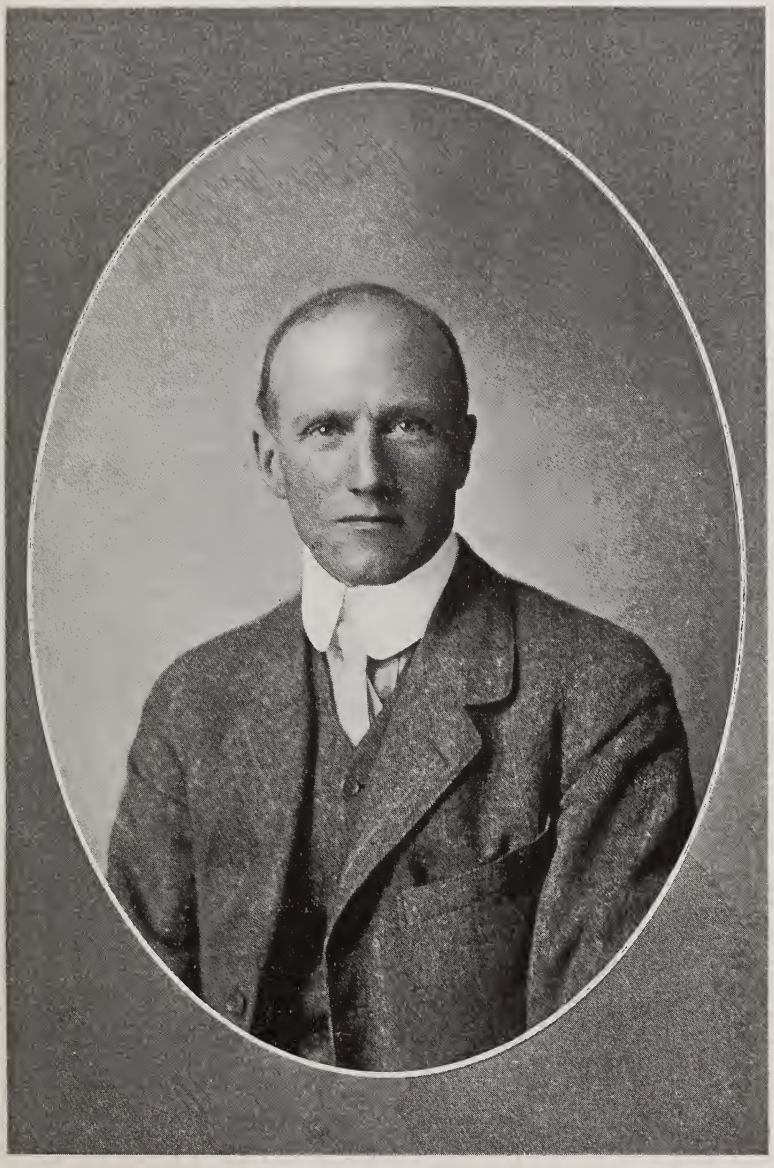
Mr. Horsley, a comparatively young collector, and like many others, was drawn to it by the purchase of a few stamps for his son. During the eight years he has been collecting, he has succeeded in getting together an exceptionally fine lot of used and unused Canadians, which were shown before the Royal Society in the early part of last year, and a paper written by him on the Stamps of the Dominion appeared in the *London Philatelist* at a later date.

In the course of a conversation with Mr. Horsley, we gathered that he regards money put into first-class stamps as a good investment; and whilst he realises that this is not the highest ideal of the collector, he finds it impossible to disregard the commercial element where considerable sums of money are involved.

Considering his collection of Canada as complete, he has more recently devoted his energies to Australians—more especially New South Wales—which, containing as it does more than 300 picked Sydney Views, must always be an interesting collection.

He told us that there are drawbacks to the hobby, inasmuch as being all-absorbing it is necessarily a selfish hobby, and he finds the majority of his friends prefer to look at a £100 picture than at a stamp of the same value, which he considers shows their lack of appreciation!

But perhaps the most serious difficulty he considered was the time to be given up to the study of the stamps themselves and their philatelic history, their selection, and arrangement. Apart from that, Mr. Horsley is a great advocate for a scientific, methodical and neat arrangement of collections, and believes in doing this himself instead of employing paid assistants. The time given up, however, he finds is fully repaid by the pleasure which can be derived by oneself and given to others. He remembers no hours spent with greater pleasure than those with a brother collector—if a junior, in imparting such information as he possesses; or in sitting himself at the feet of some philatelic Gamaliel.



M. H. Horsley.

The Postage Stamps of King Edward VII. Land.

Chapter I.

The Plot.

April Editorial of "The Philatelic Journal of Great Britain."

THERE can be little doubt that Sir Joseph Ward (Premier of New Zealand) and Lieut. Shackleton are playing a very amusing practical joke upon stamp collectors, in issuing stamps of New Zealand overprinted with the name of a country which is not only uninhabited, but uninhabitable as well. Readers of the daily papers have been made acquainted with the bald outlines of this joke, which appears to have been so far successful that everybody seems to have been taken in with it. For the benefit of our readers, we will review the facts already known, and add those little details which are necessary to make an intelligible story.

In January last the British Antarctic Expedition left Lyttleton, New Zealand, for an attempt to reach the South Pole, and, before leaving, Lieut. Shackleton, the leader of the Expedition, was provided with one hundred sheets of current one penny New Zealand stamps for the use of members of the Expedition in writing home. It occurred to somebody—whether to Sir Joseph Ward, Lieut. Shackleton, or some entirely different person, does not transpire—that it would be a fine thing to overprint the one hundred sheets of stamps with the name "British Antarctic Expedition," thus providing a cheap advertisement. This scheme would have been carried out, but Mr. W. S. Gilbert, who happened to be on the spot, suggested that it would be more humorous if, instead of using the title of the Expedition, the stamps were overprinted with the name of some uninhabited portion of the Antarctic region—a proceeding which would be sure to cause great excitement among stamp collectors. "King Edward VII. Land" having been hit upon, the stamps were duly overprinted. To heighten the effect of the joke, and to increase its chances of success, Lieut. Shackleton was ostentatiously appointed "Postmaster of King Edward VII. Land" by Sir Joseph Ward, who had quite caught the spirit of the thing. This last idea reveals the master-mind, and recalls that wonderful creation, the Lord High Executioner.

The promoters originally intended to time the despatch of the first mail so that the letters bearing the stamps of "King Edward VII. Land" should be delivered in England on April 1st, but this part of the scheme went awry, for the mail brought away from the "Nimrod" by the steamship "Koonya" was delivered in London nearly a month too soon. The public had been prepared for the issue by speciously worded paragraphs circulated through the news agencies, and the reception of the stamps in England was all that Mr. Gilbert could have desired; they have been discussed with gravity by all the stamp journals.

So far as we are aware, the *Philatelic Journal of Great Britain* is the first publication to explain the real reason for the use of the stamps bearing this curious legend, and we have been able to do so not because we have any further information than any of our *confrères*, but because we have made a study of the art of putting two and two together. Some of the details we have given may not prove to be quite exact, but we flatter ourselves that in diagnosing the "issue" as a practical joke we are more likely to be near the truth than others, who, in taking the stamps seriously, cast about for some other explanation of this triumphant absurdity.

In the meantime, the stamps are before us, and we have to decide whether they are worthy the attention of cataloguers. That they were unnecessary is beside the point; there are so many unnecessary stamps in an "up-to-date" collection. There is no doubt that they have been used, and that they have been issued by a properly constituted "Postmaster." The scheme has been well conceived, for these are the main requirements of philatelic legitimacy. The only weak point is the absence of a single human inhabitant in King Edward VII. Land. This is a truly Gilbertian situation—we are between Lieut. Shackleton and the deep sea. In our opinion, postal issues of uninhabited lands should be rigorously excluded from catalogues for the good of the hobby. Most collectors have a spare corner for curiosities, and those who are lucky enough to secure these facetious souvenirs will no doubt be glad to put them there. A joke is a joke, and this one has proved highly diverting; but it has gone far enough, and it is to be hoped that the "stamps" will be allowed to lapse into oblivion.

Chapter II.

The Plot Thickens.

The views of "Ewen's Weekly Stamp News" for July 25th.

Capt. R. writes as follows:—

"I think I can give some explanation as to why there are so many 'King Edward VII. Land' stamps on the market, or at any rate how they got there. In my last letter to you on this subject, I spoke on the issue of these stamps as having ceased, but in this I may have been wrong, as I have since received copies, all dated Feb. 3rd, '08, two on genuine envelopes, and some others apparently stamped *as required*. These came up in the 'Nimrod,' which ship left Lieut. Shackleton on Feb. 22nd, after which date no communication has been or will be possible, till she returns for him in December or January next. The question is as to how these stamps were originally issued to the ship's company. Up to the 15.1.08, when the 'Koonya' left them at the edge of the ice, Lieut. Shackleton had hopes of reaching King Edward VII. Land, and so consequently the letters sent back by the 'Koonya' were stamped with those stamps. It was not till January 25th or 26th that all hopes of reaching that land were given up, and the Expedition turned towards McMurdo Sound, arriving there Jan. 29th. When the 'Nimrod' finally left the shore party on Feb. 22nd, she brought back their last letters. Why the date on all these stamps should be Feb. 3rd

I cannot imagine; it was on that day that landing operations were commenced on Cape Royds (*vide* Lieut. Shackleton's report). Personally, I am inclined to think that no more stamps were issued after Lieut. Shackleton had failed in his original intention, except to those of the shore party who were remaining behind, though it is pure supposition on my part. I know for a fact that his last letter to his wife had only the ordinary NZ 1d., and it was probably stamped on the ship's arrival at Lyttleton. I have two separate copies, genuinely used, on two letters, both dated Feb. 3rd, and with no other stamp or postmark on the letters. I can only call them genuine, in so far as I received them direct. Looking at it from another point of view, I see no reason why those stamps should not be used by the Expedition, for whom they were issued, until stopped by the New Zealand Government, although they were not sent from the place from which they were issued. Providing no stamps are dated after Feb. 22nd, when one knows for certain that that was the last opportunity the shore party had of sending letters, I should be inclined to look upon them as genuine. One does not know how many were given to the ship's company who returned in the ship, nor if they were stamped before they left the Antarctic regions. Up to the present time I have only heard of one block of four stamps in unused condition."

There is one specially interesting fact here. Capt. R. has seen the envelopes of three letters sent by Lieut. Shackleton himself, the leader of the Expedition, to his wife in England. Two left by the "Koonya," and were franked with King Edward VII. Land stamps, postmarked 15.1.08, whilst the third letter, carried by the "Nimrod," leaving on 22.2.08, had an ordinary New Zealand 1d. stamp. Had Lieut. Shackleton wished to speculate in these stamps, as certain of our contemporaries have most unfairly and groundlessly suggested, he would assuredly have taken every opportunity of using them. He seems to have completely failed to appreciate both the fact that the stamps were valuable and that his relatives would be bombarded with applications for them! Lieut. Shackleton's father and sister both live about a mile from the Colonial Stamp Market's offices, so that he had a ready market at hand, yet Miss Shackleton recently reported that not a single copy of the King Edward VII. Land stamp had been received from him.

Chapter III.

The End of the Comedy.

Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. kindly send us particulars of a copy of the correspondence they have had with the Postmaster of Wellington:—

The Chief Postmaster, *December 24th, 1907.*
Auckland, New Zealand.

Dear Sir,—We enclose a cutting from a London newspaper stating that the Government of New Zealand has approved the proposal for opening a Post Office in King Edward VII. Land, and that a "suitable" surcharged stamp will be issued. We do not quite understand the paragraph in question, as we take it that King Edward VII.

Land is uninhabited, except by penguins and seals, who do not use postage stamps or write letters.

We assume that the stamps in question are to be put on letters sent home by members of the "Nimrod" Expedition to the South Pole, and that they are being issued merely as curiosities and not for bona-fide postal use.

We should be much obliged if you could give us any further information concerning these labels, and if they are really a legitimate issue, where we can obtain a supply of them.—Yours faithfully,

(Signed) WHITFIELD KING & Co.

General Post Office,
O. Wellington,
P.O. 08-577. *10th February, 1908.*

GENTLEMEN,—In reply to your letter of the 24th December last, to the Chief Postmaster, Auckland, about King Edward VII. Land postage stamps at 1d., I beg to inform you that the stamps are sold only at the King Edward VII. Land Post Office.—Yours obediently,

(Signed) D. ROBERTSON,
Messrs. Whitfield King & Co., *Secretary.*
Postage Stamp Dealers,
Ipswich, England.

The Secretary, *March 21st, 1908.*
General Post Office,
Wellington, New Zealand.

DEAR SIR,—We are in receipt of your letter of the 10th ultimo, informing us that King Edward VII. Land postage stamps of 1d. are sold only at the King Edward VII. Land Post Office. From this we can only assume that there really is a Post Office in King Edward VII. Land, and we shall therefore be obliged if you will inform us its exact locality, in what town it is situate, and whether, if we address a letter to the place, accompanied by a remittance, we may depend upon receiving a supply of the postage stamps in due course. Also please inform us if registered letters are accepted for transmission to the place above mentioned.—Yours faithfully,

(Signed) WHITFIELD KING & Co.

General Post Office,
E. Wellington,
P.O. 08-577. *6th May, 1908.*

GENTLEMEN,—In reply to your letter of the 21st March last, No. 162356, I have to inform you that the Post Office at King Edward VII. Land is in the South Polar Regions, and if you address a communication to the Postmaster it will be despatched in the mail for that office by the first opportunity, which will probably be about a year hence. Registered letters are accepted for transmission to King Edward VII. Land. The Postmaster is not bound to supply stamps on requisitions by post.—Yours obediently,

(Signed) D. ROBERTSON,
Messrs. Whitfield King & Co., *Secretary.*
Ipswich, England.

Morocco.

By George B. Duerst.

(Continued from Page 111).

Line X. Tetuan and Alcazar.

The distance is about 60 miles.

1897.

Horseman with standard in centre, with "POSTES MAROCAINES" in an arched label, and "DE TETOUAN A EL-KSAR" in a straight label above; at the bottom, value in figures and letters; in the upper corners, figures of valve. Printed in colours on white and tinted wove paper. Perf. 11½.

(a.) On white paper.	
5 centimos...	red.
10 ,, ...	green.
25 ,, ...	violet.
50 ,, ...	orange.
1 peseta	grey.
2 pesetas	rose.
(b.) On yellowish paper.	
5 centimos	red.
10 ,, ...	green.
20 ,, ...	blue.
50 ,, ...	orange.
1 peseta	grey.
2 pesetas	rose.

For this service, a post-card of the value of 5 centimos red on buff paper was also issued.

Line XI. Tangier and Alcazar.

The distance is about 60 miles.

August, 1898.

Steamer at anchor in the centre; above, in a curved label, "SERVICE DE POSTES"; on the left, "TANGIER"; on the right, "EL KSAR"; at the bottom, value in figures and letters. Printed in colours on white wove paper. Perf. 11½.

5 centimos	dark green.
10 ,, ...	rose.
20 ,, ...	olive.
25 ,, ...	pale blue.
40 ,, ...	red-brown.
50 ,, ...	violet.
1 peseta	bistre.
2 pesetas	black.

Line XII. Tangier and Laraiche.

The distance is about 45 miles.

Laraiche, or El Araïsh, is a fortified sea-port on the Atlantic, at the mouth of the river El Kus. It adjoins the ruins of the ancient Lixus, or Shammish. The gardens of the Hesperides were supposed to be in this neighbourhood. The population is about 7,000.

1898.

Native female in double upright rectangle; at the top, "MOROCCO"; on the left, "TANGIER"; on the right, "LARAICHE"; at the bottom, value in figures and letters; in the four corners, crescents. Printed in colours on white wove paper. Perf. 11½.

5	centimos...	pale violet.
10	,, ...	pale blue.
20	,, ...	dark green.
25	,, ...	pale green.
50	,, ...	grey-black.
1	peseta	lilac.

Imperforate vertically.

10	centimos...	pale blue.

It is curious to note that the second "O" in "Morocco" looks like a "D"; also the accent over the "E" in "Centimos." The "1" in "10" is always smaller than the "0."

Line XIII. Saffi and Morocco.

The distance is about 107 miles.

Saffi, or Asfi, is a fortified sea-port on the Atlantic. At one time it was the principal port for the European trade with Morocco. The Portuguese had possession of it from 1508-1641. The population is about 10,000.

June, 1899.

Sea with rowing boat in front and steamer in the distance; at the top, in curved arches, "SAFFI" and "MARAKECH"; in the left bottom corner, large shield with value in figures and letters; in the three other corners, the French cock. Printed in two colours on white wove paper. Perf. 11½.

5	centimos	sage-green.	Value	black.
10	,,	sea-green.	,,	,,
20	,,	pale blue.	,,	,,
25	,,	lilac.	,,	,,
50	,,	rose.	,,	,,
75	,,	bistre.	,,	,,
1	peseta	violet.	,,	,,

Line XIV. Mogador and Agadir.

The distance is about 80 miles.

Both towns are seaports on the Atlantic, Agadir being the most southern port Morocco possesses. At one time it belonged to Portugal. The population is about 500. From Mogador there is a line of steamers to Las Palmas in the Canaries.

1900.

Lion, with flag in front of rising sun, in a double circle; at the top, "MOGADOR-AGADIR"; at the bottom, in a curved label, value in figures and letters, printed in a second colour. Printed in two colours on white wove paper. Perf. 14.

5 centimos	yellowish green.	Value and flag	red.
10 „	ultramarine.	„	„
20 „	lake.	„	„
25 „	violet.	„	„
40 „	red-brown.	„	„
50 „	dark brown.	„	„
1 peseta	dark green.	„	„

The writer heartily thanks Mr. J. C. North for the loan of his fine collection of Morocco Locals, which he gathered while in that country.

(*Concluded.*)



The earliest information as to New Issues will be much appreciated by us, and will be duly credited to the correspondent, or firm, sending it. Our foreign subscribers can materially help us in this direction. When possible, a specimen should accompany the information, and be addressed to

G. Fred. H. Gibson, *Fairfield, Crumpsall, Manchester.*

The British Empire.

Cayman Islands.—Yet another provisional is stated to have been issued. This time the new 4d. has been overprinted.

Adhesive.

1d. on 4d. black and red on yellow.

Ceylon.—Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. send us the 5c. and 6c. showing the values inserted in numerals in the lower corners.

Adhesives.

5c. lilac. Wmk. CA and Crown multiple.
6c. rose. ,, ,,

East Africa and Uganda.—The 1c. of the current set is stated to have been issued in a new shade, red-brown.

Gibraltar.—In referring to the 4s. upon multiple watermark paper when it was listed last year, we preferred to wait for its actual arrival before chronicling. Mr. W. H. Peckitt now sends us a specimen.



Adhesive.

Wmk. CA and Crown multiple.
4s. lilac and green.

India. Bhopal.—A new stamp, printed by Messrs. Waterlow & Sons, is reported here. We hope to illustrate the design later.

Adhesive.

1a. green.

Cochin.—The first value of a new set is also reported here, but we are without any details.

Adhesive.

1a. carmine.

Jamaica.—The old 4d. stamp has been issued with the new watermark; *Ewen's Weekly* has seen a specimen.

Adhesive.

4d. red-brown. Wmk. CA and Crown multiple.

Montserrat.—Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. have shown us the 2½d. printed in ultramarine.



Adhesive.

2½d. ultramarine. Wmk. CA and Crown multiple

Nyasaland.—So far, we believe, only "specimen" copies of the new set have been seen, but we gather the following particulars as to values, etc., from *Ewen's Weekly*.

Adhesives.

Wmk. CA and Crown multiple.
½d. green.
1d. carmine.
3d. dark lilac on yellow.
4d. red on yellow.
6d. red-lilac on white.

Wmk. CA and Crown single.
1s. black on green.

Wmk. CA and Crown multiple.
2s. 6d. carmine and black on blue.
4s. black and rose-red.
10s. red and green on pale green.
20s. black and lilac on red.
£10 ultramarine.

Papua.—*Ewen's Weekly* gives the following interesting details of the numbers issued of the old, or unsurcharged, set of British New Guinea.

½d.	118,115
1d.	126,918
2d.	116,200
2½d.	36,550
4d.	20,285
6d.	16,715
1s.	13,835
2s. 6d.	2,234

Queensland.—The 3d. and 2s. values are now reported upon the new paper. The 2½d. and 1s. values have also been listed, but some doubts seen to exist as to whether they are really out.

Adhesives.

3d. brown. Wmk. Crown and A. Perf. 12½.
2s. blue-green. „ „

Seychelles.—Mr. W. H. Peckitt informs us that he has official advices from the Island stating that the rumoured 45c. provisional does not exist.

Sudan. — *Ewen's Weekly* mentions the following novelty.

Adhesive.
Official stamp.

5 piastres brown and green. Watermark multiple Crescent and Star. Overprinted "Army Service" in black.

Transvaal. — The 20s. upon multiple watermark paper has now been issued, a correspondent of *Ewen's Weekly* stating that it is now on sale in the Colony.

Foreign Countries.

Belgium.—*Gibbons' Stamp Weekly* mentions the 5c. Postage Due in a new shade, yellow-green.

German Empire. Offices in Morocco. —A correspondent of *Ewen's Weekly* has shown them the 35c. and 50c. upon watermarked paper.

Adhesives.

35c. on 30pf. black and orange on buff. Watermarked.
50c. on 40pf. black and carmine. „

Holland. Dutch Indies.—A new value, 17½ cents, is reported by *Gibbons' Stamp Weekly*.



Adhesive.
17½c. bistre.

Italy. Foreign Post Offices —Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. send us several values of the current sets overprinted for use here; and from *Ewen's Weekly* we copy the below list of varieties to date.





Adhesives.

Surcharged in lower-case. Printed in Rome.

"10 Parà 10" on 5c. green	1,000
"20 Parà 20" on 10c. red	1,000
"30 Parà 30" on 15c. grey	500
"40 Parà 40" on 25c. blue	500
"80 Parà 80" on 50c. violet	500
"4 Piastra" (?) on 1 lira brown and green ..	100
"20 Piastre" (?) on 5 lire	50

The 10, 40, and 80 para of this set have so far only been seen.

Surcharged in capitals. Printed in Constantinople.

"10 PARA" on 5c. green	19,800
"20 PARA" on 10c. red	16,000
"30 PARA" on 15c. grey	20,000
"1 PIASTRA" on 25c. blue	16,000
"2 PIASTRE" on 50c. violet	3,000
"4 PIASTRE" on 1 lira brown and green ..	400
"20 PIASTRE" on 5 lire	200

There are minor varieties in the surcharge, such as "PIPSTRA" for "PIASTRA." The 20 piastre has so far not been seen.

Printed at Rome. Surcharged in lower-case.

"10 Para" on 5c. green	100,000
"20 Para" on 10c. red	100,000
"40 Para" on 25c. blue	100,000
"2 Piastre" on 50c. violet	3,000

Japan.—Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. send us two high values of very pleasing design. The 10 yen and the stamp shown below are identical except for a slight difference in the arrangement of the scrolls at the top.



Adhesives.

5 yen pale green.
10 yen purple.

Nicaragua.—We are indebted to *Ewen's Weekly* for the following long list of recent provisionals.

Adhesives.

Official stamps.

10c. in pale yellow on 3c. violet (American Co.)
15c. ,, ,, ,,
20c. ,, ,, ,,
35c. ,, ,, ,,
50c. ,, ,, ,,

Adhesives.

Long Fiscal stamps (Waterlow Co.), surcharged vertically, reading up, "Correo 1908" and value.

1c. in red on 5c. yellow and black.
2c. in grey ? ,, ,,
4c. in green ,, ,,
15c. in carmine on 50c. olive and black.
35c. in pale red ,, ,,

The same, but surcharged "Correo 1908" only.

5c. yellow and black. Surcharged in black.
10c. light blue and black ,,
1p. yellow-brown and black. ,,
2p. light grey and black. ,,

Paraguay.—Mr. W. H. Munn sends us some fresh provisionals. These additions to our last chronicle are as follows.

Adhesives.

Official stamps of 1904, overprinted in black.

Surcharged "Habilitado en 5 centavos."

10c. emerald.
60c. brick red.
30c. pearl grey.
10c. pale claret.
60c. brown-orange.
30c. orange-yellow.

Persia.—The 26ch. of the new set has been overprinted as below for Parcel Post use. *Adhesive.*

26c. red-brown. Surcharged "Colis Postaux" in one line, vertically, in black.

Peru.—The *Philatelic Adviser* chronicles the following. *Adhesive.*

Express Letter stamp.

10c. black. Surcharged "Expreso" in black.

Roumania.—We illustrate the design of the most recent new set. These were listed in our December number.



Russia. OFFICES IN CHINA.—*Ewen's Weekly* states that two new values of the current Russian set have received the overprint for use here.

Adhesives.

15k. brown and blue. Surcharged in black.
25k. olive green and lilac. ,, red.

United States. PHILIPPINES.—For the following list of numbers issued of the 1906 series we are indebted to *Ewen's Weekly*.

2c.	..	..	12,000,000
4c.	..	..	5,000,000
6c.	..	..	80,000
8c.	..	..	35,000
10c.	..	..	2,000,000
12c.	..	..	20,000
16c.	..	..	500,000
20c.	..	..	800,000
26c.	..	..	14,000
30c.	..	..	400,000
1p.	..	..	200,000
2p.	..	..	100,000
4p.	..	..	not stated
10p.	..	..	,

Notes and News.

Japan.

A select band of enthusiastic collectors of this country contemplate publishing a book, provided they can get a little support, in the nature of collectors willing to contribute information and becoming subscribers. The work is in the hands of the most prominent specialists in the stamps of Japan, and sure to be a standard publication. We shall be very happy to hand over to the proper quarter any offers of help received from our subscribers, and can assure them that such will be fully appreciated.

British Guiana Philatelic Society.

At the last meeting of the British Guiana Philatelic Society, the Hon. B. Howell Jones, the President, took the chair.

The Secretary submitted a letter from Mr. James Borg, of Walmo, in which he asked for some information from the members of the Society as to the existence of an error in the twenty-four cent. issue of the 1860 B.G. stamp, in which the word "postage" had been misprinted "potage."

Some discussion ensued on the subject, but none of the members present had any knowledge of the existence of such an error in that particular stamp.

In the unavoidable absence of Mr. J. K. D. Hill, his promised paper on "Reminiscences of Stamp Collecting" was read by the Honorary Secretary. It was a bright, chatty record of some incidents in the writer's career as a collector, and proved very interesting.

On the motion of the Chairman, seconded by Canon Josa, the meeting agreed that its thanks should be conveyed to Mr. Hill for his contribution.

A Splendid Collection.

The Hon. R. Duff afterwards exhibited his entire collection of British Guiana and West Indian postage stamps. Mr. Duff's British Guianas are considered one of the finest collections of this colony's stamps in the colony; it included, among other rarities, a pair of 1852 1-cent. stamps, a strip of the 1-cent. of 1853; the 1, 2, and 4 cents. of the 1862 provisionals; the Jubilee issue with its inverted surcharges, and all the other rare stamps from 1860 to the present time, most of the issues being shown in great variety of shades—used and many unused. Mr. Duff's collection of West Indians, which is considered the finest in the colony, and with which he won the prize at the Society's last exhibition, aroused general admiration, comprising as it did the postage stamps of most of the West Indies, and including a great number of the rarities of philately of those interesting islands.

The exhibitor was accorded a hearty vote of thanks, on the motion of Canon Josa, seconded by Mr. Abraham.

Mr. Abraham promised to exhibit a part of his fine collection of stamps at the next meeting of the Society, and the meeting terminated.

Stamp Machines a Success.

According to newspaper report, Postmaster Morgan of New York, is reporting favourably on the stamp vending machines which have been placed on trial in the post office here. The machines sell 1, 2, and 5c. stamps, and, with the exception of the first few days, when the mechanism was somewhat disordered by transportation, their operation has been satisfactory. It is believed that the machines will eventually be placed quite generally in drug stores, post office sub-stations, and other places convenient to the public. This is the type of machine that uses the ordinary perforated stamps.—*Scott Stamp Circular (U.S.A.)*

Peru.

The following is a description of the designs on the new stamps, taken from a local newspaper:—

1c. grey.—Manco-Capac, founder of the Royalty of the Incas.
2c. green.—Head of Christopher Columbus.
4c. red.—Pizarre, conqueror of Peru.
5c. violet.—Head of San Martin.
10c. dark blue.—Bolivar, founder of Higher Peru (Bolivia).
12c. light blue.—General La Mar, First President of the Republic.
20c. rose.—Maréchal Custilla, who abolished slavery after the revolution of 1844.
50c. yellow.—Admiral Grau.
1sol. blue and red.—Colonel Bolognesi.

Italy.

A correspondent at Genoa, writing to M. Lemaire's paper, mentions a curiosity in the shape of the 5c. current issue of July, printed twice, the second impression being 5mm. higher and 2mm. to the right of the first. Contrary to what one would expect, the sheet upon which this variety occurs contains only 8 specimens of the variety, and it is not a case of where the sheet has been put through the press in the ordinary way twice by accident.

Argentine Republic.

It is a long call yet to May, 1910, when this Republic is to celebrate its Centenary of Independence by a series of grand fêtes. We regret to learn, however, that the Philatelic Society of Buenos Ayres is agitating for the issue of a series of postage stamps, commemorative of the occasion—they ought to know better.

Private Stamps not Allowed.

Our contemporary, the *Stamp Collector's Fortnightly*, publishes the following:—

The Postmaster-General has spoken. He will allow no further issues of private postage stamps of the Jacobite or Sinn Fein pattern—or, to be more exact, he *will* allow their issue (since he has no power to prevent it!) but he will not permit their use on the face-side of any envelope or postal wrapper. The following paragraph, which I take from the *Daily Telegraph* of Wednesday, July 22nd, will fully explain the latest pronunciamento from St. Martin's-le-Grand:—

"Official announcement is made that the practice has recently been adopted by some persons of affixing to the covers of letters adhesive labels, somewhat resembling postage stamps, which are used for advertising or other purposes. Although these labels are obviously not issued, says the official notice, with any intention of defrauding the revenue, their use on postal packets, especially when they are placed on the address side, causes embarrassment to the officers of the Post Office, and gives rise to delay in the treatment of other correspondence. In these circumstances, the Postmaster-General has deemed it necessary to issue instructions that after July 31st any letter or other packet observed in the post bearing on the front a private label in any way resembling a postage stamp shall be returned to the sender."

Correspondence.

Paraguay.

To the Editor of the "Philatelic Record."

ASCENSION,

June 24th, 1908.

DEAR MR. MUNN,—Your letter dated May 21st to hand this morning, for which many thanks, also a copy of *London Opinion*. You have just caught me in time, as I leave for Colombia on Saturday next, after all these months in Paraguay.

Well, now for stamps. I have got a good supply, but as the first lot did not reach you, I will save them. By now you should have received the second lot of the 5c. issue, a set I sent for you to I.B. on June 10th. I enclose herewith the final stamp of the series, so you now have the set complete with correct dates, etc. You will see by my note that there will be no further issue of 5cts.

I saw a copy of *Gibbons' Weekly* a week ago, and they chronicled the blue No. 11 on my list. Send an account of the full set for me to the *Philatelic Record* if you like. I think they are a very interesting series, and were not issued as a speculation at all, and on the whole very few were issued, and certainly few would get to Europe, as they are mostly used for internal postage. Gibbons mentions an error, *i.e.*, surcharge inverted. This is not so, as the whole lot were printed from a fixed plate, which I have seen, and it would be impossible for an inverted surcharge to occur. It must be a forgery. The only errors that I know are in the green one, No. 1. Each sheet of a hundred contains two stamps without the figure 5; the third down from the top of the sheet and the last stamp on the fourth row from the bottom. This was corrected when No. 2 appeared. The only other item is in No. 11, which is very badly surcharged, and two appear on each stamp or rather portions of the two surcharges.

The 2 peso stamp is on sale in two colours at the present time, *i.e.*, black and blue, and black and red. The 60c. brown is now on sale – a very much darker shade than before. On March 14th the 30c. was changed in colour from lavender to pale purple. On May 27th the 10c. green was changed to blue. On May 25th the 20c. green, 1904 type, was exhausted, and a few of the 1903 type were on sale, and I see are still in use. On February 20th the 1c. red was changed to pale blue.

On May 1st this 2c. appeared, which is much more of a rose than the previous issue.



June 1st.—1,100 of this 10c. yellow-brown were issued. [Note.—At present the 10c. *blue* is in use.]

To make your set of the 5c. complete, I must mention this red one (2c., surcharged "Habilitado en 5 centavos" in four lines), which was the first of this series, and which was on sale just before I arrived here. I've not been able to get any unused, and very few used. I have numbered this 1a, so you should have nineteen in all of this series.

There has been no speculation in stamps since the present Government came into office in 1905, and there is not likely to be any.

Official stamps.—These are very difficult to get indeed. I had to make a special application on stamped legal paper to get a supply, and this was cut down to half the quantity. I give you below a full list of *all* in use at the present time :—

Type 1903, surcharged oficial. 5 centavos.
,, 1904, oficial, not surcharged, pale violet. 10 cents.
,, 1904, oficial, not surcharged, pale violet. 20 cents.
,, 1903, surcharged official, blue. 30cts.
,, 1903, ,, ,, violet. 60cts.
,, 1902, ,, ,, green. 1 peso.
= six in all.

The present Government will not supply these stamps unused to the public or dealers, and the few I got were all cancelled before being handed to me, as per the above specimen. All the stamps are now printed in Buenos Ayres, but the surcharges are done locally.

With respect to the paragraph from the daily paper on the other sheet enclosed, the stock of 1c., 2c., 20c., 60c. is giving out, and they are surcharging the old Oficial stamps to these four values, and I am told they will be on sale in the course of a day or two.

I have got together a host of reliable information *re* the issue of Paraguay, and when I have more time I intend to write a full account. I have had great help from the *only* collector of stamps in the country, as far as is known, a chemist who has a very fine lot of this Republic, and as far as I can see, Gibbons' list is absolutely out of the running altogether. Please make use of the above notes and send for me to the Journal, and let me have a copy sent out in an envelope when published, as I should like to show same to the Postmaster, who has given me much help in detail, etc. With respect to the 5c. yellow unused, I have only got seven of them.

Make what use you like of the foregoing information. When I leave here I have a reliable man who will keep careful track of all new issues, and he will forward to me.—Faithfully yours, LESLIE H. ATKINSON.

P.S.—Last of the 5c. stamps of Paraguay. On June 20th the internal rate of postage was increased from 5c. to 20c., so there is now no further use for a 5c. stamp.



In 1906 there was a 20c. cut in half and used as a 10c. ; several I have seen, but up to now I have not been able to get a copy.

Gibbons' catalogue (1907) of Paraguay is off its horse entirely. I went through it with the Postmaster, who tells me there is much to be added, especially among the Official stamps.

In 1892 the following was issued :—Black on white paper, imperf. I have drawn it as near as possible, and have got a used copy on the original. I am told very few were issued.



On June 13th, 1908, a paragraph appeared in the daily paper, *La Ley*, the translation of which is as follows :—

"The Chief of Internal Taxes re-
"quested the permission of the Minister of
"Home Affairs to surcharge postage stamps
"of the values 01c., 02c., 20c., 60c. on the
"'Official' series, as their stock of these
"were going low, and a big lot of the
"Officials were on hand."

THE

Philatelic Record.

AUGUST, 1908.

Editorial Note.

MR. C. J. PHILLIPS, writing in *Gibbons' Stamp Weekly*, comments upon the "good, sound, steady demand" for South and Central American stamps, and goes on to say that as stocks are certainly low amongst the British stamp dealers, considerably advanced prices may be looked for in these stamps in the near future.

South and Central America.

We can quite understand how it was that these stamps fell out of favour some twenty years ago. In those days there was plenty of virgin ground for research, and in countries which appealed more strongly to national sentiment, but these have nearly all been exploited, and it is only the keenest and most advanced collector who is likely to find out anything fresh in British West Indies, Australians, or in the principal European countries—the latter certainly affording more scope than the two former.

A really earnest philatelist is not content to collect according either to catalogue, or to the much more elaborate publications of the Royal Philatelic Society, or the excellent series of handbooks on certain countries which have been published by the Philatelic Society of India, by Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., and others during the last dozen years. Such a collector wishes to make discoveries for himself, as well as to see his collection gradually built up; in fact, it is not so much from numbers of stamps or from vast arrays of pairs, blocks, or even entire sheets that his pleasure is derived, but rather from the discoveries which the possession of such has enabled him to make.

The mere accumulation of stamps in entire sheets when they teach nothing, we have always condemned as mere vulgarity; there is no sense in bloating for bloating's sake, but at the same time to study a hitherto neglected country it is essential to become a bloater of the most pronounced type. Until a student has exhausted his subject, he does not know of what it is capable, and in a similar way this applies to the stamps of a country which have not already been explored scientifically. It is the demand which a few collectors create by taking up a group of hitherto neglected countries that causes decreased stocks —often low in unfashionable countries—to be further depleted; the small collector follows the lead, a brisk demand is created, and, in the words of the song, "up goes the price of———."

It will probably be said that there is nothing fresh in all this. We do not claim that there is; but it is well for us from time to time to have a few home truths driven home, and we may give some of our readers pleasure during the coming season by drawing attention to certain South and Central American countries, the stamps of which are certainly worthy of the notice of the earnest collector and philatelist.

The Plating of the 6 rappen, Zurich.

Translated from the "Schweitzer Briefmarken-Zeitung."

UP to the time of his death, Monsieur Mirabaud took a deep interest in his stamps, and although his collection was representative of all countries, we may safely say that he had always a special liking for Switzerland. On the eve of the sale of his superb collection, we think it will interest our readers to know the nature of his last work on the stamps of that country. This was the reconstruction of the plate of the 6 rappen, Zurich. Everyone is aware of the five types, and also that the sheets consist of 100 stamps, that is to say, of the five types twenty times repeated; but up to now, so far as we know, no one has attempted to reconstruct one of these sheets.

Mirabaud had noticed that the thin lines dividing the stamps were all different from one another. Several strips which he had of the five types confirmed his observation, and the two other horizontal strips of ten (the five types repeated side by side) also in his collection, showed him how the blocks of five types were welded together. The differences between these dividing lines are certainly very trifling, and consist principally of breaks, dashes, or dots. But, microscopic though they are, he saw in them the means of reconstructing the sheet, and did not hesitate at the thought of the time and patience which would be necessary for the attainment of his object. This work required several years of searching amongst the stocks of different dealers, in spite of the invaluable help of M. de Reuterskiöld, who had managed to procure from the authorities photographs of the reprints of this stamp. It was therefore comparatively easy to reconstruct a portion of the right half of the sheet, even though the traces remaining of the dividing lines were often hardly visible.

These 100 secondary types were discovered several months ago, but M. Mirabaud, not satisfied with this result, wished, before making it public, to be able to show a complete plate of each variety—used and unused—with horizontal lines, with vertical lines, and without lines. Death prevented him from accomplishing this, but there is now in existence a photograph of these 100 stamps which he collected after so much perseverance. He was thus led to study afresh the retouches of certain types made famous by various articles.

The retouch of the third type, which was noted in "The Stamps of Switzerland from 1843 to 1862," and in other works is No. 98 on the plate, all the stamps occupying that position being retouched in absolutely the same manner; but it is not so with No. 39, which Mr. Castle described in an excellent article in the *London Philatelist* of January, 1897. M. Mirabaud possessed a copy on letter dated March 2nd, 1843, with the design perfect and without flaw; a second specimen, on part of letter but without date, is also perfect. On the contrary, there are two others of the same type which show clearly the flaw mentioned by Mr. Castle. It would seem, therefore, that only one stamp in the whole sheet was retouched, and that probably before the final printing.

M. Mirabaud has also been able to distinguish several characteristics in the design of each stamp, due to a more or less perfect impression, and of these we give a list without reference to the imperfections of the frames and the corners, or to the dividing lines themselves :—

No. 7. Flaw in the 6 and damaged "e" in "Taxe."
,, 25. Stroke from the frame between "r" and "i" of "Zurich" to the top of the 6.
,, 28. Enlargement of the top of the 6.
,, 37. Dot in the 6.
,, 39. Important flaw in the groundwork on the left, except in the very earliest printings.
,, 42. Dot in the groundwork.
,, 57. Dot in the groundwork under the 6, and sometimes a flaw in the groundwork on the left. The first printings do not show this last peculiarity.
,, 68. Dot in the body of the 6.
,, 72. Dot in the groundwork.
,, 76. Dot in the border of the 6.
,, 77. Dot in the body of the 6.
,, 86. Flaw in the groundwork.
,, 90. Large dot in the head of the 6.
,, 98. Stamp always retouched.

This is only a rough list, and on closer observation some peculiarity will easily be found distinguishing each stamp.

The examination of an enormous number of stamps enabled M. Mirabaud to discover an extremely rare variety, namely, a single specimen, obliterated with the Zurich rosette in black, and with double groundwork of vertical red lines. This stamp is No. 44 on the plate. The red lines are arranged thus :—

Normal groundwork ... ... 

Groundwork of the stamp in question ... ... 

one line, two lines, one line, and so on; but in this particular stamp there are two lines always, the first and second of each pair being alternately thicker. By placing one above another, two normal arrangements of the lines, one being reversed, and looking through them as in a transparency, the curious groundwork of this stamp, which, by the way, is the only one in the collection, will be distinctly seen.

It would have been interesting to know if there were any marginal inscriptions as on the sheets of the stamps of Geneva, and the so-called stamps of Vaud, but M. Mirabaud has not succeeded in finding the least trace of any; and although some of his specimens have exceptional margins, there is no sign of any inscription.

Notable Philatelists.

J. Stelfox Gee.

THE subject of our sketch this month "began life," to use his own words, "also stamp collecting, very young; and considers it very unfortunate for himself that he gave up the latter on leaving school, and for the world generally that he did *not* give up the former at a much earlier date."

Of one thing he is particularly proud, and that is his connection with the Manchester Society; in it he claims to have found a circle of friends from whom he would be sorry indeed to part, and he strongly advises all collectors who wish to eventually blossom into serious philatelists to make themselves members of such a Society. From his own experience, he realises that his membership, bringing him into contact with men who were always ready to advise him, and who he has found have always taken a pleasure in so doing, has saved him from many an error into which one who goes along in his own sweet way is liable to fall.

His philatelic treasures consist principally of a fair collection of Great Britain, and limitedly specialised collections of Dominica, Falkland Islands, and Jamaica, which were shown at the recent Caxton Hall Exhibition, the principal limit to his specialism being a *cash* limit, as in addition he is an enthusiastic art student and collector of pictures, which may, in some measure, account for his philatelic propensities. For the last thirteen years he has been steadily adding to his collection, but disowns any pretentions to be classed as a "Notable Philatelist," and is content rather to serve his fellow members of the Manchester Society in the capacity of Packet Comptroller and Assistant Honorary Secretary. Into the work connected with the Exchange Packet—and perhaps few of us realise how unceasing such work is, and with what care it must be performed—he throws himself heart and soul, and has brought this branch of the Society's to a very high degree of efficiency. To balance the somewhat selfish pursuit of philately, he interests himself in nearly every organisation which has for its object the brightening of lives that, as a rule, are not overburdened with sunshine, and is Honorary Treasurer to the Minnehaha Amateur Minstrels —a Manchester Society which has handed over to various charities the net balance of £22,000—and a worker on the Executive Committee of the Lifeboat Saturday movement.

"In order to keep pace with the amount of clerical work I have to do for various charities," says Mr. Gee, "I have been compelled to

Notable Philatelists.



J. Stelfox Gee.

pass a 'Daylight Bill' for myself, often retiring to rest after daylight has made itself evident, and as any holidays of longer duration than an odd week-end or two are unknown to me, I pose as a contradiction of the Irishman's theory that 'You can't burn your candle at both ends and eat it too, begorra!'"

A writer in our correspondence columns this month urges a more general recognition amongst Philatelic Societies of the social side of our hobby as likely to bring about an increase in the number of members who are to be found with a reasonable degree of regularity at the meetings. Without attempting to express any opinion upon a matter which will, perhaps, be regarded with disfavour by some philatelists, we may point out that it is not so easy as may appear at first sight to carry such recognition to a successful issue. For this, it must not be forgotten, needs the services of a man with capacity for organisation, a cheerful and humourous disposition, and the happy facility of surrounding everything which he undertakes with an atmosphere of brightness. Those who know Mr. Gee personally know also how amply he is possessed of these characteristics, and how willingly he works for the benefit of his fellow collectors in Manchester. Notable he undoubtedly is there, and had he only the power of the famous bird described by another Irishman, of being in more places than one at the same time, his fame would doubtless have reached far beyond the neighbourhood of the city in which he lives.

The Universal Postal Union.

A Paper read before the Manchester Philatelic Society, on Mar. 6th, 1908.

By I. J. Bernstein.

THE UNIVERSAL POSTAL UNION is an institution which, though intimately connected with our lives, our business, and our hobby, little is known about. Very few, even philatelists, can tell you exactly what it is or what it has done for us. To define it briefly, I will call it "The World's Parliament of the Post," and to it the international letter-writing public owe as much as the public of Great Britain do to Sir Rowland Hill's scheme of a uniform penny postage.

To fully understand what it is and what it has done, one must first know exactly the state of the international postal system before it came into being. Postal service always was and always will be the barometer of a country's enlightenment and civilisation, and with the advent of printing and the consequent spread of learning, it from being a luxury became a necessity.

That fact became apparent in many a country besides our own, and the services established were as diverse and the charges as various and as high as those that led to the establishment of the uniform post in Great Britain. Uniformity of rate irrespective of distance was a large success locally right from the start, and far exceeded the most optimistic anticipation of its most enthusiastic supporters. But although it ameliorated the lot of the letter writers of Great Britain, it did not affect international correspondence. Every country had its own system or lack of system in dealing with its correspondence, or that of other countries it handled either as recipient or as transmitter. The charges were usually very high and the service consistently bad. Added to this, one had the complexities of weight and routes to deal with; some countries had one weight, other countries another. Germany and Austria used the zolloth, Great Britain and the United States of America the ounce, France, Belgium, and Italy the gramme, and so on. The single letter rate, or the unit, was in the first-named countries the loth, in Great Britain and the United States the ½oz., in France 10gr., in Belgium and Italy partly 10 and partly 15gr., in Spain 7½gr., in Denmark sometimes ¾loth, sometimes ½loth. As a letter dispatched for transit through these countries was charged firstly with the inland rate of the country of origin, and secondly with the inland rate of the country of destination, plus the charges of the countries through which it passed, plus again the rate of sea carriage, it will be readily granted that my assertion that it was almost impossible to frank an international letter to its destination is not an exaggeration. A letter of ½oz. sufficiently prepaid here as a single letter might in a country of transit be over the single rate and surcharged accordingly. A consequence of this was that various routes were cheaper or more expensive according to circumstances, and as an example a letter from Germany to Rome

cost by one route 68pf., by others 90pf., or 48pf., or 85pf., and even then it was impossible to pay in advance for delivery within the borders of the Papal States. Letters from Prussia to South America cost 2mk. 48pf., from the United States of America to Australia cost 33, 45, 55, 60, or 102 cents. per ½oz., according to route.

The postal relations of the world were regulated by a multitude of international treaties, conventions, and departmental agreements, displaying great variety, and even the fundamental principles at work were most difficult to define. It may be said in general terms that the means of communication were provided by those countries which found it most in their interest to set them up. No prescriptive right of transit existed, but transits through intermediate countries were the subject of special arrangements, as were also sea transits performed by one country for another. Postage rates were fixed according to the circumstances, and the international accounts were based on the actual correspondence sent in each mail. In negotiating the numerous treaties and conventions every country naturally made the best bargain it could for itself, and hence arose an endless variety of rates and payments by one country to another, entailing endless labour in official correspondence and settlement of accounts. As far as the public was concerned the differences and difficulties were just as numerous. The rates were very high and their calculation difficult. Such high rates naturally detracted from the international correspondence; complicated calculations necessary for the assessment of the proportion of the rates due to each country entailed so much correspondence and verification that the work of the post was delayed.

The enormous development that railroad and steamship communications gave the postal services emphasised all these drawbacks, and the same reasons of general interest that had forced our Government to reduce and simplify their inland postal rates obliged all Governments to seek ways and means of doing the same to international postal traffic.

Hence when the United States of America Postmaster-General Blair suggested in a note, dated August, 1862, that a conference of delegates of different post-offices should be held to discuss the betterment and simplification which it was desirable to see introduced into international postal relations, fifteen countries, representing practically all the civilised States of the world, immediately signified their intention of participating, and a conference was arranged to meet in Paris on May 11th, 1863. These countries represented nine-tenths of the commerce and nineteen-twentieths of the correspondence of the world.

To sum up the situation, I cannot do better than give you Mr. Blair's own words. "There exists," he said, "a large number of obstacles to foreign correspondence for which the only remedy is concerted international action. The obstacles arise from the difference in principles, as well as in the details of postal arrangements, concluded between the various nations of the two continents. Between the same places there exists a great diversity of rates, and there are as many as six different rates according to the route of transit. It is evident that an international postal arrangement established on a common basis is of the first importance not only from the point of view of commercial but

also of social intercourse. The ramifications of the postal system embracing all the countries seem to require concerted action."

The outcome of this suggestion was a Congress to which the following countries sent delegates:—Austria, Belgium, Costa Rica, Denmark, Ecuador, Spain, France, Great Britain, Italy, Holland, Portugal, Prussia, the Sandwich Isles, Switzerland, and the Hanseatic Towns.

It met on the 11th May, 1863, in Paris, and M. Vaudal, Director General of the French Post, was appointed President of the Congress. In his Presidential address he set forth a programme in the following words:—

"If I understand correctly, the mission which has brought us together has for its object not to discuss or regulate certain practical facts which belong to the domain of negotiations and which we are powerless to alter, but to bring into line or at least to discuss certain general principles, certain ideas as yet speculative, which we all shall be forced, sooner or later, to take advantage of in the interests of not only the general public but of the treasuries of our respective Governments."

"The decisions we may arrive at may not have an obligatory character and will not be binding on anyone, but the adhesion you each accord them will give them such weight and authority that without pretending to have established an international postal code it will be impossible to discard what you have agreed upon as equitable and honourable for all, when negotiating any future conventions."

The conference lasted till the 8th June, and thirty-six questions were dealt with, and which came respectively under the headings of uniformity of weight, of rate, and of accounts.

Thirty-one articles were drawn up, and formed the basis on which future conferences worked. They determined briefly

1. The obstacles it was necessary to overcome to give free intercourse between the nations of the world that the progress of civilisation and commerce demanded.
2. To call the attention of the Postal Authorities to the existing defects, and to general principles that were agreeable to all, which would tend to remedy them.

These principles, once clearly defined, were not long in bearing fruit, and in 1868, Von Stephan, Chief of the North German Post, drew up a note, the fundamental principle of which was a scheme for a Postal Union between the civilised countries of the world and proposing a conference to discuss the project. The Government of the North German Federation, in 1869, endeavoured through diplomatic channels to bring such a Congress together, but the outbreak of the war between France and Germany interrupted the negotiations. On the conclusion of peace, the Government of Switzerland undertook the task of inviting the Governments of the world to meet at a Conference to be held at Berne on the 1st of September, 1873, which invitation was readily accepted. As, however, Russia, whilst declaring itself in favour of the idea, intimated its inability to participate, owing to the conventions just then concluded, it was decided to adjourn the conference to the following year, and eventually it met on 1st July, 1874.

(To be continued.)

Queen's Heads.

By C. S. F. Crofton.

From "The Philatelic Journal of India."

(Continued from Page 113).

OVERPRINTS have been of course of various natures. The plate may have the value already on it like the Great Britain and recent Indian fiscals, in which case the overprint supplies the use for which the stamps are valid. Or it may be a plate for postage stamps only like the Lagos postage so that the overprint supplies the value. Or it may have neither the duty nor the value, like the stamps in the frontispiece of Gibbons' Catalogue, which, according to the overprint are available for any value in any colony for any duties. It is hardly necessary to point out that when the plate does not bear the value it should be printed from in different colours for different values, unless the forger is intended to be given a very soft job.

The first unappropriated die prepared by De la Rue was the New South Wales general stamp duty die (Gibbons' type 35). This was issued on the 1st January, 1867. The die contained the essentially expensive head, but the overprints were considerably more elaborate than was considered necessary in later years. The second die was for "Admiralty Ireland," of which the plate was registered in September, 1868. In this case all the values of the set occurred on the same sheet, so there was only one overprint. The year *par excellence* for unappropriated dies was 1869, by when the system had quite settled down. During this year two dies were made for India, the High Court and the Small Cause Court; two for Mauritius, the Internal Revenue, and the Bill of Exchange; three for the Straits Settlements, the Foreign Bill, Marine Policies, and Judicial stamps; one for Antigua Revenue; one for the English Counties of Gloucester, Ely, and Northampton, and one for St. Christopher postage. In the next few years they came thick and fast:—

1872 Sierra Leone, Cape small fiscal, Great Britain general dies.

1874 Straits Revenue, Ceylon Foreign Bill, Lagos, Dominica, etc.

Practically the only new plate made by Perkins Bacon during this period, namely, the Grenada one shilling, was unappropriated.

It would be a useless waste of time to give a complete list of De la Rue's unappropriated dies, but a curious phenomenon of dies of this nature being used for only one stamp requires mention and a little introduction.

In 1882 Natal ordered a set of telegraph stamps on the model of the low values Great Britain telegraphs, but from an unappropriated die. For this purpose a small edition of the general colonial head was engraved of about the size of the head on the Great Britain telegraphs such as would go on a single unit stamp turned sideways. The same head was used in the following year when South Australia ordered a

small half-penny stamp to resemble the half-penny of Victoria. It next appeared in 1886 on the five shillings of Malta, and from this year it entirely superseded the larger general colonial head with the exception of the two high values of Ceylon in 1900.

From 1886 to 1892 eight different unappropriated dies were made from this small head, all of them being similar to some of the values of the jubilee set of Great Britain (which was prepared during the first of the above years), to the extent of having the value in conspicuous figures in a tablet in the centre of the lower part of the stamp. Neither during this period nor after it was any die prepared from this head that was not of this form and usually unappropriated. The eight dies from 1886 to 1892 were as follows:—

1. Ceylon 1886 Two plates prepared.
2. Jamaica 1889 Four plates prepared.
3. Mauritius 1890 (Gibbons' Type 103).
4. Colonial P. and R. 1890 Three plates prepared.
5. Colonial P. and P. 1890 Three plates prepared.
6. Natal 1891 Two pence half-penny.
7. Tasmania 1892 Two pence half-penny.
8. Tasmania 1892 Other values.

Of these No. 3, 6 and 7 were used for one value only each. At least one of them, No. 3, was prepared in anticipation of more extensive use, for the contents of the value tablet may be found slightly off-centre and occupying different positions in respect to the main body of the design in different specimens.

The latest phase of unappropriated dies was inaugurated in 1901 by the issue for Southern Nigeria. The unappropriated die or plate is confined to the expensive portrait and the separate plates for each value comprise all the main features of the design and ormentation instead of merely a word of value. The advantages of this system in the prevention of forgery are obvious: while permitting the head to be kept in the same colour for all values, the stamps cannot be fraudently "raised" except by the destruction and reproduction of too much to escape immediate detection. It may be claimed that this system was taken from the 1897 set of British Central Africa which in its turn was taken from the 1895 issue which was not engraved by De la Rue at all. Whosever the credit may be, this type of stamp is gaining rapidly in popularity and has already spread to about half our colonial issues.

(Conclusion).

Exhibition Notes.

ALL the arrangements for the forthcoming Exhibition at the Hulme Town Hall, Manchester, are being actively proceeded with, and the Committees appointed to deal with the various departments are already very busy. The plan of the Exhibition and the prospectus are in hand, and will be issued shortly; in the meantime, the active support of eminent local men and philatelists everywhere is being sought and obtained. Sir Lees Knowles, Bart., has not only consented to exhibit his collection of United States stamps, but has



signified his willingness to be one of the Vice-Patrons. A large and influential Honorary Committee is in process of formation, and a large number of well-known and prominent devotees of the hobby have already promised their aid in exhibits and financial support. Arrangements will be made with the Railway Companies to run excursions, and a large number of visitors are expected. The Exhibition is to be open for three days and admission will be free to all. The services of a well-known band have been secured, and the "Little Mary" will be looked after by a well-known firm of caterers. A large number of most interesting collections will be on view, and the opportunity of such a large foregathering of philatelists will be improved by the holding of the first Philatelic Congress of Great Britain. The need

for such an event has long been felt, and it is hoped that ere the Congress adjourns it will have fixed a date and meeting-place for the next Congress, which we thus hope to see become an annual event. To ensure the success of this particular part of the undertaking, all the Societies of Great Britain have been invited, not only to send delegates, but to insert the dates in their syllabus, and all are requested to forward suggestions so that an agenda worthy of the occasion may be presented. Several Societies have already notified their approval of the scheme, and the Manchester Society, in the person of their President, Mr. W. D. Beckton (who has provisionally consented to act as Chairman), and their Hon. Sec., Mr. G. F. H. Gibson, has identified itself with this important event.

All the Manchester papers, and a large number of other lay papers from Belfast to Hull, and Dundee to London, have already announced the coming of the Exhibition, and it is hoped to interest a large section of the general public in the pursuit of stamp collection.

All communications on general or financial matters should be addressed—

J. R. M. Albrecht, F.R.P.S. Lond.,
Stamp Exhibition Offices,
9, Albert Square, Manchester.

On advertising matters—

Geo. White,
Stamp Exhibition Offices,
9, Albert Square, Manchester.

On exhibits—

D. A. Berry,
Stamp Exhibition Offices,
9, Albert Square, Manchester.

On Congress business—

J. J. Darlow,
Stamp Exhibition Offices,
9, Albert Square, Manchester.

Will correspondents be good enough to enclose stamped addressed envelopes with all communications requiring a reply, as the work and expense involved in the Exhibition will be very great, and will have to be met by subscriptions, a first list of which will shortly appear.

It is perhaps hardly necessary to say that the rumour, that "all the funds required had already been raised," is entirely without foundation. It has not been thought advisable even to open a list for subscriptions until a probability of success was assured.

[Every encouragement ought, we think, to be given to the Juniors in this undertaking, which may appear very ambitious, but, nevertheless, is one which, if thoroughly successful, must be productive of good results. To bring this about, we trust it will meet with the whole-hearted support of the older Societies and collectors throughout Great Britain.—Ed.]



The earliest information as to New Issues will be much appreciated by us, and will be duly credited to the correspondent, or firm, sending it. Our foreign subscribers can materially help us in this direction. When possible, a specimen should accompany the information, and be addressed to

G. Fred. H. Gibson, *Fairfield, Crumpsall, Manchester.*

The British Empire.

Brunei.—Mr. W. H. Peckitt sends us the 1c., 3c., and 5c. in new colours.



Adhesives.
1c. green.
3c. rose.
5c. black and orange.

Canada.—Mr. W. H. Peckitt sends us specimens of the Quebec Centenary issue; the stamps are eight in number, and we give descriptions and illustrations below.

















Adhesives.

½c. brown. Prince and Princess of Wales.
1c. green. Cartier and Champlain.
2c. rose. King Edward and Queen Alexandra.
5c. indigo. "L'Abiiation de Quebecq."
7c. olive. Montcalm and Wolfe.
10c. violet. "Québec en 1700"
15c. orange. "Partement pour l'Ouest."
20c. brown. "Arrivée de Cartier, Québec 1835."

Cayman Islands. — *Ewen's Weekly* chronicles the very latest novelty; this takes the shape of a ¼d. stamp. The value is shown in an oval, surmounted by a crown. the words "Cayman Islands Postage" being the only inscription.

Adhesive.

Wmk. CA and Crown multiple.
¼d. brown.

Papua.—Mr. W. H. Peckitt sends us a specimen of the 6d. small overprint, showing distinct double surcharge.

Adhesive.

6d. black and green. Overprint "Papua" *double.*

Straits Settlements.—Mr. W. M. Jack, writing from Singapore, under date of 16th of last month, sends a specimen of the 3c. all red. It has only just been available, though chronicled many months back.

Foreign Countries.

Austria. OFFICES IN CRETE.—Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. state that six values in the current Austrian type have been issued for use here. The denominations are expressed in "centimes" and "francs."

Adhesives.

5c. green on yellow.
10c. carmine on pink.
15c. chocolate on buff.
25c. deep blue on blue.
50c. carmine-lake on yellow.
1fr. deep brown on grey.

Belgium.—Mr. F. E. Wilson sends us the 1c. stamp with the design, so far as the wording on the label goes, again re-drawn. The words "Ne pas livrer" are now properly spaced, instead of being all close together as heretofore.

Brazil. — Two Commemorative stamps have been issued here; one is to celebrate the opening of the Exhibition, and the other the centenary of the opening of the ports of Brazil to the commerce of the world

The following description of the designs are from *Ewen's Weekly*:—"Female figure "seated, surrounded by emblems of Com- "merce and Manufacture, holding a palm "in the right hand. In the background, "view of the bay of Rio de Janeiro, with "inscription, 'EXPOSICEO NACIONAL 1908'; "and Arms of Portugal and of Brazil, with "portraits above of Don Carlos I. and of "M. Alfona Penna, and beneath the two "dates, 1808 and 1908. The whole frames "a view of the bay of Rio de Janeiro with, "in the foreground, a soldier and a young "woman, symbolising Portugal and Brazil."

Adhesives.

100r. pale carmine.
100r. vermilion.

Ecuador.—We are indebted to Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. for a set of seven pictorial stamps, issued to celebrate the completion and opening of the Quito Railway. The 1c. and 1s. are oblong, and the 2c., 5c., 10c., 20c., and 50c. are triangular.

Adhesives.

1c. brown.
2c. blue and black.
5c. lake and black.
10c. orange and black.
20c. green and black.
50c. slate-grey and black.
1s. black.

France. MADAGASCAR.—We have been sent by Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. specimens of a new set of stamps of large pictorial design. The values are as follows:



Adhesives.

1c. violet and olive.
2c. red and olive.
4c. olive and brown.
5c. green and olive.
10c. carmine and violet-brown.
20c. orange and brown.
25c. blue and black.
35c red and black.
40c. brown and black.
45c. green and black.
50c. violet and black.
75c. carmine and black.
1f. brown and olive.
2f. blue and olive.
5f. violet and violet-brown.

Unpaid Letter stamps.

2c. violet-brown.
4c. violet.
5c. green.
10c. red.
20c. olive.
40c. brown on buff.
50c. brown on blue.
1f. blue.

Holland. DUTCH INDIES.—In chronicling the stamps specified below, we quote the following from Messrs. Whitfield King & Co.'s letter on the subject :—

"With reference to the set of Java enclosed, the set is complete with the exception of a 7½c. and 2½ gulden, which had not been issued at the date of our correspondent's letter. These, however, are expected by a subsequent mail; the 7½c. without surcharge may become a scarce stamp, as it has only been issued a few weeks. Our correspondent writes that the stamps overprinted with the word 'JAVA' are intended to be used only in Java and Madura. The stamps intended to be used in the other islands of the Dutch East Indies are surcharged 'BUITENBEZITTINGE.' so that there are only two sets, instead of a different set for each island, as was threatened some time ago."



Adhesives.

Overprinted "JAVA" in black.

½c. lilac.
1c. green.
2c. brown.
2½c. green.
3c. orange.
5c. red.
10c. grey.
12½c. blue.
13c. brown.
20c grey-green.
25c. lilac.
30c. orange-brown.
50c. red-brown.
1g. violet.

Nicaragua.—Two more Provisionals are listed by *Ewen's Weekly*, a 35c. and a 50c., both on the 6c. slate of the American Co.

Adhesives.

Vale 35c. in red on 6c. slate.
Vale 50c. ,, ,,

Paraguay.—*Ewen's Weekly* mentions the 1 peso of the pictorial design, lithographed.

Adhesive.

1 peso grey and black. Lithographed.

Salvador.—Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. send us a new pictorial set; also five values overprinted for use as Unpaid Letter stamps.



Adhesives.

1c. black and green.
2c. ,, red.
3c. ,, yellow.
5c. ,, blue.
10c. ,, violet.
13c. ,, violet.
15c. ,, brown.
24c. ,, red.
50c. ,, yellow.
100c. ,, pale blue.

Unpaid Letter stamps.

Overprinted "Deficiencia de Franqueo," and control mark, in black.

1c. black and green.
2c. ,, rose.
3c. ,, yellow.
5c. ,, blue.
10c. ,, violet.

Switzerland.—Mr. D. Ostara sends us a 40c. of a new design. It will be issued to the public on October 1st. Mr. Ostara's correspondent informs him that six other values, 20c., 25c., 30c., 70c., 1fr., and 3fr., will subsequently appear.



Adhesive.

40c. brown-violet and yellow.

Notes and News.

Canadian Tercentenary Commemoratives.

We are indebted to the kindness of Mr. William Hedges, of Hamilton, Canada, for the following cuttings from the Toronto *Globe*, giving particulars of the Canadian Tercentenary Commemorative issue of postage stamps:—

Ottawa, July 3rd.—(Special.)—Postmaster-General Lemieux has given instructions to issue a series of postage stamps commemorating the tercentenary.

They are eight in number. Four of them bear portraits of persons dear to Canada, or whose names recall great events. The first represents the Prince and Princess of Wales; the second, the King and Queen. Next come Cartier and Champlain, and then, in connection with the battlefields park scheme, Wolfe and Montcalm.

The second part of the issue represents Cartier's arrival before Quebec. On the calm waters of the mighty St. Lawrence stand in bold relief three ships of the discoverer of Canada, flying the fleur-de-lys.

As a sequel to the above is a very picturesque tableau. In Champlain's narrative of his third voyage to Canada is found the following passage:—

"With our canoes laden with provisions, our arms and some merchandise to be given as presents to the Indians, I started on Monday, May 27th, from the Isle of Saincte Helaine, accompanied by four Frenchmen and one Indian. A salute was given in my honor from some small pieces of artillery."

The artist, under the inspiration of these few lines, has depicted Champlain's departure for the west. There stand two canoes. In one Champlain's companions have already taken their places, paddle in hand, whilst the great explorer is still on shore, bidding good-bye to a few friends. The picture is full of life. The legend underneath reads as follows: "Partement de Champlain pour l'Ouest." The word "partement," now obsolete, is the one used by Champlain for the modern one "depart."

The same note of old France is used in connection with a view of the first house in Quebec, indeed, in Canada, Champlain's habitation, which is called in his narrative "l'Abitation de Quebec." This stamp is a clear reproduction of a cut from Champlain's work.

Quebec, as it was in 1707, is the next view; copied from Bacqueville de la Potherie's Historie de la Nouvelle, France. It is a quaint picture of the old city, showing steeples here and there, the fort on the river front and in faint lines the Laurentide Mountains in the background,

All stamps bear with the words "Canada postage" the line "iii. centennaire de Quebec."

The postmaster-general has given special attention to the selection of portraits and historical scenes to be represented. His choice has been an excellent one.

The carrying out of the engraving of the plan has been entrusted to Mr. Machado, of the American Bank Note Co., who, with keen artistic sense, has performed his part of the work with great success.—*Ewen's Weekly Stamp News.*

The Bhopal State.

The transfer of the Bhopal State Post Office to the Post Office of India, which took place on the 1st July, is an event of no small importance to the public and one that will interest philatelists. Her Highness the Begum, with her characteristic foresight and unselfishness in the interests of her subjects, has urged on the unification, which now brings every part of the Bhopal State into postal touch with the rest of the business world, and advantages that are sure to follow are just such as would appeal to a wise and thoughtful ruler.

The formal transfer took place at Bhopal where Major Bayley, Political Agent, Mr. Clark, the Deputy Director-General of Post Office, and Mr. O'Grady, the Deputy Postmaster-General, Central Provinces, were entertained by her Highness at her residence at Ahmedabad, an important step in the direction of improved communication being taken without any fuss, and concluded amid pleasant surroundings.

The Bhopal State Post Office, like all early postal systems, was first established for official purposes only in 1852, but was later thrown open to the public, the first postage stamps being struck in 1869. The money order system was introduced later, but remittances were limited to Rs. 5. Letters could be registered, but there was no provision for insurance and there was no savings bank. Stamps that will now be withdrawn from circulation are quarter anna, half, one, two, four, and eight annas, and one rupee, and a new stamp for use exclusively on the Bhopal State Service will be introduced shortly. Postage stamps affixed to all articles posted within the Bhopal State will, when obliterated, bear the impression of the Bhopal coat-of-arms. There will now be 50 post offices and 437 miles of mail lines, exclusive of railways, in the Bhopal territory.—*The Times of India.*

The Stamps of Bulgaria.

The "5" on 30 stot. with *black* surcharge, was for a long while excluded from the catalogues on the ground that it was a bogus variety, or at least a proof. That it was a proof was formerly the opinion of Mr. A. E. Glasewald, who read a paper on the "Stamps of Bulgaria" at the "X. Deutschen Philatelistentag." A correspondence, however, followed, in which Messrs. Max Thier, Hugo Krötzsch, and others took part, and the result was that the German experts appeared to agree that it was a genuinely issued variety. It is to German experts also that we owe the modern division of the "3" on 10 stot. into two separate varieties of surcharge—typographed and lithographed, and the classification of the *carmine* surcharges as typographed and the *vermilion* as lithographed. Any reader desirous of examining the question further will find it set out in full, with illustrations, in the *Mitteldeutsche Philatelisten-Zeitung* of 1898 and 1899.

Mr. Glasewald's paper also mentioned an error of the 5 stot., black and yellow (1881), in which the coloured ground is inverted. Like the similar Russian errors, this a variety that would easily pass unnoticed by a collector, for the only thing that could distinguish it would be a certain amount of irregularity in the colouring of the centre oval.

Before going on to describe the next issue of stamps, it may be pointed out that the inscriptions on Bulgarian stamps are not in Russian characters but in Bulgarian. "The Slav alphabet belongs to the Bulgarians. It was invented specially for them and they were the first to use it, the other Slav peoples borrowing it from them. The Cyrilian alphabet was the foundation of the Russian alphabet, and as the latter was the first known to stamp collectors, the part played by Russia with regard to the Slavs has misled philatelists."

In 1885 there appeared two new values of the already existing type—1 and 2 stotinki. The date of their issue is given by Moens as August, but they were shown at a meeting of the French Society as early as July 2nd, and probably, therefore, were issued in June.—*Alfred Smith & Son's Monthly Circular.*

Maldive Islands Postage.

DESCRIPTION OF THE FIRST ISSUE OF STAMPS.

It has already been mentioned that the Maldive Islands Government has received permission to issue a set of postage stamps to be specially struck for the use of residents of the islands. Correspondence on the subject has been passing between the Government officials of the Maldives and the Ceylon Government for nearly a year, but now almost all the details have been settled, and the Maldive representative, Abdul Hamid Didi, who is at present in Colombo, is in direct communication with the stamp-makers in England. The indent for the stamps will be sent to Europe in the course of a few weeks. The stamps will be in value 2 cents, 3 cents, 5 cents, and 10 cents. The stamps will be printed in different colours. In the centre is a representation of the minaret standing opposite the Mahomedan mosque at Male, the capital of the Maldives. The original is 50 feet in height and is said to be 800 years old. It is a squat-looking non-ornamental sort of thing, but is a Maldivian "landmark." The letterpress on the stamps will be Arabic and English. At the top of the stamp appears the words, in Arabic, "Maldive Postage," and at the foot the price of the stamp. On the right side the value of the stamp appears in English, and on the left the English word "Maldives." At present on the designs the value is printed in Arabic numerals at the four corners of the stamp, but for these numerals in the stamps proper English numerals will be substituted.—*The Advocate of India.*

France.

Our neighbours across the Channel seem to be tired of the uniformity of the design of their stamps, and a philatelic paper proposes, in all earnestness, the following portrait gallery for a new issue, even going as far as to produce some of the values:—

For the 1c.—Corneille, poet.
,, 2c.—Lavoisier, founder of modern chemistry.
,, 3c.—Denis Papin, discoverer of steam power.
,, 5c.—Vercingetorix, Gaulish chieftain fighting Cæsar.
,, 10c.—Victor Hugo, poet.
,, 15c.—Claude Bernard, founder of physiology; or Parmentier, who introduced potatoes.
,, 20.—Ampère, electrical scientist.
,, 25.—Pasteur, chemist & physicist.
,, 30c.—Voltaire, philosopher and writer.
,, 35c.—Gambetta, orator.
,, 40c.—Pascal, mathematician and writer.
,, 45c.—Niepce and Daguerre, inventors of photography.
,, 50c.—Frères Chappe and Frères Mongolfier, inventors of telegraphs and of balloons.
,, 1fr.—Proclamation of the Republic in 1870.
,, 5fr.—"The oath in the tennis court," after David.

Nicely executed, such a series would undoubtedly make an attractive page in our album. We, however, always understand the French to be a very gallant and polite nation, and are therefore surprised to find not a single lady considered worthy of being enrolled in the above gallery of renown.

Penny Postage to France.

The prospects of this most desirable arrangement are not very rosy just at present. The Prime Minister was recently interviewed on the subject by a deputation consisting of a large number of members of Parliament, but stated that the concession would cause a loss of £82,000 to the Imperial Revenue, and as at least £120,000 has just been sacrificed in the reduction of postal rates to America, and as exceptional demands for other objects will be made upon the finances of the country in the near future, he could hold out no hope of the immediate adoption of the scheme. There is of course no doubt that this concession, if granted, would be only the first of a series, and therefore we suppose that can only wait, and in Mr. Asquith's words "let the Government take its own time."

Norway.

The new inland postal tariff for Norway is as follows :—

Letters, local.—Up to 125gr., 5 oere; 125gr. to 500gr., 10 oere. Inland.—Up to 20gr., 10 oere; 20gr. to 125gr., 20 oere; 125gr. to 500gr., 30 oere.

Post-cards, local.—3, 3 + 3 oere. Inland. —5, 5 + 5 oere.

Printed matter.—Up to 20gr., 3 oere; 20gr. to 125gr., 5 oere; 125gr. to 250gr., 10 oere; 250gr. to 500gr., 15 oere.

Registration.—10 oere.

Money orders —Up to 5kr., 10 oere; 5kr. to 50kr., 15 oere; 50kr. to 100kr., 25 oere; 100kr. to 200kr., 30 oere; 200kr. to 300kr., 35 oere; 300kr. to 400kr., 40 oere; 400kr. to 500kr., 45 oere.

Parcels —Under 1kg., 30 oere; 1kg. to 3kg., 50 oere; 3kg. to 5kg., 75 oere; and 15 oere per each ½kg. afterwards.

Bavaria.

For some time, the stamps used for franking railway service letters in Bavaria have been surcharged with a large black E (Eisenbahn). This surcharging has caused a large demand by collectors, and the railway authorities have ordered all such stamps to be collected and forwarded at the end of each month to head-quarters at Munich. They have arranged with a dealer in Munich to deliver all stamps to him at the following rates :—10pf. for each 3pf. stamp; 5pf. for each 5pf. stamp; 30pf. for one hundred 10pf.; 50pf. for one hundred 20pf.; and for each 50pf., 60pf. to 100pf., according to obliteration. Quite a business, and well-paying at that! What is to hinder the railway administration from having a few thousand 3pf., 5pf., and 50pf. stamps obliterated at the Post Office?

Unpaid Letter stamps can now be bought in this country at most Post Offices, and can be obliterated if desired. Letters, however, cannot be franked with such stamps, and if any should be found, they are to be treated as unfranked.

Paraguay.

Mr. F. Westhofen notifies the following discoveries :—

(i.) 5c. on 2c. olive of 1904 (S.G., No. 124). with the surcharge of the figure 5 omitted. It is the last stamp of a row, and probably of the seventh row.

(ii.) The lithographed 2c. grey stamp of the 1901-2 issue (S.G., No. 61), imperforate vertically.

Roumania.

Mr. Kosack has found the following errors in the 1906 Exhibition Series of Roumania :

5 bani yellowish green and black, imperforate, the centre printed twice and three times.

10 bani carmine and black, imperforate, the centre printed twice.

1l. 50b. lilac and black, with inverted centre.

2l. 50b. yellow and deep brown, centre misplaced.

3 lei red-brown and deep brown, centre misplaced.

3 lei red-brown and deep brown, centre missing.

3 lei red-brown and deep brown, centre inverted.

France.

By a decree issued by the French Minister of Posts and Telegraphs, the 40 centimes stamp will be re-established, but the 4 centimes value will be suppressed as soon as the stock has been used up.

The Mart.

By Messrs. Gilbert & Köhler, in Paris, on June 1st, 2nd, 3rd, and 4th.

Approximate prices in English currency.

	£	s.	d.
France : 1849, 1 franc vermilion, on entire	7	16	0
1875, 10 × 15, bistre on rose, *se-tenant*,* with gum	12	0	0
15 × 15, bistre, *tête-bêche*	4	4	0
Obock : 1892, Postage Due, 5c. black, curved surcharge,* with gum (guaranteed)	15	0	0
Austrian Mercury : yellow, thin paper	4	9	0
Dark red,* with gum	61	12	0
Bulgaria : 1882, error, 5st. carmine on rose, used with three other stamps on entire	11	12	0
Spain : 1851, 2 reales red (two shades), 1or. green (2), and 6c black on piece	37	0	0
2 reales red	17	4	0
Madrid, 1c. bronze, on entire	15	4	0
1855, wmk. loops, 2 reales blue, error, *se-tenant*, with two 1r. and nine other 1r., on piece	32	8	0
1865, 12c. blue and rose, inverted frame, perf.	11	16	0
Finland : 1866-70, 1mk. brown, block of four, with 40 pen. (2), on piece	18	0	0
8pen. black on green, perf. 10½	36	0	0
1875, 5 × 5, orange, *tête-bêche* pair, perf. 12½	9	4	0
Great Britain : V.R., 1d. black,* without gum	9	4	0
1840, 2d blue, no lines, block of 10, with red pmk.	10	8	0
1d. red-brown on blue, *percé en lignes* (guaranteed)	8	4	0
1867, 2s. brown, with Colonial obliteration	4	0	0
I.R. Official, £1 brown-violet, 3 Crowns, slight defect	44	0	0
Naples : 1860, ½t., Arms	£12	4s.	and 12 16 0
Sardinia : 80c. yellow-bistre, head reversed, used on piece	13	12	0
Tuscany : 1851, 1 soldo yellow, used with 2 soldi (2), on piece	12	4	0
2 soldi bright brick-red, on piece	14	4	0
3 lire yellow	60	0	0

	£	s.	d.
Moldavia: 27 paras, with red pmk.	37	12	0
Ditto, with blue pmk., on entire	48	0	0
54 paras, with red pmk.	14	12	0
Ditto, with red pmk., on entire	17	4	0
81 paras	202	0	0
108 paras, with blue pmk.	40	16	0
Ditto, with blue pmk., on entire	44	16	0
Sweden: 1872, error Tretio	12	0	0
Service, 10 öre on 24 öre yellow, reversed surcharge	12	8	0
Switzerland: Geneva, 1843, double, 5c. × 5c.	20	16	0
Ditto, on entire	24	16	0
Large eagle, 5c. blue-green, block of 10, with gum	74	0	0
Vaud, 1849, 4c., with red pmk., on piece..	20	0	0
4c., ditto, two copies on entire	38	8	0
Basle, 1845, 2½r., very bright shade, on entire	15	4	0
Ditto, six copies on one entire	45	12	0
Zurich, 1843, 4r., Type 3, horizontal lines, on entire	11	0	0
Winterthur, 1858, 2½r., block of four ..	13	0	0
Switzerland: Poste Locale, 1850, 2½r., with no lines to Cross	10	0	0
1865, 2r. grey, used with half a 2r. as 3r...	16	0	0

By Messrs. Ventom, Bull & Cooper, on June 11th and 12th.

	£	s.	d.
Great Britain: 1855-7, 4d., small Garter,* blue safety paper, a mint pair ..	20	0	0
1876, 8d. brown-lilac, mint	2	15	0
£5 orange on blued paper	4	0	0
Govt. Parcels, 1s., King, block of 4, mint	3	15	0
Ceylon: 4d. rose, imperf.	10	0	0
1s. lilac,* imperf.	10	0	0
Labuan: 1879, wmk. sideways, 12c. mint ..	4	0	0
U.S.A.: 1869, 24c., inverted centre	6	0	0
New Zealand: 1d. vermilion, pelure paper	5	0	0
Western Australia: 1857, 2d. brown-black on red, used with another on piece ..	14	5	0
6d. golden-bronze, 1d. black, and 2d. orange (1860), all rouletted, on piece	10	0	0
1860, 2d. orange, rouletted, strip of 3* ..	8	10	0

Correspondence.

Philatelic Societies' Meetings.

To the Editor of the "Philatelic Record."

SIR,—Why is it that so many collectors continue to be members of Philatelic Societies year after year, and yet seldom if ever put in an appearance at the Meetings? That the proportion of members in nearly every leading Philatelic Society who attend the Meetings with any degree of regularity is far smaller than it ought to be is an acknowledged fact. Anyone who examines the membership list of his own Society will find there many names of men whom he never sees and of whom he knows nothing.

One of your contemporaries, commenting upon this unfortunate state of things, sighs for a return to the old "simple ideas of stamp collecting." In this he thinks he sees a remedy for the present unsatisfactory condition. To my mind the "simple ideas of stamp collecting" were that any kind of a specimen in any kind of condition was suitable for a place in a collection. Surely the writer, suffering perhaps from an attack of holiday slackness, has used the words "stamp collecting" instead of "philately." In that case I think his hammer may be on the way to hit the right nail on the head. Is it not possible, disguise the unpleasant fact as we may, that scientific philately, however attractive to the few, is tending in the direction of over-development at the expense of the interest of the many? All cannot be specialists, for there are limits of time, cash, and opportunities of acquiring philatelic treasures in very many cases. The prospect of a lengthy and learned dissertation upon the types, shades, papers, watermarks, etc., of a country about which he knows nothing, and of which he may perhaps not possess a single stamp, may keep many a medium collector (and perhaps, be it said in a whisper, many a specialist too) from a Meeting which he would otherwise attend.

Could there not with advantage be sometimes substituted for Papers or Displays dealing with a particular country, discussions on subjects of general interest? There are undoubtedly many matters upon which an expression of opinion would be greatly to the advantage of our hobby. Moreover, these would probably attract many less advanced collectors who, while unable as yet to fully appreciate the more scientific side of philately, could learn a good deal from such general discussions.

Then again, I think sufficient attention is often not paid to the social side of our hobby. Philatelists are but human, and the old saying "All work and no play makes Jack a dull boy" applies to them just as much as to other people. Social gatherings, of course within reasonable limits, bring collectors into closer personal touch with one another. They also afford opportunities of conversation and exchange of ideas which cannot possibly occur in the course of ordinary Meetings.

I beg respectfully to commend these considerations to Secretaries of Philatelic Societies, especially at this time of year, when they are busy with arrangements for the coming winter. Probably they are racking their brains as to how to make their Meetings more attractive. Or, as seems often the case, after many fruitless efforts, they have given up the attempt in despair, and are framing their programmes to suit only those upon whose regular attendance they can reasonably rely.

Apologising for my lengthy letter, which however deals with what is, in my humble opinion, a serious question, and one which should be faced without further delay.—I remain, Yours faithfully,

ONE OF THE MEDIUMS.

August 14th, 1908.

THE

Philatelic Record.

SEPTEMBER, 1908.

Editorial Notes.

IT is just seventy-one years ago since the late Sir Rowland Hill published his famous pamphlet in favour of penny postage, which so impressed the people of the United Kingdom with the great advantages of his scheme, that no fewer than 2,000 petitions were presented in its favour. There were some, however, in those so-called "good old days," who feared that such a drastic reduction in revenue would spell bankruptcy to the Post Office; and so for three years the battle for and against the humble penny rate was carried on with increasing vigour, until finally, in 1840, Sir Rowland's scheme was adopted, with results which are known to everybody and are a matter of history.

Inland Penny Postage.

The fundamental principle of Sir Rowland Hill's scheme was a uniform rate for inland letters, and, seeing the great difficulty in establishing any uniform rate higher than the minimum then (1836) in use, viz., one penny, he had to consider whether it could be fixed as low as that sum, or, in other words, what loss of net revenue would be involved in the adoption of a penny rate; and next, whether such loss would be admissible for the sake of the great advantages to be thereby secured.

He was able to show that the expenses of the receipt and delivery were the same for all letters, while the cost of conveyance was only a third of that amount; for whereas the cost upon all letters, newspapers, etc., within the United Kingdom was on the average only eighty-four hundredths of a penny each, of this sum only one-third, or twenty-eight hundredths of a penny, went in conveyance; and in particular, that the cost per letter of the mail between London and Edinburgh was no more than one-sixth of a penny per letter, although the cost of receipt and delivering came to over a half-penny, and was, in fact, exactly the same as in the case of a letter from one street to the next in the same town.

What was true in the days of which we are speaking (1836-1840) is true to-day—in fact, the ratio of the cost of conveyance to the cost of distribution is smaller to-day than in Sir Rowland Hill's time—and this fact is a very important one for those to bear in mind who advocate

any further reduction in the postage in favour of what are termed local letters—the establishment of a system of local town posts, such as is in vogue in Germany, and other places on the continent. The concessions in the rates made by the Post Office upon inland letters during the past half-century have all tended in the direction of allowing greater weight, the single letter weight having risen from ½oz. to 4oz., while the mighty penny still remains the rate.

Whether the Post Office are wise in this action, we must leave others to judge. It is, however, based upon the theories of Sir Rowland Hill, and a continuity of his scheme, whereas any differentiation in the rates for inland letters would be entirely antagonistic thereto.

Universal Penny Postage.

Sir Rowland Hill's arguments upon the question of cost of dealing with letters proves of exceptional service when we come to deal with international rates, and although his scheme was for inland letters, much in it, especially in view of the increased facilities of cheap transit now-a-days, is applicable to foreign letters; and in connection with these, it is to be observed that the reductions which have been made in the rates during the past ten years have, as distinguished from inland letters, been in the direction of a reduced fee per letter, and no increased allowance in the matter of weight.

In 1840 international rates were then fixed, and a bewildering number of charges were made. Nearly every foreign country could boast of a special rate; sometimes we had several rates to one and the same country. Then the day of the Union Postale Universelle dawned, and for the first time a uniform postal system was established—at least with most countries. Since then a continuous agitation has been carried on in favour of the reduction of all rates of postage, principally the letter rate, to various parts of the world, and slowly, but surely, we have seen some reforms carried through. Germany began by making special arrangements with Austria and Switzerland; Great Britain followed with the penny rate to all her Colonies; then the arrangement was made with the United States for a penny rate to come into force on October 1st. The next to move were Holland and Belgium for some private arrangements for a reduced tariff. The latest agitation, to which we have several times drawn attention in the columns of this paper, is that in favour of a penny rate with France, for which for a number of years the business public of both countries have been clamouring, and the feeling for which has, perhaps, been intensified by the Franco-British Exhibition. A deputation of Members of Parliament has now moved in the matter, and it is not too much to hope that the heavy tax of 2½d. will soon be a thing of the past, both countries being generally in favour of a reduced fee.

The volume of correspondence between the United Kingdom and France is exceeded only by that between this country and Germany, so far as the continent of Europe is concerned, and of late years it has increased considerably. Possibly at the present moment, in view of the Exhibition, the weight of correspondence with our near neighbours is heavier than that with Germany. Be that as it may, a more suitable

moment for such a reform could not be found, and it would be a lasting memento of the *entente cordiale*, and the year when these two great nations have been drawn so closely together.

But casting all sentiment aside—and we write now from a business point of view—it seems ridiculous that the narrow strip of water which divides the two countries should be the reason for an additional 1½d. on letters, when the three thousand miles to the States forms no impediment to a penny rate.

It is the penny postage rate which principally contributes to swell the revenue which flows into the exchequer of the Postmaster-General, and which makes the Post Office the best paying Government department of this country. It is common knowledge, too, that wherever the postal rates have been reduced, in a comparatively short time the initial loss is more than recovered, so great has been the increase in the volume of correspondence.

In fact, the American Postmaster-General has already told an interviewer that the cheaper postage to England will fill even the mail-bags of Nola Chucky. Thereby hangs a tale. At Nola Chucky some years ago an old man was appointed Postmaster. Several weeks passed, and complaints began to be made by people in the village that letters they had written had not reached their correspondents. An inspector came down from head-quarters to look through the office. He quickly discovered a hundred or so dusty letters, addressed to outside places, that the Postmaster had kept by him. "Why on earth, sir," he inquired sternly, "didn't you send these off?" "I was waiting," replied the old fellow, "till the bag got full."

Notable Philatelists.

D. S. Garson.

MR. DAVID SOLOMON GARSON, J.P., was born on February 25th, 1859, at Morocco, but when only an infant his parents removed to Gibraltar, where he was educated, and in 1876 he came to England with his father for a few months, returning on a second visit in 1878. In the following year the family came to England, and the subject of our sketch joined his father and brother in business as merchants and shippers in Manchester, a firm which has met with a considerable degree of prosperity and of which Mr. Garson is now the head.

He is one who in the past has taken a very great interest, and still is an active worker, politically and socially, in the city of his adoption.

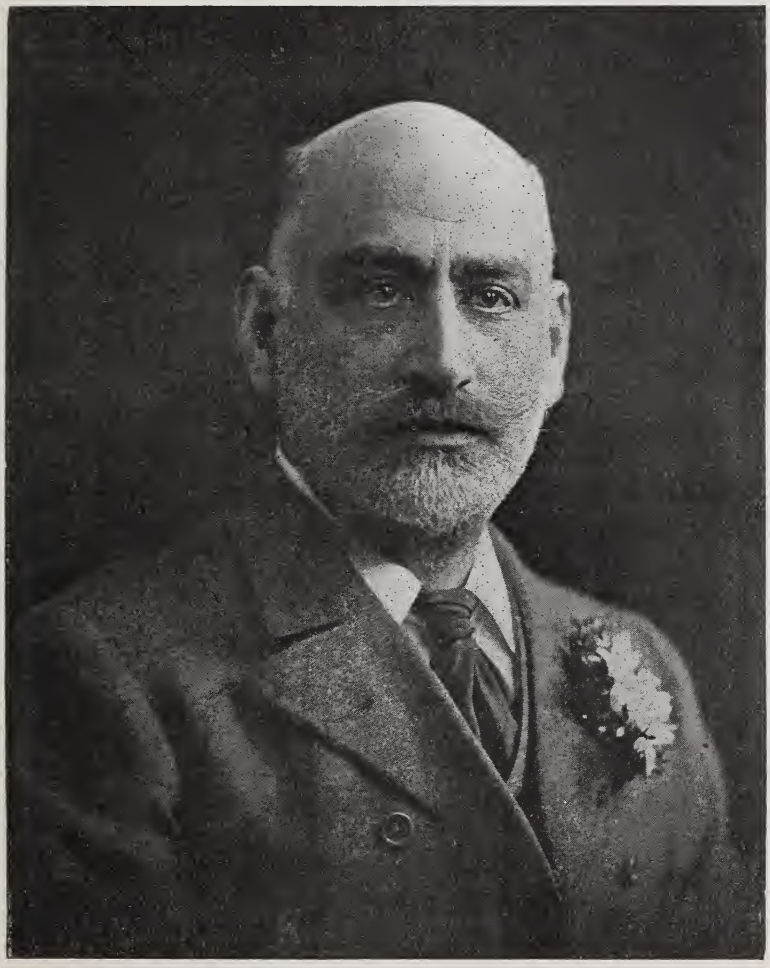
His collection dates from his school days, and curiously enough, when he began to collect he confined his attention entirely to unused Colonials and has remained true to them ever since. So pronounced have Mr. Garson's feelings always been upon this question that he has never, ever since he commenced collecting, purchased any used stamps for his albums—surely a record, bearing in mind when he first commenced. The collection is one of stamps in mint condition of Great Britain and Colonies of the Victorian period, and although it is not specialised in the sense in which the term is understood to-day, Mr. Garson possesses a collection of very considerable interest and merit. Although not a specialist, it is curious to note that in referring to his collection Mr. Garson seemed to derive a special pleasure from drawing our attention to a minor variety of the 1d. on 2½d. St. Vincent in mint condition with three bars instead of two bars erasing the value, which he informed us was the only copy known. His British North Americans are perhaps the strongest, although the Africans are choice and New South Wales particularly attractive in the varieties of watermark.

In 1888 Mr. Garson was appointed the official representative of the inhabitants of Gibraltar to the Colonial Office of England, a position which he held until his resignation in 1891.

He also helped through Viscount Sidmouth for the building of a dock at Gibraltar, which is now almost completed, and in 1888, when it was proposed to impose a custom house on the colony of Gibraltar, Mr. Garson, as the official representative, successfully battled against any infraction of the rights of the colony as a free port.

Mr. Garson evinced a great interest in the Manchester Exhibition of 1899, at which he showed his collection and secured a silver medal. Since then he has been content to rest on his laurels, going forward slowly but steadily in adding rarities as the opportunity arises of acquiring them in the beautiful condition of his stamps generally.

Notable Philatelists.



D. S. Garson.

The Universal Postal Union.

A Paper read before the Manchester Philatelic Society, on Mar. 6th, 1908.

By I. J. Bernstein.

(Continued from Page 145).

LIKE with every other great invention or great reform, the inception or origin of the Universal Postal Union has been claimed by many. The idea of a Postal Union was promulgated in 1859 by a Joseph Michaelson, a Danish Post Office official, but even so long ago as 1811 he was anticipated by a German named Klüber, who wrote :—"The Post Office, like the Arts and Sciences, should be governed in a cosmopolitan sense and should assume a universal character. In the interests of humanity we should consider that it is an institution belonging to the whole civilised world, for when it does not exist culture is plunged in a chaotic night." The links that bind the intellectual world are so numerous and so close that we are bound to look upon it as a universal institution that cannot be considered any one person's absolute creation. To Mr. Blair we may, however, give the credit of initiating a movement which Von Stephan undoubtedly brought to a head.

On the 15th September, 1874, then the second occasion of meeting, the subject was attacked in real earnest in all its bearings, and after deliberating till October, 1874, the following principles were adopted and substituted for the *status quô*.

1st. That a common régime should be accepted throughout the whole postal service of the world, to be regulated by a single treaty.

2nd. That the right of transit by land or by sea should be guaranteed by every country to every other country.

3rd. That the onus of providing for the conveyance of mails should rest on the country of origin, all intermediate services used by such country being paid for at fixed rates and upon the basis of periodical statistics.

4th. That every country should keep the whole of its postage collections, whether on prepaid or unpaid correspondence, so as to sweep away the great mass of detailed international accounts.

The first article of the treaty has been variously translated. I give two examples as curious methods of expressing the same sentiment. The treaty says :—"The countries between which the present treaty is concluded shall form, under the title of 'General Postal Union,' a

single postal territory for the reciprocal exchange of correspondence between their post offices."

The British Postmaster-General says :—"All contracting States should form theoretically one State, and amongst them identical principles in the exchange of mail matter should prevail."

The treaty was signed at Berne on the 9th October, 1874, by all the European Powers, Asiatic Russia, Turkey and Egypt, and United States of America, and took effect from the 1st July, 1875, in every country except France, where the matter had to be referred to Parliament. Even the British Post Office of the colony of Malta was included. On 1st January, 1876, France, Algeria and Monaco fell into line as did the British Post Office at Gibraltar.

The rates were generally fixed at 25 centimes, or its equivalent, 2½d. in England, etc., and the unit of weight 15gr. for those countries using a decimal system, and ½oz. for others. Within certain limits, 32 to 20 centimes, or its equivalent ; however each country was free to fix its own rates. France, Italy, Russia and Greece put their unit at 30 centimes, or the nearest equivalent to that sum in their national currency.

This was the cause of a certain amount of confusion, as English people abroad conceived the idea that if a letter from England only cost 2½d., a letter from France to England could go for the same amount. In after years, as you know, all countries came into a line and a uniform rate for foreign correspondence was fixed at 2½d., or 25 centimes by all members of the Postal Union.

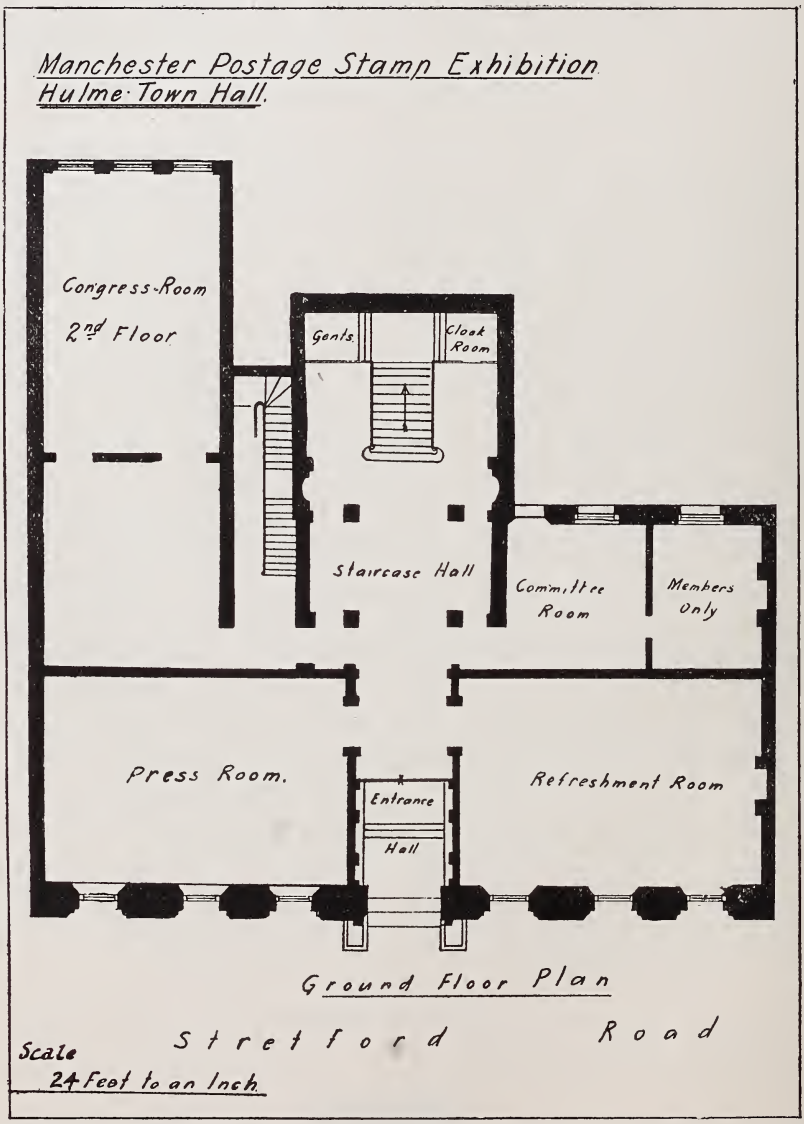
For letters conveyed by sea a distance of three hundred miles an additional charge could be made not exceeding half the prescribed rate. Hence we had the 2½d. and 4d. rate in Great Britain.

The matters discussed and settled at the Congress covered practically every point, ranging from the fixing of rates, the handling of papers, patterns, to the return of dead letters to the country of their origin. Even the forms for the accounts, way-bills, and other communications between the offices of the contracting parties were arranged, and specimens attached to the treaty. One of the regulations of particular interest to philatelists was that arranging that the Central Administration, that is the office of the Universal Postal Union, should be supplied with specimens of all stamps by each country that were valid for postage purposes. Six hundred stamps are usually sent, of which four to six are redistributed to the States forming the Union, and the idea is that they should have undoubtedly authentic stamps with which to compare any they may find on correspondence which arouse their suspicion.

(To be continued.)

Manchester Postage Stamp Exhibition, 1909.

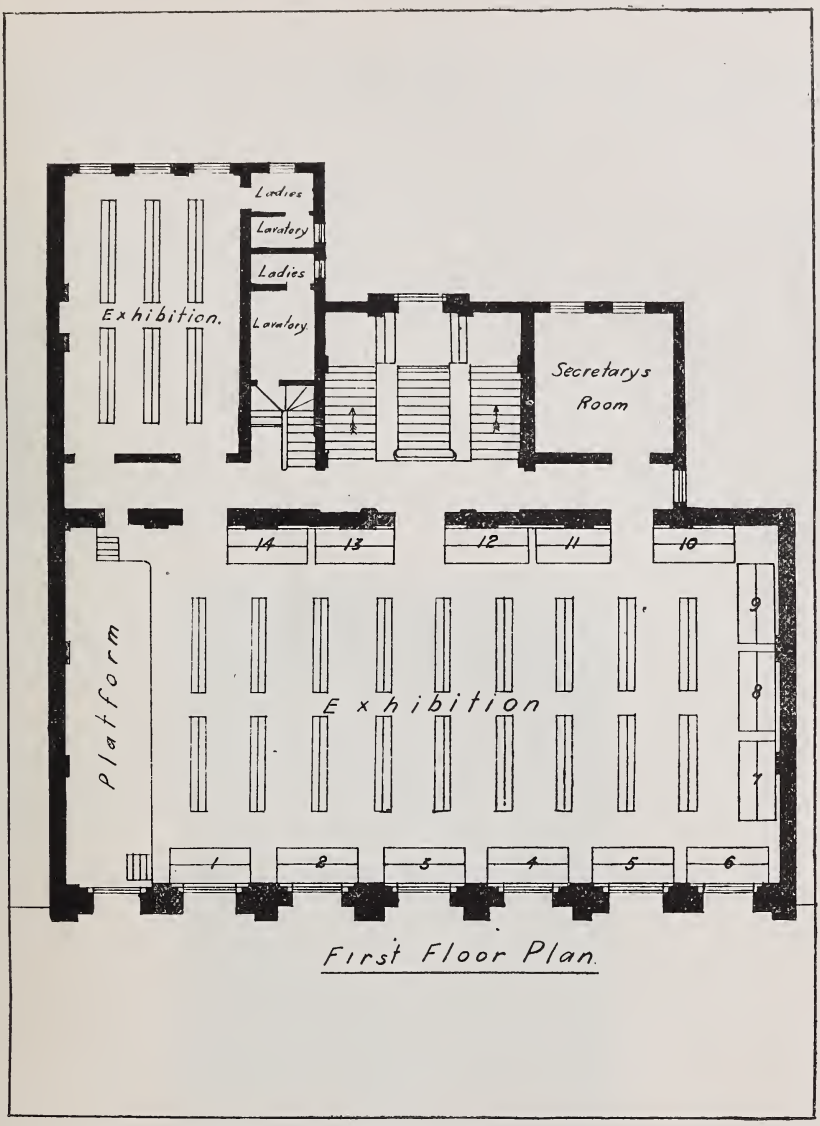
AS will be seen by the following plans of the Exhibition, there is ample accommodation for the large crowd of visitors that are expected to attend. It has been arranged that the show of stamps shall be entirely on one floor, and the number of frames that will be in use will allow of a large, varied, and interesting lot of stamps being shown. Ample space has been left for viewing the exhibits in comfort, and although there will be no



competition for medals, every exhibitor will receive a memento of the Exhibition, suitable for framing. Space has been allotted for fourteen dealers' stalls, and it is anticipated that early application for these will be necessary.

The Congress room on the floor above the Exhibition is most commodious, and it is to be hoped that it will be filled by delegates all eager to discuss burning matters of philately.

A large number of Societies have already notified their intention of participating and subscribing towards the funds necessary.



First Floor Plan.

The Committee beg to acknowledge with many thanks the subscriptions given below :—

	£	s.	d.
M. Albrecht, Esq.	3	3	0
W. Grunewald, Esq.	2	2	0
G. F. H. Gibson, Esq.	2	2	0
W. Dorning Beckton, Esq. ...	2	2	0
Humphrey Bennett, Esq. ...	1	1	0
C. Nissen, Esq.	1	1	0
Nathan Heywood, Esq.	1	1	0
Dr. Floyd	1	1	0
I. J. Bernstein, Esq.	1	1	0
J. S. Higgins, Esq.	1	1	0
J. S. Higgins, jun., Esq.... ...	1	1	0
A. Conboy, Esq.	1	1	0
J. R. M. Albrecht, Esq.	1	1	0
J. C. North, Esq.	1	0	0
J. J. Darlow, Esq....	1	0	0
D. A. Berry, Esq....	1	0	0
W. W. Munn, Esq.	0	10	6
G. White, Esq.	0	10	6
J. Taylor, Esq.	0	10	6
Mrs. A. H. Bridson	0	10	6
W. H. M. Savage, Esq.	0	10	6
K. H. Kricorrissian, Esq. ...	0	10	6
W. Jung, Esq.	0	10	6
Total	£23	9	6

J. R. M. Albrecht, *Hon. Sec. and Treasurer*,
Exhibition Offices, 9, Albert Square, Manchester.

Notes on Two Rarities of Uruguay.

By R. B. Yardley.

THE enlarged illustrations, A and B, reproduce two of the rarities of Uruguay. Illustration A, which is usually referred to as the second type of the Diligencia stamps, has been found only in the value 60 centavos. The design differs considerably in detail from the ordinary or so-called first type, notably in the following particulars:— The number of the rays of the sun is only sixty-seven instead of one hundred and four—the extremities of the rays being trimmed off so as to produce a scalloped edge; in the substitution of the double series of short vertical lines for the Greek or key-pattern border at the sides of the stamps; the word "Diligencia" differs in length and shape of the letters, and the dimensions of the stamp are not the same as in Type I.



TYPE A.

Very little is known of the origin or status of this variety. It is now accepted that the Diligencias and the large oblong stamp of November, 1857, were issued by Señor Lapido, who, under contract with the Government, provided the diligences or public coaches, and also undertook the conveyance of the mails as a private venture until some time in the year 1859, when the conveyance of the mails was taken over by the Government. An account of these old diligences or mail posts will be found in *Le Timbre Poste* of June, 1866 (vol. iv., p. 51), under the pen of Dr. Wonner. For official documents and discussion thereon, see articles by Dr. Wonner in the *Bulletin* of the French Society of Timbrologie (vol. iii., p. 216 *et seq.*), *Le Timbre Poste* (vol. xxiii., p. 107), and the

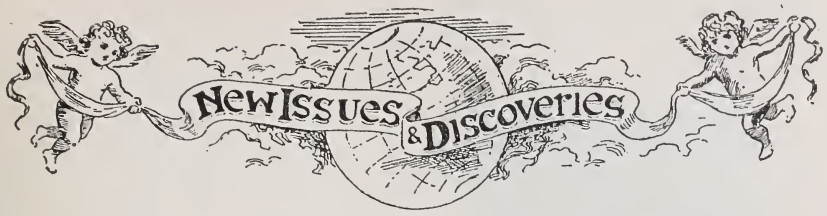
Philatelic Record (vol. xi., p. 1). The 60 centavos Diligencia, Type II., was first illustrated in *Le Timbre Poste* of September, 1866 (vol. iv., p. 76); it was also shown in the *Stamp Collector's Magazine* of October, 1866 (vol. iv., p. 153). It may be mentioned that, according to Dr. Wonner, the sheets of the "Diligencias," Type I., contained thirty-five stamps in five horizontal rows of seven (*Bulletin* of the French Society of Timbrologie, vol. iii., p. 218). He states that he possessed a complete pane of the 80 centavos. They were undoubtedly produced by lithography, and Mr. Hugo Griebert pointed out that in the 80 centavos and 1 real, if not in the 60 centavos, the position of the value varied considerably. I may refer to his paper in the *Deutsche Briefmarken-Zeitung* of January, 1900, vol. xi., p. 3, which is illustrated, and to some later notes in the *London Philatelist* (vol. x., p. 95). This variation in the value labels is of course easily explained by the use of transfers, the lower labels, and the rest of the design respectively, being applied separately to the stone.

As regards Type II. of the 60 centavos, very little is known. According to Dr. Wonner, it was found by Señor Vasconcellos and Señor Durante on old letters of 1856 and 1859. The specimen from which Illustration A is taken is on a small piece of blue letter paper, and I am told that recently two specimens have been found on letters. There is no evidence one way or the other indicating whether it appeared before or after the 60 centavos, Type I. But, although the existence of two distinct types for one particular value may be somewhat puzzling, yet if the letters bearing stamps of Type II. were actually found as related, there can be no valid reason for regarding them as mere essays. As they, and also the other "Diligencias," were produced by Señor Lapido for his own purposes, it is highly improbable that any official information will be forthcoming, and the only source of information would be in Señor Lapido's own archives, or those of his lithographer, Señor Mége.



Type B.

Illustration B.—This stamp very closely resembles the 1 peso of the 1st May, 1879, from which it differs in having the coat of arms reversed, and the escutcheon and flags and crest drawn somewhat smaller. The reversal is that of an image of the actual coat of arms in a mirror, and is doubtless due to the omission on the part of the die sinker to reverse the arms when engraving the die. The plate was made by the American Bank Note Company, which at the same time made the plates of the 1 centavo, 5, 10, 20, and 50 centavos of January 1st, 1877; and it appears that a printing (in blue) was made of the 1 peso from this defective plate, but the error having been discovered by the officials in Montevideo, the whole printing was ordered to be destroyed. However, a few specimens must have escaped this holocaust. Two accounts of this transaction, by Señor Panately and Dr. Wonner respectively, differing slightly in details, are to be found in *Le Timbre Poste* (vol. xviii., p. 108, and vol. xix., p. 49) to which the reader is referred. But in any event it would appear that no specimens were ever issued for postal use. The 1 peso of the same series, with the arms correctly drawn, was not issued until some time after the 1st May, 1879 (see an official notice of the 1st May, 1879, quoted by Dr. Wonner in the third volume of the *Bulletin* of the French Society of Timbrologie at p. 332). It should be mentioned that I have seen a specimen of the type with the arms reversed, which showed a portion of the adjacent stamp; this proves that it was not a die proof, but an impression from the condemned plate. There can be no doubt that the second plate was prepared from a secondary die, made from the first erroneous die, as all the details, except as to the escutcheon and its immediate neighbourhood and surroundings, are identical with those of the latter.



The earliest information as to New Issues will be much appreciated by us, and will be duly credited to the correspondent, or firm, sending it. Our foreign subscribers can materially help us in this direction. When possible, a specimen should accompany the information, and be addressed to

G. Fred. H. Gibson, *Fairfield, Crumpsall, Manchester.*

The British Empire.

British Solomon Islands. — Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. write as follows :—

"We have received a letter from this "place, stating that advice has been re- "ceived of the despatch from London of "the stamps of the new issue, and they "were expected to arrive within the course "of a few weeks ; accordingly they may be "expected here by an early mail. Our "correspondent states that at the time of "his writing the ½d., 1d., and 2d. stamps "of the first issue were sold out, and that "immediately the new stamps arrived all "that remained in stock of the first issue "would be burnt."

Nyasaland Protectorate.—Mr. W. H. Peckitt sends us specimens of the new set listed in July last, and we illustrate the designs below.





Papua.—Mr. W. H. Peckitt sends us the recent 6d. of the permanent type, perforated 12½.

Tasmania.—Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. send us the pictorial 6d., watermarked Crown and A, and perforated 12½.



Adhesive.
Wmk. Crown and A. Perf. 12½.
6d. carmine-lake.

Foreign Countries.

Austria. Offices in the Levant.— Following upon the issue of certain values of the current set for use in Crete, the following have been issued, with denominations expressed in paras and piastres, for the purposes of these offices.

Adhesives.

10 paras green on yellow.
20 ,, red on rose.
30 ,, brown on buff.
60 ,, violet on lilac.
1 piastre dark blue on blue.
2 piastres red on yellow.
5 ,, brown on grey.
10 ,, green on yellow.
20 ,, blue on grey.

Unpaid Letter stamps.

¼ pias. yellow-green.
½ ,, ,,
1 ,, ,,
1½ ,, ,,
2 ,, ,,
5 ,, ,,
10 ,, ,,
20 ,, ,,
30 ,, ,,

Brazil.—Mr. W. H. Peckitt sends us specimens of the two Commemorative stamps referred to last month, and these we illustrate below.





Danish West Indies.—Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. send us four values of a new set bearing a portrait of King Frederick VIII.; they make a very good appearance.



Adhesives.
5 bit green.
10 ,, carmine.
20 ,, green and blue.
25 ,, blue.

Holland. Dutch Indies.—A correspondent of the *Postage Stamp* states that he has the 12½c. surcharged "Java," with the overprint inverted.

Adhesive.
12½c. blue. Surcharged "JAVA," *inverted*.

Luxemburg. — All the values of the current set have been overprinted with the word "Officiel," diagonally, in fancy type, in black.

Official stamps.
Adhesives.
1c. grey.
2c. brown.
4c. olive-yellow.
5c. green.
6c. violet.
10c. red.
12½c. grey-black.
15c. brown-red.
20c. orange.
25c. blue.
30c. olive-green.
37½c. green.
50c. dull blue.
87½c. steel-blue.
1f. violet.
2f. red orange.
5f. red-violet.

Panama, Republic of.—*Gibbons' Stamp Weekly* lists the ½c., 2c., and 5c., with centre inverted.



Adhesives
Errors, with centre inverted.
½c. carmine, blue-green and orange.
2c. carmine and black.
5c. blue and black.

Paraguay. — We have been sent by Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. two fresh Provisionals. This time the 1p. Official of 1904 and the 1c. pale blue ordinary of the same year have been pressed into use.

Adhesives.
Surcharged "Habilitado en 5 centavos" in black.
1c. pale blue.
Surcharged "Habilitado" in black.
1p. black and orange.

Siam.—The *Philatelic Adviser* states that the current 1 att now comes with the frame in orange in lieu of yellow.

Spain. Rio de Oro.—*Ewen's Weekly* chronicles a new Provisional formed by overprinting the 75c. of the 1907 set.

Adhesive.
15c. on 75c. red-brown.

Uruguay.—*Meekeel's Weekly* notes that the Official surcharge upon the current set now appears in smaller type than heretofore.

Wurtemburg. — *Ewen's Weekly* states that the two remaining values of the Official set, the 30pf. and 50pf., have now appeared upon watermarked paper.

Notes and News.

Manchester Philatelic Society.

SESSION 1908-9.

President - - - W. DORNING BECKTON.
Secretary - - - G. FRED. H. GIBSON.

SYLLABUS.

1908.
Oct. 2.—Paper, "The Type-Set Provisionals of British Guiana" .. ..W. D. BECKTON.
,, 9.—Paper, "The Making of a Stamp (Methods of Paper making)".. ..J. STELFOX GEE.
,, 16.—Display with Notes, "Bavaria" J. C. NORTH.
,, 17.—Demonstration of Paper-making and Printing. Municipal School of Technology, 2.30 p.m.
,, 23.—Paper, "The Making of a Stamp (Materials used in Paper-making)".. J. H. ABBOTT.
,, 30.—Display with Notes, "Italian States on Entires" .. A. P. WALKER (Birminghan Philatelic Society).
Nov. 6.—Paper, "The Making of a Stamp (Varieties of Paper)" .. .. J. K. KING.
,, 13.—Display with Notes, "Western Australia" W. W. MUNN.
,, 20.—Paper, "The Making of a Stamp (Watermarks)" .. .. J. H. TAYLOR.
,, 27.—Display of Artistic Stamps (limited to six by each Member).
"Five Minutes with Interesting Stamps" G. F. H. GIBSON, I. J. BERNSTEIN.
Dec. 4.—Paper, "The Making of a Stamp (Engraving and Surface Printing)" .. C. H. COOTE.
,, 11.—Display with Notes, "Surface Printed Stamps of Great Britain, 1855–1884" W. M. GRAY (Vice-President, Bradford Philatelic Society).
1909.
Jan. 15.—Paper, "Finland" E. PHILPOT-CROWTHER (President, Cardiff Philatelic Society).
,, 22.—Paper, "The Making of a Stamp (Lithography)" .. .. W. W. MUNN.
,, 29.—Paper, "Baden" .. .. G. B. DUERST.
Feb. 5.—Paper, "The Making of a Stamp (Gumming)" .. .. .. J. R. M. ALBRECHT.
,, 12.—Display with Notes, "Brazil" W. D. BECKTON.
,, 19, 20, 21.—Junior Philatelic Society's Exhibition and Congress, Hulme Town Hall.
,, 26.—Display with Notes, "United States, 1847–1869" W. E. WHITNALL (Liverpool Philatelic Society).
Mar. 5.—Paper, "The Making of a Stamp (Rouletting and Perforating)".. .. .. D. OSTARA.
,, 12.—Display with Notes, "Liberia" J. H. ABBOTT.
,, 19.—Paper, "The Making of a Stamp (Arrangement into Sheets)" .. I. J. BERNSTEIN.
,, 26.—Display with Notes, "Gwalior" J. S. HIGGINS, jun.

Germany.

A new tariff for printed matter has just been published by the German Post Office as follows :—

Up to 50 grammes, 2pf. ; by express, 4pf.
From 50–100 grammes, 5pf. ; by express, 6pf.
From 100–250 grammes, 10pf. ; by express, 13pf.
From 250–500 grammes, 20pf. ; by express, 23pf.
From 500–1,000 grammes, 30pf. ; by express, 35pf.

Portugal.

It is said that stamps bearing the portrait of King Manuel II. will be issued on the 1st of January next.

Junior Philatelic Society: Manchester Branch.

The opening meeting of the Society was held at the Deansgate Hotel, on September 17th, about forty members being present.

The President (I. J. Bernstein, Esq.), in his opening address, referred to the progress the Society was making and to the forthcoming Philatelic Exhibition and Congress to be held at the Hulme Town Hall, on February 18th, 19th, and 20th next.

The Congress, which will be the first of its kind to be held in Great Britain, promises to be a big success, many of the leading philatelists and Societies having promised their support.

After the Presidential address, a display of members' stamps proved of great interest, amongst the exhibits being those of Mr. J. R. M. Albrecht, whose collection of essays and proofs created much interest. Mr. S. C. Buckley showed his collection of Great Britain, Mr. J. J. Darlow displayed a few sheets of rare and interesting stamps, including the 6d. and 1s. 1851 Nova Scotia, unused. Mr. J. G. Horner's collection of China included many uncommon varieties ; Mr. K. H. Kricorissian's collection contained many rare British stamps used abroad.

SYLLABUS.

1908.
Sep. 17.—6 p.m., Bourse ; 7 p.m., Presidential Address ; 7.45 p.m. * General Display by Members.
Oct. 1.—6 p.m., Bourse ; 7.30 p.m., Paper, "Printing of Stamps," Dr. FLOYD.
,, 15.—6 p.m., Bourse ; 7.30 p.m., Paper, "Paper and Perforation of Stamps," I. J. BERNSTEIN.
Nov. 5.—6 p.m., Bourse ; 7.15 p.m., Display with Notes, "St. Lucia," J. J. DARLOW ; 7.45 p.m., Paper, "A few notes on Current Issues," H. J. HORNER.
,, 19.—*6.30 p.m., Auction.
Dec. 3.—*Social.
,, 17.—6 p.m., Bourse ; 7.15 p.m., Display with Notes, "Niger Coast Protectorate," J. S. HIGGINS, jun. ; 7.45 p.m., Paper, "Minor Varieties of Afghanistan," W. WARD.
1909.
Jan. 21—6 p.m., Bourse ; 7.15 p.m., Display with Notes, "South Australia," W. W. MUNN : 7.45 p.m., Paper, "How to run a School Philatelic Society," F. W. ATACK.
Feb. 4.—6 p.m., Bourse ; 7.15 p.m., Discussion, "Should Damaged Stamps be Collected ? " Affirmative, W. H. HORROCKS.
,,*18, 19, & 20.—Stamp Exhibition in Hulme Town Hall. Offices of the Stamp Exhibition, 9, Albert Square, Manchester.
Mar. 4.—*6.30 p.m., Auction.
,, 18.—6 p.m., Bourse ; 7.15 p.m., Display, "German Colonies," P. S. BARTON ; 7.45 p.m., Paper, "What I think Fit," J. TAYLOR.
Apr. 1.—6 p.m., Bourse : 7.15 p.m., Display with Notes, "St Christopher," J. J. DARLOW ; 7.45 p.m., Paper, "Varieties of Type," J. MALINGS.
,, 15.—6 p.m., Bourse ; 7.30 p.m., Paper, "Stamps worth looking for," I. J. BERNSTEIN.
May 7.—*6 p.m., Bourse ; 7.15 p.m., Annual Meeting.
June *—Annual Picnic.

* Full details of these Meetings will be announced in the Philatelic Press.

Austria.

Several values of the Austrian Jubilee issue show errors. On some stamps of the 25 heller value the inscription "FRANCISCUS," reads "PRANCISCUS"; the 73rd and 93rd stamps on the sheets of the 35 heller value read "ERANCISCUS."

The 1 heller stamp appears now printed on pure white, instead of on yellowish paper.

Austria intends to follow the lead of other countries, and to issue small books of stamps. Each booklet will contain eighteen stamps of 5 heller in three sheets, and six stamps of 10 heller in one sheet. The price will be 1 krone 52 heller, the 2 heller being for the cover, on which is to be printed the Austrian eagle.

Philatelic Friendship.

We take the following from the last Annual Report of the Philatelic Society of Johannesburg, which is signed by the President, Mr. C. R. Schuler:—

"The following papers were read during the year:—'Chat on Boer War Stamps,' Mr. A. Sonn; 'A Philatelic Mare's Nest,' Mr. T. Henderson; 'Chances Lost and Taken,' Mr. J. A. Ornstein; 'Orange Free State Stamps,' Mr. W. S. Jacobson; 'Why I specialize,' Mr. W. P. Cohen; 'How to form a Collection,' Mr. M. P. Vallentine; 'B.S.A. Stamps,' Mr. F. H. Ansell; 'History of the Johannesburg Philatelic Society in the early 90's,' Mr. T. Henderson; 'Swaziland Stamps,' Mr. F. H. Ansell; 'Humorous side of Philately,' Mr. A. J. Cohen; 'Issues of first design of St. Helena,' Mr. J. A. Ornstein; Early issues of New Zealand,' Mr. P. Cohen.

"While upon this subject, I should like to state that it seems to me a pity that the better and more instructive papers upon which so much thought and labour have been bestowed, and which contain so much useful information, should, after they have been read and discussed at a particular meeting, be pigeon-holed and practically forgotten except for casual mentioning of one or the other. In my opinion such papers have not fulfiled their mission—they should be available for constant reference not only to us, but to other societies in Africa and abroad. Though philatelists have so many things in common, yet, there is so very little intercourse and exchange of knowledge and ideas between the many societies which do exist, that this appeal may not be out of season. Let us strive for closer philatelic friendship, and as a means to this end appoint a Committee to closely review the various papers read by members, select those most instructive, and have them printed and widely circulated. The trouble and expense incurred will reap their reward in due time. I have introduced this matter here for two reasons, namely:—the first is: That, the standard of our Lectures, though most of them have been of a high order, will be futher raised, as members will make special efforts, well knowing that their contributions will be read by and provide material for discussion and impart knowledge to other societies. My second reason is: In making this appeal herein, I do so, knowing that copies of this report will be seen by other philatelic bodies and upon them I wish to urge the necessity of closer union between the various societies. I believe that the efforts of individual members thus collected and exchanged would form an effective and attractive means of introduction of one society to another and ultimately, through philatelic intercourse thus established, further the aims of philately to a most appreciable extent. Though philatelic books, journals, and reviews provide us with much useful information and greatly assist Philately in general, they do not foster the friendship and intercourse which should exist between societies that have one common object in view."

An Unchronicled Variety.

INDIA: 1898, ½ on ½a. blue-green, surcharged on the *double-printed* variety; an unchronicled and exceedingly rare stamp, unused, in mint state.

The above lot is being offered at Messrs. Puttick & Simpson's sale on September 29th. It is certainly an unchronicled variety, but can it be genuine? We cannot accept it without very strong evidence in its support. It will be in the recollection of our readers that a sheet of the double-printed variety was found in one of the offices in India some years ago. Only a few stamps had been sold when a collector made the discovery, purchased the lot, and after keeping them some time, ultimately found a purchaser in Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. Such is the history of the double-printed variety of the ½ anna blue-green, about which the most definite statements that only one such sheet existed have been made, and which enquiries instituted by us in India at the time confirmed.

Now we are asked to accept the same variety bearing the overprint ¼. It is quite evident that if a genuine variety, a whole sheet must have been printed, and incidentally issued—this must have taken place some considerable time (six or seven years) ago—and the statement that only one sheet of the double-printed ½ anna was printed is at all events incorrect. The fact that the stamp offered is in mint condition must in the circumstances excite additional suspicion.

Countries without Stamps.

According to the *Postillon*, there exist in Europe five independent countries which do not issue stamps. These are the following:

Andorra, Republic;
Lichtenstein, Principality;
Moresuet, Neutral territory;
The Vatican; and
The island of Tavolara.

Wurtemberg.

Inland letters in Wurtemberg, up to 250 grammes (9 ounces) can now be sent for 5pf. each.

Philatelic Idyl in the Harem.

The following charming little tale, which we take from the *Collectionneur de Timbres-Poste*, may be of some interest to our readers.

An amiable lady correspondent of the above-named journal had the opportunity some time ago of visiting the harem at Biskra, and sends the following interesting letter :—

"We left the Hotel of the Sahara and went to the house of Kaid Mohammed ben Gannah, who had promised to take us to this harem. At the entrance we were received by a great eunuch, black as Erebus, who, after saluting, signs to us to follow him. We go slowly down a corridor, and lifting a curtain, he stands aside to let us pass into a room. On heaps of bright coloured cushions, five ladies are seated. All are young, and of different types ; they are also good looking. Their arms are covered with bracelets, the ankles of their naked feet are encircled with golden rings, in their hair are entwined two rows of sequins, and collars of gold or coral show against their amber skins. With a pretty smile on their lips, and curiosity in their eyes, they seem to us quite ravishing.

"Speaking slowly, as if choosing their words, and without many faults, they express themselves easily enough in French. For these great children, confined always in the harem, the visit of strangers is quite a god-send, and they show themselves particularly grateful. After partaking of the eternal coffee, very much scented, but excellent, we are shown their trinkets, some of them very valuable and of curious workmanship. Then, with great ceremony, a casket of sculptured wood is put down in our midst. One of the ladies seems to exercise a sort of authority over the others ; she opens the box with infinite precautions, and we behold—a postage stamp album.

"This, we learn, was the present of the lord and master of these young ladies on New Year's Day, and we can see they are happy and proud over it.

"As a collector, I was able to give them some information on their stamps, and also on their history. They did not miss one of my words, their eyes seemed to be glued to mine, never had I had such an attentive audience. I also gave them a little lecture on geography with the stamps, and my efforts were a great success. Already converted to philately when I arrived, I left them enthusiasts."

German China.

From the 1st July, the charges on letters to the German Colonies in China are the same as in Germany.

New Automatic Machine.

An automatic machine for delivering and affixing postage stamps has just been patented in England. The machine consists of a variable ribbon feeding device, a ribbon feed table and damping medium jointly, moved vertically, and means for bringing the damper into and out of action, a severing knife, a ribbon presser foot and gripping arms operating in conjunction with the actuating plunger ; the stamps, which are in ribbon form, are mounted on bobbins. A turnable frame, and means for removing the envelope with the stamp affixed, are provided.

Philippine Islands.

The portrait issue of 1906 has been printed in the following quantities :—

2c. green	12,000,000
4c. carmine	5,000,000
6c. purple	80,000
8c. brown	35,000
10c. blue	2,000,000
12c. crimson	20,000
16c. deep violet ...	500,000
20c. pale brown ...	800,000
26c. deep sepia ...	14,000
30c. olive-green ...	400,000
1 peso orange ...	200,000
2 pesos black... ...	100,000

Unfortunately, the quantities of the two higher values were not communicated to the *D. B. Zeitung*.

Thurn and Taxis.

It is rumoured that the administration of Thurn and Taxis intends to make reprints of the values of 5sgr., 15 and 30kr., the ⅓, ½, 1, 2, and 3sgr. and 1 and 3kr. rouletted in coloured lines. The stock of remainders is getting very low and the original dies are still in existence ; also a few of the earlier issues are to be reprinted for official purposes (museums, etc.)

Guatemala.

The quantities of the Provisional stamp of 1, 2, and 6 centavos printed are as follows :—

Un 1 centavo black on 10c. orange and blue, 300,000.
Dos 2 centavos carmine on 12½c. ultramarine and black, 400,000.
Seis 6 centavos black on 20c. mauve and black, 500,000.

Penny Post in Morocco.

An official notification states that the postage on letters for places in Morocco, where the British Post Office maintains an agency, was to be reduced on and after June 15th to 1d. the ounce. Concurrently, the postage on letters for the United Kingdom and British Colonies, the Protectorates, and for Egypt, posted at these agencies, was to be reduced to 10 centimes (1d.) per 20 grammes.

The French Provisional Entires of 1906.

The following list of the French provisional envelopes and letter cards of 1906, given by M. Foulon in the *Illustrierten Briefmarken Journal*, may be of interest to some of our readers. As is well-known, the surcharge consists of TAXE RÉDUITE À Of 10.

I. Envelopes.

Stamped envelopes have never been used much in France, and it is therefore not astonishing to find that even the earliest kinds were returned to head-quarters from small out-of-the-way offices to be surcharged. In the following list,

a means the small size of 115 × 75mm.
b ,, ,, middle ,, 125 × 95 ,,
c ,, ,, large ,, 145 × 112 ,,

Issue of 1882.—Impressed with design of commerce and peace, bluish paper, size *a*, *b*, and *c*.
0, 10 on 15c. blue.
Same, but on greenish paper, size *b* and *c*.
0, 10 on 15c. blue.
Same, with date of manufacture, greenish paper, size *b* and *c*.
0, 10 on 15c. blue.

Issue of 1901.—Impressed with design of goddess sitting, figure of value in square, size *b* and *c*.
0, 10 on 15c. orange.

Issue of 1902.—Same, but with lines in left top corner for sender's name, size *b* and *c*.
0, 10 on 15c. orange.

Issue of 1903.—Same, but figures of value on shield, size *b* and *c*.
0, 10 on 15c. red.

Issue of 1904.—Impressed with Sower design, size *b* and *c*.
0, 10 on 15c. green.

II. Letter Cards.

Issue of 1886.—Perforation A (see Senf's catalogue), no remark at bottom, perf. 10½ or 13½, buff cardboard.
0, 10 on 15c. blue.
Same as above, but with remark at bottom, buff cardboard, perf. 10½ or 13½.
0, 10 on 15c. blue.
Same as last, but grey cardboard, perf. 10½, without gum.
0, 10 on 15c. blue.

Issue of 1887.—Peforation B, with remark at bottom, buff cardboard.
0, 10 on 15c. blue.
Same, but on greenish cardboard.
0, 10 on 15c. blue.
Same, but on grey cardboard.
0, 10 on 15c. blue.

Issue of 1888.—Perforation D, on grey cardboard.
0, 10 on 15c. blue.

Issue of 1896.—Same, but with date of manufacture inside or outside the perforation line, grey cardboard.
0, 10 on 15c. blue.

Issue of 1897.—Same, but with inscription, "République Française," grey cardboard.
0, 10 on 15c. blue.
Same, but on pale grey cardboard.
0, 10 on 15c. blue.

Issue of 1901.—Design, sitting goddess, figures of value in square, on pale grey cardboard.
0, 10 on 15c. orange.

Issue of 1902.—Same design, but figures of value on shield, in the top left corner lines for sender, pale grey cardboard.
0, 10 on 15c. brick-red.

Issue of 1904.—Sower design, on pale grey cardboard.
0, 10 on 15c. slate-green.

In all, fifteen provisional envelopes and thirteen provisional letter cards.

Italian Post Office in Constantinople.

The sale of the new surcharged Italian stamps at the Post Office in Constantinople has been so brisk that the cost of furnishing three Post Offices is said to have been amply covered.

International Postal Statistics.

From the German *Verkehrs-Zeitung*, we take the following figures regarding the numbers of letters and post-cards. The figures given are in millions.

Letters, etc., within the Country:

		Letters. %	Cards. %
Germany ...	4800,9	43,9	29,0
Great Britain	4586,8	58,7	17,6
France	2827,7	38,6	1,4

Letters, etc., from Foreign Countries:

		Letters. %	Cards. %
Germany ...	309,9	54,7	18,0
Great Britain	171,3	62,7	14,6
France	137,4	60,0	3,3

Letters, etc., to Foreign Countries:

		Letters. %	Cards. %
Germany ...	323,1	55,3	16,4
Great Britain	209,0	53,8	8,1
France	197,9	45,5	2,5

Bavaria.

According to a foreign contemporary, the 6 kreuzer, Type II., of 1850, and the 6 kreuzer blue, of 1862, were cut in two and used as 3 kreuzer stamps.

Japan.

On the 20th February, Japan issued two new stamps of 5 yen green and 10 yen violet. Both contain the portrait of the Empress Jingo. This empress reigned from 201-216 A.D. in place of her son Ojin, and is one of the greatest heroines of Japan, who carried on a victorious war with Korea. [We wonder whether the song, "By Jingo, if we do," was known to the Japanese 1700 years ago!]

Philatelic Phallics.

The first thing a journalist has to do when he sets about a general "pot-boiler" is to find a nice alliterative title. It doesn't much matter how inconsequent it may be, for it is much easier to make mere talk than to produce original research, and we flatter ourselves we could hardly have found anything more inconsequent than to couple up our essentially modern hobby with the oldest records of human society upon earth. Before now people have been so bold as to ascribe to philately the virtues of teaching history and geography, and we are going but a step further in making out a claim that stamps may be used to illustrate another branch of learning, the study of ancient religious symbols.

In the earliest times, in order to enhance the veneration of the deity, the people were not allowed to look upon his image, or even to know his name. This knowledge was confined to the priests, and its disclosure is believed to have constituted the essence of the ancient mysteries of Isis or Eleusis. The common people had to be content with a nickname and a symbol. In the dark ages the knowledge of the esoteric meanings of the symbols was lost, like most other kinds of knowledge, and with the reformation new meanings, many of which were absurd, were devised to fit in with more modern religious ideas. At the beginning of the last century, Payne Knight, followed in 1837 by Lajard, and in 1860 by Dr. Inman, took up the study of symbols, and in spite of exaggerations inseparable from the enthusiasm of the first flush of discovery, the meaning of the majority of the best known emblems was placed beyond any possible doubt.

The oldest known conceptions of the deity were androgenous, for instance, Ardanari of the Hindus and Elohim (Genesis i. 27). Hence symbols denoting this attribute are frequently met with, and we may commence with the Mahomedan emblem used for the watermark of the stamps of the Sudan, the *Crescent and Star*. First of all, the word "star" is a misnomer, for there is clear evidence that a celestial object with rays round it represents in reality the sun. The crescent is the feminine symbol of virginity and has been used in turn as the attribute of Isis, Ashtoreth, Diana, and the Virgin Mary. The sun is of course the great male god, viz., Ormuzd, Hercules, etc., and the whole symbol of the crescent and star is the complete androgenous deity.

The Coronation Orb, used for the watermark on a good many English stamps, can be identified by its German name, the Reichsapfel. It represents the apple of the Garden of Eden and of the Hesperides, surmounted by the masculine cross. It is constantly found in the hand of Venus on old coins, and it was adopted by Constantine as a badge of power. Besides the cross, it is found surmounted by the phœnix, sun-wheel, or other symbols of similar import. The latter-day Christian interpretation is the cross of Christ surmounting the world, which omits to regard the fact that it was used when the world was considered to be flat. Inverted, this symbol becomes the crux ansata, the Egyptian symbol of regeneration, which is used by astronomers for the planet Venus, and by zoologists to represent the female.

The Foul Anchor is another English watermark, to which the Christian meaning of steadfast hope has been applied. But a foul anchor, as every yachtsman knows, is no better than a broken reed. The lower part of the symbol forming the two flukes is the feminine crescent again, while the upper part is the serpent on the cross, tree, mast, or pole. The latter is the well-known masculine symbol raised up by Moses in the wilderness. Though the anchor symbol is known without the ring at the top, some people think it is an integral part of the emblem and forms with the shank the crux ansata. This is a redundancy, for the feminine attribute is already supplied in the crescent. We have seen, however, that the crux ansata, originally a dual symbol, has become a feminine one, and with the lapse of time and incomplete knowledge of their meanings, most of these old signs have been considerably jumbled up at one time or another.

The Maltese Cross watermark is one of the symbols there is least doubt about, though it is one of the least obvious at first glance. The original at Malta, from which it takes its name, places its meaning beyond dispute. In its ordinary conventional form, it consists of four triangles with their points together. Each triangle is a cone representing the male principle in nature. The watermark used for Johore and the first issue of Sudan stamps appears to be a modification of the same.

The Fleur de lys is the western name for the lotus, which plays so important a part in Hindu religion. There is some doubt as to whether it is not also the same as the trefoil, the watermark of English telegraph stamps. The three last symbols go together to form the Queen's crown on the De la Rue colonial stamps from 1860 to 1862.

The Pentangle, or five-pointed star, the watermark of our current postage stamps, is an ancient Hindu symbol that comes a good deal into Sakti worship. Its meaning has so far defeated European investigators, but it was at one time in extensive use, and has been found on the oldest Etruscan monuments.

The Shell of Travancore and Cochin is held in the highest reverence throughout India as a royal and religious emblem. It is especially sacred if the whorls turn to the left instead of the right, and we have heard of a man who bought such a one at a pawn shop in Bombay for eight annas, and sold it for nearly a thousand pounds. The symbol

is feminine, the concha veneris, and has been connected with most goddesses throughout the ancient world.

The Katyar, or dagger of Alwar and Bundi, is on the other hand a male sign. Its shape is symbolical, and it is carried in the hand by the bridegroom at weddings in Western India. Under certain circumstances, girls may even be married to the katyar instead of to a human husband. The symbol appears to be an indigenous one, and has not hitherto been noted as occurring in the old religions of the west.

We have attempted to do no more than faintly suggest some of the more prominent points of contact between stamps and primitive religion. We should have liked to have said a good deal more, but are deterred by the fear of treading on that luxuriant crop of corns with which humanity in general, and philatelists in particular, are unfortunately afflicted. If in spite of our care, any of our readers should feel hurt, we hope they will find consolation in thinking how much they have been spared.—*Philatelic Journal of India.*

REVIEWS.

"Hints on Stamp Collecting."

We have to thank Mr. Hinton for a copy of the third edition of a little book of which he is the author, entitled "Hints on Stamp Collecting," revised to date and with several additions, including a new chapter on "Some points of interest to the collector." The book contains a mass of information most useful to the beginner, and is very copiously illustrated.

We strongly recommend it to the notice of our readers. It is published by E. Nister, 28, St. Bride's Street, E.C., and can be obtained from all booksellers and stamp dealers, price 1s.

"Afghanistan."

One of the most important and scientific books we have had to review since the publication on "India," is that which has recently come to hand upon the "Postage Stamps of Afghanistan." It forms one of the publications of the Philatelic Society of India, and is the work of the Hon. Sir David Masson and Mr. B. Gordon Jones. There is a lamentable lack of knowledge and appreciation of the stamps of Afghanistan, or, as they were at one time called, of Cabul, amongst general collectors, due to the great difficulty in the olden days of acquiring them, and to the fact that when they were acquired few people indeed in Europe were able to understand them. Of recent years dealers have removed the difficulties in the way of their acqusition, and the publication now under review effectually disposes of the objections under the latter head.

The work is preceded by a chapter concisely dealing with the geographical and historical features of the country; and the description of the stamps themselves is most complete, the letterpress being freely dispersed with reproductions of the characters whereby the student is able to follow the various issues. Tweny-four full-page plates accompany the work, illustrating reconstructed sheets. The Hon. Sir David Masson, many years ago, was the first to denounce certain issues of Cashmere as bogus, and it is to his investigations that philatelists are now indebted for the denunciation of the "1868 no value violet" of Afghanistan as being entirely fraudulent. We suppose that no work however good, especially when it takes the complex character of this particular one, is free from criticism, and in this connection we observe that in the 1293 (1875-6) issue, Type II, the two different ways of writing the Shahi character are mentioned, but the second and rarer character for this value is not explained, as one would certainly expect it to be in a work of this nature. The plates illustrating the work are most excellent, and we especially notice the proper arrangement of the rare "Value in tablet" plate, 1293, which the late Gilbert Harrison was not able to get quite correct for want of materials.

We note also the excellence of the details of papers used for the circular issue of 1296 (1880-9), the reference list of these stamps being dealt with in a simple and efficient manner. This is an example of how minute varieties of paper should be handled, all known being noted, but not included in the reference list.

Roumania.

The D on Roumanian post-cards and letter-cards have puzzled many a collector. According to the *Ili. Brief. Journal*, it may mean :—

Domnului	=	Mr.
Domnilor	=	Messrs.
Dvamnei	=	Mrs.
Domnisoruli	=	Master.
Domnisoarei	=	Miss.

It is probable such is the intention. Boys and girls in these days avail themselves of the use of post-cards in common with their elders.

MISCELLANEOUS.

In the Hungarian Exhibition at London, there are to be seen all the stamps, post-cards, postal stationery, etc., issued in Hungary. The older issues are represented by entire sheets printed on cardboard.

* * *

Since the end of 1900 the German Post Office has sold £50,000 worth of German Colonial stamps in Berlin, principally to collectors so it is said.

* * *

Russia also issues post-cards now with advertisements. They cost 1 cop., instead of 3 cop., the usual inland rate, and are not sold at the Post Offices under 100 cards.

THE

Philatelic Record.

OCTOBER, 1908.

Editorial Notes.

SOME forty years ago "Fentonia" wove a pretty legend round the "Sydney Views" in an article written in the *Stamp Collector's Magazine* wherein Sydney was likened unto Ostia, the ancient Porte of Rome, and therein described as the modern Ostia to the new world. The story was well told, and the simile has always appeared to us to have been a happy one.

The Mantle of Elijah.

When taking up a book just published upon the postage stamps of Fiji, by Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., and written by Mr. C. J. Phillips, much the same thoughts passed through our minds in the comparison of that firm with the old philatelic Rome, *La Maison Moens*, and M. Hanciau, the old Ostia. Now we have the House of Gibbons, with Mr. C. J. Phillips the "Nova Ostia" of present-day philately.

Moens did much to establish stamp collecting by his methods of business and (perhaps more than has been thought) by his publication of those monographs upon the stamps of different countries under the authorship of "J. B. Moens," but which we now know were written by his relative and associate in business, M. Hanciau.

The House of Moens has passed away, and its mantle seems to have fallen upon the House of Gibbons; it is fortunate for the Anglo-Saxon race that it is so.

In the past this firm has published many works, in point of fact, of recent years it has seemed to possess a monopoly in regard to the production of really important philatelic books. These for the most part have been written by others and not initiated so to speak from within the walls of the House itself. Some of the early handbooks of the firm certainly fall within this category, but as the works grew both in size and importance as well as in the lavish manner in which they were produced, Messrs. Stanley Gibbons were not unnaturally content that their share of the laudits of philatelists in general should be attributable to the manner in which the works were presented rather than be concerned in the subject matter itself.

That the hearty thanks of collectors are due to the good part played by the firm in this direction is known fully well to those

who realise something of the worries and also the expense entailed by bringing out first-class books of this kind.

We are delighted to see the example set by the celebrated Brussels firm in the past being followed by the London firm of to-day; the publication of a work of first-class importance written by the "dominant partner," and by which he is earmarked as a philatelist of the front rank—a fact which has been generally well known, but is in these days often overlooked in the case of those whose primary business it is to sell stamps and not to collect them.

There are many interesting features and items of news in regard to the stamps of the Fiji Islands contained in the volume referred to. The reconstruction of the plates of the Fiji Tunis Express as well as the two plates of the "Imitations," coupled with a note in regard to the local character of these stamps form a very interesting initial chapter. The portion of the work which calls for the greatest praise, however, is that which has involved the most philatelic research of an original character, and in this connection we award the palm to the two chapters dealing with the V.R. Roman and Gothic overprints. The plates of these stamps have been partially reconstructed, very substantial progress having been made in three of the values. Coming to the V.R. monogram issue, this explodes the theory that the monogram surcharge in black was printed on the stamps. It appears that the stamps were printed on the V.R., "the jet black of the V.R. being so strong that it comes through the ultramarine, the green, or rose, of the stamps and appears to be printed upon them."

It will also be news to many that the 5s. stamps in the first consignment, which alone was issued by the Post Office, were lithographed, whereas the second consignment, or the unissued portion, were electrotyped; there being marked distinction between the two. The latter varieties were sold some few years ago by the Government, but were all obliterated before they were sold. Luckily the authorities did not use the ordinary postmark, but had a special one made, which consists of a circle 24mm. in diameter enclosing the words "Suva" at the top, a curved line at the bottom, and usually the date "15 Dec 00" in the centre. These latter 5s. stamps were printed in much paler colours than the issued varieties, and are mostly perf. 10, but among them some sheets have been found perf. nearly 12 and also imperf., but all bear the Imitation postmark. Such stamps Mr. Phillips concludes can only be looked upon as stamps prepared for use but not issued.

There is a mass of other interesting detail in the book, such as the explanation of how the C. R. stamps were converted into the V.R. engraved, and how the 3d. plate of 1871 was converted into the 2d., and subsequently how this plate was again converted into the 4d. These alterations in original dies and manufacture of various new plates during a period extending over more than 20 years are in Mr. Phillips' opinion unique.

The alterations were effected by the old wooden die of the 3d. of 1871 being utilized. "The word 'three' was cut out and 'two' was engraved on the new plug of wood. In doing this the fine curved lines above and below the word 'three' were somewhat

damaged, and the word 'two' being shorter than the word 'three,' the spaces between 'postage' and 'two' and between 'two' and 'pence' are too great."

"About 1891 this old wooden die, which had proved very useful, was once more resuscitated; the plug with the word 'two' upon it was removed, a new plug with 'four' engraved upon it was inserted in its place, and the fine lines above and below the 'four' are still more damaged and almost disappear."

The work in question is excellently illustrated throughout. There are 14 sheets of photogravure illustrations accompanying the book, which will for a long time be the last word to be said upon the stamps of this interesting Colony.

We congratulate Mr. Phillips and his firm upon the production; and also specially congratulate English philatelists upon the publication of a standard work by one of themselves.

For Valour.

THE *Stamp Collector's Fortnightly* publishes an illustration of the medals to be awarded to the authors of the best papers read this season. In making the announcement our contemporary states: — "Having received ample assurances that our scheme to award medals to the authors of the best papers read before philatelic societies would commend itself to philatelists throughout the country, we have now had prepared the design here given, showing the obverse and reverse of the proposed *medaille*





d'honneur. Our desire is to award a certain number of these medals annually (some being for open competition among all societies, and others being allocated to particular societies for competition among the members) but before full particulars can be published it will be necessary to secure replies to a letter now being sent out to honorary secretaries on the subject."

Anything which tends in the direction of giving greater encouragement to the serious study of postage stamps meets with our hearty support, and we see much to commend itself in the venture of our contemporary. The idea, as we understand it, is to provide an additional incentive in cases where such is not provided locally. In some centres there may very well be one enthusiastic stamp collector who possesses the ability to write an instructive and interesting paper but whose fellow collectors belong to the class by whom such

a paper would be tolerated rather than appreciated; the philatelist knowing this therefore does not "inflict" upon his brother members the reading of an article, the writing of which would entail considerable labour.

The difficulty attaching to all schemes such as that of our contemporary is the building up of an authority to whose arbitrament the award of the medals is to be entrusted. The scheme in the present case has not yet been matured. Combination of societies we think impossible; the most workable and probably the best way would be for the proprietors of the *Stamp Collector's Fortnightly* to award the medals themselves. It is quite conceivable that the best papers of the year will not participate in the awards, but justice will certainly be done by the donors so far as in them lies, and by a careful and judicious exercise of discretion in regard to the number of medals awarded annually it may very well be that in years to come the medal initiated in this way will come to be looked upon as a token of honour and coveted by the most aristocratic philatelic student in the land.

Another European Crisis.

JUST as we are going to press the following resolution, passed by the Junior Philatelic Society, London, has come into our hands:—

"It is resolved that the Manchester Branch be hereby dissolved; and that the Hon. General Secretary to the Society be instructed to inform the Local Branch Hon. Secretary of the fact, and to request him to return the books and papers relating to the business and management of the Branch, in accordance with Branch rule 8."

Whatever the friction may have been between the parent Society and the branch it does seem to be a matter of regret that the Society should have thought fit at the present moment to take such a drastic step. The branch of the Junior Society at Manchester has shown itself, so far as energy and enterprise are concerned, a worthy offshoot of the Society of which it was content to be a branch, and if the parent is not proud of its children then from that point of view the sooner they are cut adrift the better. The experience in the present case, however, does not afford much encouragement to those who advocate a National Society, with branches in different towns.

We are asked to state, and it is only fair to the Manchester Juniors to do so, that the whole of the arrangements for the forthcoming Exhibition and Congress (the *casus belli*) have throughout been in the hands of the Manchester Branch, who have received neither assistance nor encouragement from their head, and that the success of this venture is already so well assured that the present unfortunate circumstance will not affect the same, except, perhaps, to bring in further support by reason of the sympathy which must necessarily be given to "the child."

The Universal Postal Union.

A Paper read before the Manchester Philatelic Society, on Mar. 6th, 1908.

By I. J. Bernstein.

(Continued from Page 163).

THE British and British Colonials are overprinted either "specimen" or "cancelled." Some of the Spanish bear the word "Muestra," so do some of the Argentine Republic, but the large majority are just ordinary stamps.

Emergency issues, such as provisional stamps made to tide over a shortage of regular issues are not sent to Berne.

Another of the important clauses was that every member of the Convention should have perfect freedom of action in the Administration of their Inland Post, and should have the right of concluding any treaty with any non-member of the Union; also the right of concluding treaties for restricted Unions in view only of an amelioration of postal relations. Hence it was possible for Great Britain to arrange for the Uniform Penny Post with its colonies. It was agreed further that all matters of dispute should be submitted to the arbitration, and so liberal were provisions of the agreement that during the thirty-three years the Postal Union has been in existence only twelve cases have had to be submitted. Another provision was that each country should have one vote, and that the minority agreed to decide by the decision of the majority.

The Swiss Government, as being the most neutral power in the world, was chosen to work the bureau under supervision of its Postal Administration.

The conditions on which it was permissible for countries, other than those mentioned as the original founders, to obtain admission into the Union were in the first place somewhat restrictive. It was arranged in the original treaty that before any such country could enter they should at first submit to a settlement of the cost of sea conveyance, and a rearrangement of the existing postal conventions with countries in the Union by the Postal Union met in Congress. After even having submitted to other powers arranging these terms it was open to any Union country to raise objection to their admission. In 1876 British India and the French colonies having arranged these terms they were admitted at a special conference held in Paris, 1876, and were each given a vote. On 1st April, 1877, a number of British colonies joined on the same special conditions, but without votes.

In 1878 a second full Congress was held in Paris, and the Union was renamed the Universal Postal Union on occasion of the doors being thrown open to the whole world by means of a revision of the treaty under which any state, country, or colony could claim admission simply by giving assurance that it was prepared to carry out the stipulations of the Convention as revised at Paris.

The voting arrangement worked rather badly for the British Empire owing to its vast and extended interest. Great Britain had one vote, a country like Montenegro equally had one, and at Paris in 1878 it was arranged that British India should have a separate vote, and the other European countries—France, Spain, Holland, Denmark, and Great Britain—should have one vote for the whole of the colony possessions of each nationality. When Canada entered in 1878 the Dominion Government demanded a vote, and was so earnest in its demand, that, finding the rest of the Union Powers would not concede another vote to a portion of Her Majesty's Dominions, the Imperial Government, with the consent of the Union at large, ceded to Canada the vote obtained for the colonies generally, leaving the rest of the colonies in the Union to be represented by the mother country with only one vote. The consequence of this was that for many years Australia and South Africa refused to join without a separate vote, and Great Britain has preferred demands for a more adequate representation of the Empire on several occasions. The matter was brought to a head at a Congress held in Lisbon, 1885, and as a result of the discussion the assembled delegates agreed to one vote for the Australian colonies and one for the rest of the colonies, providing that Australia, the Cape, and Natal joined the Union.

Feeling that it was perfectly certain no greater concession than this would at any time be offered, the British delegates recommended it should be pressed upon the acceptance of the Colonies concerned, and this was done. The Cape and Australia both declined, the one because it could not come to an arrangement with the mother country for providing the extra cost of the sea carriage, and the other because they could not have a separate vote.

Conferences have been held as occasion has required them—in Paris, 1880; Lisbon, 1885; Brussels, 1891; Vienna, 1891; and Rome, 1906. The next one to be held will be at Madrid. The British Colonies have now all joined, and separate votes have been obtained for British South Africa, Australia, and New Zealand. Thus the British Empire has now six votes, and as by the annexation of the Transvaal and the Orange Free States their votes have been extinguished, the interests of Greater Britain are more adequately represented.

The Postal Union has been responsible by its enactments for the issue of new denominations of stamps in various countries, to meet with the requirements of the various rates it has determined upon. Inversely, it has been the cause of various values being withdrawn from issue. On every occasion of its meeting it has applied itself to the reduction of transit charges, of facilitating the work, and thus lessening the expense of Postal Administration, and has been enabled, therefore, to arrange for the sweeping reductions that were agreed upon at the last Conference in Rome, 1906, and which came into force only last year.

Every item, even in the smallest degree, that will save labour, has been considered, and the changes of colour in the ½d., 1d., and 2½d. stamps that we have seen of recent years, have been made after discussion, with a view to facilitating the immediate recognition by postal clerks of the various countries of the value of the stamps. By having uniform colours for each country for the ½d., 1d., and 2½d.

denominations, the labour of those responsible for the checking of the prepayment is greatly lightened. To further this still more, it has been decided upon that in the near future these values shall bear the value inscribed in Arabic figures. We can confidently look forward, therefore, to a change in the design of our present ½d. and 1d. stamps.

To show how thoroughly every little detail is considered, it was a subject of discussion as to whether the 1½d. stamp which, as you know, is now the second unit of weight on foreign letters, should be of a uniform colour to be decided upon. This question was left in abeyance, however, until the next meeting. A very important scheme, however, was carried, by which it is possible to buy in any country a coupon which is interchangeable for a 2½d. stamp in any other country, thus enabling one to enclose the price of a reply from any part of the world.

To enumerate the hundred-and-one details of the work, the innumerable advantages to the world at large that have been arranged, would be too great a task for me to undertake this evening.

Of interest to philatelists, is the fact that every nation in the Union undertakes to adopt the necessary measures for punishing fraudulent use of counterfeit postage stamps, or stamps that have already been used, for the prepayment of correspondence. They also undertake the necessary measures of prohibiting and repressing the fraudulent manufacture, sale, and distribution of any stamp embossed or adhesive, forged or imitated, in such a manner as to be mistakable for the stamps of any one of the contracting countries. We recently had at Brighton an example of the enforcement of this paragraph of the Convention.

To sum up, I will enumerate the benefits of the Union. It is beneficent and cosmopolitan in character, and tends to stimulate social and commercial intercourse, and the establishment of intimate relations between different nationalities. To facilitate and promote this, it ensures that the best and the most rapid means of conveyance are employed at a minimum cost, and consequent lower postal charges, and endeavours to make such reductions in rates from time to time as are possible. It has established a common agreement between all nations in a matter of universal interest, thus forming a most important addition to international law. Every country in the world, with the exception of the empires of China and Abyssinia, now belong to the Union, and even these two countries have had delegates at the last Congress, and both intimated that the adhesion of their respective Governments was an event in the near future.

(To be continued.)

Notable Philatelists.

F. Gerhartz.

THE subject of this month's sketch started collecting stamps in his school-days, which were spent in his native country—Germany. In April, 1879, he came to England and entered the office of a firm as Special Correspondent. The business of this firm enabled him to get many used foreign stamps which he ultimately disposed of to a friend on the Continent. In the early nineties, however, he again commenced collecting, at first keeping the stamps loose, but afterwards placing them in an album. Since then Mr. Gerhartz has been collecting without intermission, the result being that his collection has now grown to an enormous size, especially as Continental stamps were obtained in both a used and unused condition.

The business with which Mr. Gerhartz was connected had agents for the sale of its goods all over the world, and thus unused stamps were obtained through these channels.

Since the year 1900 or 1901 British or British Colonial stamps have found the greatest favour with Mr. Gerhartz, and most of these have been obtained through the usual trade channels.

As may easily be imagined, the collection soon outgrew the capacity of the printed album, and some "Oriel" albums were started, in which the stamps were mounted at their owner's own free will.

For the last twelve months, however, he has been arranging his collection on loose sheets covered with tissue paper, country by country, these being most convenient for display at meetings.

Mr. Gerhartz is a vigorous opponent of stamps issued purely for the purpose of collectors, as instances of which he mentions "Cayman Islands," and Italian stamps surcharged for use at the Italian post-offices in Turkey. As to the latter, however, we must not be presumed to concur, it seeming to us quite as admissible in these days of political intrigue concerning the Eastern Question for Italy to endeavour to obtain a foothold in Turkey by this means as other Powers. Mr. Gerhartz's views on the question of unnecessary issues are so emphatic that it would be better to express them in his own words.

"At present I must admit I am not so well disposed towards the hobby, and what has put me against it is the wilful robbing of stamp-collectors by such swindles as 'Cayman Islands,' 'Italians' surcharged for P.O. in Turkey, etc. Of course legitimate surcharges nobody can object to. Again, every little detail (even when a fly has been creeping over a sheet, wet printed, and making a double surcharge!) is made something of to fleece collectors. In fact in stamp collecting it is the same as with everything else—in cricket, in football, in motor and cycle races, there is the professional man in our hobby, the 'Collector Dealer.' I could mention names, but 'nomina sunt odiosa.' In other words, stamp collecting is too much stamp buying, and the one with the biggest pocket gets the most of a specialised collection. Again, people say, what a difference there is between *buying* and selling a house; well I think with stamps it is worse still. What offers do you get when you want to sell? I could write sheets on this subject, but I must refrain."



F. Gerhartz.

The Lithographed High Values of Queensland (1881 series).

By Leslie L. R. Hausburg.

IT has been known to philatelists for some considerable time (*vide Vindin's Monthly*, vol. vii., p. 112), that the 2s., 2s. 6d., 5s., 10s., and 20s. values of 1881 were lithographed, and that the stones contained a hundred and twenty impressions in twelve rows of ten. Transfers were taken from portions of the 1s. Perkins Bacon plate, and the whole or part of the value, and portions of the scroll work at the sides, were erased, after which the new values were inserted. It is usual in such cases to take a small number of transfers and form a small intermediate stone, from which transfers are again taken and laid on a larger stone. These Queensland stamps were produced in this way. Mr. J. Bornefeld had given some attention to these stamps, but had not completed the plating. He found five types in the case of the 2s. and 20s., and from this he inferred that there were also five types in the case of each of the other values. This, however, is incorrect, and every one of the three—the 2s. 6d., 5s., and 10s.—has ten types, arranged in two rows of five. This number was no doubt chosen to suit the arrangement of the watermarks on the paper which was used for this series; there were a hundred and twenty watermarks (arranged in twelve rows of ten each), so that the sheets of the 2s. and 20s. were each made up of twenty-four strips of five types, while the other values were made up of twelve blocks of ten types. The watermark is the second type of the Crown and Q.

In the following descriptions of the types, the most noticeable features are mentioned, so that it will not be very difficult to plate any stamp. In many cases there are other marks and flaws which do not appear to be constant all over the sheet.

The Two Shillings

(Five Types).

Type I.
(1) The letters "T," "W" are generally joined together.
(2) There is a break in the inner oval between the letters "O," "S."
(3) There is a coloured spot between the feet of the letters "T," "W."
(4) There are two coloured spots in the space between the outer frame and the stamp, one above the "S," and the other between the letters "S" and "L" of "QUEENSLAND."

Type II.
(1) The letters "T," "W" usually just touch.
(2) There is a coloured spot on the neck towards the left, just below the shading under the chin.

Plate I.


QUEENSLAND
TWO SHILLINGS
1
2
3
4
5


1
2
3
4
5
QUEENSLAND
TWO SHILLINGS & SIX PENCE
6
7
8
9
10


1
2
3
4
5
QUEENSLAND
FIVE SHILLINGS
6
7
8
9
10

Type III.
(1) The letters "T," "W" do not touch.
(2) The top arm of the last "S" of "SHILLINGS" is nearly straight; that is to say, it is less curved than in any of the other types.

Type IV.
(1) The letters "T," "W" do not touch.
(2) There is a coloured spot between the letters "N" and "G" of "SHILLINGS."
(3) There is a coloured spot above the "S" of "QUEENSLAND."
(4) The "O" of "TWO" is shorter and rounder than in the other types.
(5) There is a break in the outer frame line below the "O" of "TWO."

Type V.
This is the most noticeable of all the types.
(1) The letters "T," "W" do not touch.
(2) The outer frame line at the top of the stamp is suddenly discontinued to the right of the second "E" of "QUEENSLAND."
(3) There is a break in the outer frame line below the "T" of "TWO."

The Two Shillings and Sixpence

(Ten Types).

Type I.
(1) There is a coloured spot just above the left half of the "W" of "TWO."
(2) The inner oval is broken just above the left leg of the "N" of "SHILLINGS."
(3) The upright stroke of the last "E" of "PENCE" is produced upwards above the top horizontal bar.

Type II.
(1) The right-hand limb of the Maltese Cross on the left-hand side of the stamp is not so wide as the left-hand limb, and there is a coloured spot between it and the "T" of "TWO," and the left limb nearly touches the outer oval.
(2) The outer oval is broken in several places, below the "GS" of "SHILLINGS," and below the foot of the "P" of "PENCE."
(3) A small slice has been cut off the lower part of the "C" of "PENCE."

Type III.
(1) The right-hand limb of the right-hand Maltese Cross is mis-shapen, and quadrangular instead of triangular.
(2) The words "TWO SHILLINGS" are very close to the outer oval.

Type IV.
(1) The right-hand limb of the left-hand Maltese Cross is very narrow.
(2) The inner frame is broken in two places on the left-hand side where it meets the outer oval, opposite the left-hand limb of the Maltese Cross.

(3) The outer oval is broken between the "L" and "I" of "SHILLINGS."
(4) There is an excrescence on the outer frame below the "C" of "PENCE."

Type V.
(1) The "C" of "PENCE" is somewhat like a "G."
(2) The inner oval is broken in several places above the letters "HILLIN" of "SHILLINGS."
(3) There is a coloured spot above the "X" of "SIX."

Type VI.
(1) The inner oval is very faint above the "NGS" of "SHILLINGS."
(2) There are several small coloured spots above the "IN" of "SHILLINGS."
(3) The outer oval is broken in one, and sometimes in two places, below the "EN" of "PENCE."

Type VII.
(1) A slice has been cut off the right-hand side of the right-hand limb of the left-hand Maltese Cross.
(2) The letters "T," "W" of "TWO" do not touch, and the outline of the "W" is very ragged.
(3) The right-hand stroke of the "H" of "SHILLINGS" is considerably shorter than the left-hand one, and the letters "ILLI" are also shorter than usual.

Type VIII.
(1) A portion of the cross-lined background above the "W" of "TWO" has been removed.
(2) The word "PENCE" is much closer to the outer oval than in any of the other types.
(3) There is a coloured spot and a short line between the "D" of "QUEENSLAND" and the right-hand Maltese Cross.

Type IX.
(1) The inner oval is very broken above the letters "TWO S."
(2) There is a short line, sometimes broken in two, between the letters "O" and "S."
(3) There are coloured spots between the letters "P" and "E," and above the "N" of "PENCE."
(4) The upper arm of the last "S" of "SHILLINGS" is thick and blotchy.

Type X.
(1) The inner oval is broken above the letters "TWO S," as in Type IX.
(2) There is a coloured spot between the "O" and "S," and also several small ones above the "H" of "SHILLINGS."
(3) An extra vertical line has been added to the lower limb of the first "E" of "QUEENSLAND."

(To be continued).



The earliest information as to New Issues will be much appreciated by us, and will be duly credited to the correspondent, or firm, sending it. Our foreign subscribers can materially help us in this direction. When possible, a specimen should accompany the information, and be addressed to

G. Fred. H. Gibson, *Fairfield, Crumpsall, Manchester.*

The British Empire.

Bermuda.—The 1d. single colour has now been issued, *Ewen's Weekly* stating that the bi-coloured stamps having been completely exhausted.



Adhesive.
1d. rose. Wmk. CA and Crown multiple.

Canada.—Messrs Whitfield King & Co. state that they are officially informed that of the Quebec Tercentary set the only values now remaining in the Post Office Department are the 10c., 15c., and 20c.

Dominica.—Mr. W. H. Peckitt sends us the 1d. and 2½d. values in single colour.



Adhesives.
Wmk. CA and Crown multiple.
1d. carmine.
2½d. ultramarine.

Fiji.—The 1s. value appears now upon multiple watermark paper; it is chronicled by *Ewen's Weekly*.

Adhesive.
Wmk. CA and Crown multiple.
1s. carmine and green.

India. Nabha.—Mr. W. H. Peckitt informs us that he has now received the ½a. and 1a. of the unified type both ordinary and service.

Hyderabad.—*Gibbons' Stamp Weekly* lists a ¼a. and ⅓a. of the 1905 type in new colours and also two new values.

Adhesives.
¼a. pale grey.
⅓a. pale green.
1a. carmine.
2a. lilac.

Leeward Islands.—Mr. W. H. Peckitt sends us specimens of the 6d. and 1s. upon multiple watermark paper, and *Ewen's Weekly* adds the 2d. value.

Adhesives.
Wmk. CA and Crown multiple.
2d. lilac and bistre.
6d. lilac and brown.
1s. green and carmine.

North Borneo.—The *Stamp Collector's Fortnightly* lists a new value overprinted for use as a Postage Due stamp.

Adhesive.
Unpaid Letter stamp.
6c. black and brown (British Protectorate).

Nyasaland Protectorate. — Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. have advices to the effect that immediately upon the issue of the new set all the stamps in hand of the British Central Africa issue were destroyed.

Papua.—Mr. W. H. Peckitt sends us the permanent type 2½d., it having just been issued.

St. Helena. – *Ewen's Weekly* states that the numbers of the recent issue are as follows :—

2½d.	..	..	..	8,160
4d.	..	..	..	8,160
6d.	..	..	..	8,160
10s.	..	..	..	3,120

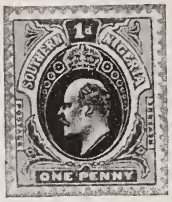
St. Vincent.—*Ewen's Weekly* is informed by one of its correspondents that the 5s. has been issued upon multiple watermark paper.

Adhesive.

Wmk. CA and Crown multiple.

5s. green and blue.

Southern Nigeria.—The long expected 10s. upon multiple watermark paper is chronicled by *Gibbons' Stamp Weekly*.



Adhesive.

Wmk. CA and Crown multiple.

10s. purple on yellow.

Straits Settlements.—*Ewen's Weekly* has seen a novelty in the shape of the 10c. printed in lilac on yellow in lieu of lilac and black on yellow.

Adhesive.

Wmk. CA and Crown multiple.

10c. lilac on yellow.

Transvaal.—*Ewen's Weekly* state that the 1d. value has been discovered upon paper watermarked for the Cape stamps, in error.

Foreign Countries.

Abyssinia.—*Gibbons' Stamp Weekly* has seen the ½g. red overprinted 1 piastre with fancy scroll below, in blue.

Adhesive.

1p. in blue on ½g. red.

Argentine Republic.—The latest value to make its appearance of the new set is the 15c.

Ecuador.—The 1907 set has been overprinted as below ; *Ewen's Weekly* lists the stamps but does not name the colours of the overprints.

Adhesives.

Overprinted "Consejo Escolar-provincia de Pichincha-Quito."

1c. red and black.
2c. blue ,,
3c. orange ,,
5c. rose ,,
10c. blue ,,
20c. yellow-green and black.
50c. violet ,,
1s. green ,,

France. Tunis.—Mr. W. H. Peckitt sends us the undermentioned provisionals.

Adhesives.

10c. in red on 15c. grey.
35c. ,, on 1p. bronze green.
40c. in blue on 2fr. violet.
75c. ,, on 5fr. lilac.

Indo-China.—*Ewen's Weekly* chronicles the following.

Adhesives.

Postage Due stamps.

2c. black
4c. blue.
5c. green.
10c. carmine.
15c. violet.
20c. brown.
30c. olive.
40c. brown-violet.
50c. blue.
60c. orange.
1f. grey.
2f. yellow-brown.
5f. red.

New Caledonia.—The same journal also reports the following.

Adhesive.

45c. red-brown on rose.

German Empire. Offices in the Levant.—Five values of the current set have been surcharged for use here with new denomination expressed in French. Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. sends us specimens, the values being as follows.

Adhesives.

5	centimes in black on		5pf.
10	,,	,,	10pf.
25	,,	,,	20pf.
50	,,	,,	40pf.
100	,,	,,	80pf.

Holland.—Mr. W. T. Wilson sends us a new value of the small oblong type.

Adhesive.

1½c. blue.

Dutch Indies.—Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. inform us that they have received the 2½g. overprinted "Java."

Adhesive

2½g. slate-green. Surcharged "Java" in black.

Iceland.—Mr. W. T. Wilson sends us a new value of the current type, both ordinary and official.



Adhesive
15 aur green and orange.
Official stamp.
15 aur sepia and blue.

Roumania.—*Ewen's Weekly* adds three more values to the latest new set.



Adhesives.
40b. green.
1l. brown and black.
2l. green and black.

Salvador.—*Gibbons' Stamp Weekly* list the following novelties formed by overprinting the new type.



Adhesives.
6c. rose and black. Surcharged with shield in black.
2c. black and rose. Surcharged UN CENTAVO in black.
Varieties:—Surcharge *inverted*, double one inverted.

Spain. RIO DE ORO.—Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. send us yet another provisional; this time it is a 10c. upon the 50c. of 1907.

Adhesive.
10c. in red on 50c. brown-violet (1907).

Switzerland.—Mr. W. T. Wilson forwards us a specimen of the 30c. in the new design.



Adhesive.
30c. yellow-brown and light green.

Uruguay.—*Ewen's Weekly* chronicles certain of the designs of 1895 reprinted by Messrs. Waterlow & Sons in new colours, as follows.

Adhesives.
7c. chestnut.
10c. blue-green.
20c. black and blue.
50c. ,, and olive.
2p. ,, and sepia.
3p. ,, and pale blue.

Notes and News.

Amsterdam Exhibition.

The prospectus of this Exhibition we hear is to be published at the end of the month. Arrangements have been made for all exhibits to pass through the Customs duty free.

Switzerland.

We are shown by Mr. F. Reinhard a notice in *Der Bund* of Berne stating that new stamps of 35c. will be issued on 1.11.08, at the same time as those of 70c. previously announced. Our correspondent also draws our attention to the fact that there is a slight difference between the new 30c. and 40c. Whilst the latter has the name of the engraver in the lower left-hand corner spelt in full, "C L'Epplattenier," the latter has only the initials, "CL." It is said the 40c. may be altered to agree with the 30c., and in any case its colour is likely to be modified, the present shade being too sensible to the light. The values, 2 to 15c., are likely to be re-engraved (the public will probably not be sorry to see the last of the present ugly design), and the colours of the 2, 3, and 12c. will be changed.—*Ewen's Weekly Stamp News.*

Fiji Islands.

The *Colonial Office Journal* announces that this colony has decided to adopt the new colour scheme but without alteration of design. The 1s. green and carmine, of which a supply was only recently sent out with multiple watermark, will thus have a short life, as the next supply will be 1s. black on green.

Manchester Philatelic Society.

The opening meeting of the eighteenth session, being the 270th meeting of the Society, was held at the Geographical Society's Rooms on Friday evening, October 2nd, the President in the chair.

The resignations of Mr. A. D. Leigh and Dr. W. Clayton Grosvenor were accepted with regret, and Messrs. D. A. Berry, J. J. Darlow, James Taylor, and G. White were elected Ordinary Members.

The Hon. Secretary read a letter received from the President and Hon. Secretary of the Manchester Branch of the Junior Philatelic Society asking for the support of the Society for their forthcoming Exhibition, and a sum of two guineas was voted towards the expenses.

He also called attention to the syllabus, and especially to the visits of four members of other Societies, to the series of papers arranged for the List Meetings dealing with "The Making of a Stamp," and to the visit to the Municipal School of Technology for the purpose of seeing a practical demonstration of papermaking and printing.

Mr Beckton read a short paper on "The Type-set Provisionals of British Guiana" dealing in detail with the two arrangements of the sheets, viz., in four rows of three and in six rows of two. The paper was illustrated by Mr. Beckton's collection, which included many minor varieties caused by the slipping of the type and borders, as well as stamps with the word "Specimen" printed twice and without the word at all.

At the meeting on October 9th Mr. Gee read the first of the series of papers dealing with stamp manufacture, his subject being "Methods of Papermaking." These he described from the earliest ages up to the present time, illustrating his remarks with drawings of the various machines used, and sundry specimens of their productions.

At the meeting on October 16th, the President again took the chair. Dr. Floyd was elected an Ordinary Member, and Messrs. W. A. Boughey and A. H. Dingwall Corresponding Members of the Society.

Mr. North gave a display with notes of the Stamps of Bavaria. He alluded at some length to the controversy as to the genuineness of the stamps sold by the Berlin authorities some years ago to Mr. Kosack, and also pointed out many varieties in the figures of the Arms issues, perforated and imperforated.

On the afternoon of the following day a number of the members visited the Municipal School of Technology, where they saw a practical demonstration of papermaking, the process having been previously explained in an interesting address by Professor Hubner. The method of producing hand-made paper was first shown and also the system of watermarking, after which a machine was seen at work, and considerable information given by the same gentleman.

Manchester Juniors' Exhibition.

Arrangements are advancing in regard to the above, which promises to be the most important event initiated by the Juniors up to the present time. All the most prominent philatelists have given their patronage, and offers of help are daily coming to hand.

Lord Crawford's acceptance of the position of Patron of the Exhibition has afforded the Committee and those interested in the success of the Exhibition the greatest possible pleasure.

Senf's Catalogue.

"In the multitude of counsellers there is safety" said Solomon centuries ago, and anyone who has time to study, and the capacity to digest all the various stamp catalogues would indeed be a learned man. The 1909 edition of Senf lies before us, attracting immediate attention by its brilliant orange binding, and still more by the mass of information contained in the 1,650 pages of which the volume consists, and which is rendered more accessible to those whose knowledge of the German language is limited, by an excellent alphabetical table of expressions used in describing stamps, in French, English, and Spanish.

Another feature of interest is a table of countries, the German spelling of whose names is different from that of other languages, such as Austria and Egypt, which the non-Teutonic student may have some difficulty in recognising under the headings of Österreich and Ägypten. The system introduced into last year's catalogue of chronicling stamps surcharged for official use as varieties of the same stamps unsurcharged has been abandoned, and they now appear, as in other catalogues, as separate issues."

Perhaps what will be most attractive to many collectors in this country is the catalogue of entires which is also issued in a separate volume of some 500 pages. The publications of our Leipzig friends are too well-known to require detailed comment; suffice it to say that their latest effort is in every way up to their usual standard, and is published at the moderate price of 4s. 6d.

The late Rudolph Krasemann.

We regret to announce the death, at Upsala, on the 3rd of September, after a short illness, of Mr. R. Krasemann, the well-known University bookseller. He had been for three years an ardent supporter of the Swedish Philatelic Society and a frequent contributor to its Journal, and was also the editor of the "Bibliography of the principal special works on the Postage Stamps of single countries," an edition of

which in German will very shortly be published. As recently as the 1st of August the German edition of the "Postage Stamps of Sweden, 1855-1905," in the compilation of which he was assisted by his friend, Mr. Hilmer Djurling, appeared, followed by his catalogue of the books of the Society in which he took such deep interest. He was regarded with feelings of the highest esteem by his *confrères* in the trade of which he was such a distinguished ornament, and his genial and kindly manner won for him the friendship of all those with whom he was brought into contact. His loss will naturally be felt chiefly by those amongst whom he lived and worked, but philately in general is undoubtedly poorer by the loss of a true enthusiast.

Birmingham Philatelic Society.

At the Annual Meeting, held on October 1st, the following programme was approved:—

1908.
Oct. 22.—Display, "Victoria, 1868—1885." Messrs. R. Hollick and C. A. Stephenson.
Nov. 5.—Paper, "St. Vincent, 1861—1877." Mr. W. Pimm.
,, 26.—Paper, "Barbados, 1852—70." Mr. C. A. Stephenson.
Dec. 3.—Auction.
,, 17.—Display for forthcoming Exhibition.
1909.
Jan. 7.—Lantern Display. Mr. J. A. Margorchis.
,, 12 to 15.—Exhibition at Midland Institute.
Feb. 11.—Display, "St. Helena and other African Colonies." Dr. T. Groom.
,, 25.—Display, "British Guiana." Mr. B. B. Tilley.
Mar. 4.—Auction.
,, 18.—"Notes on Sunday Label Stamps of Belgium," with Display. Mr. F. E. Wilson.
Apr. 1.—Paper, "Cashmere." Mr. Alex. J. Sefi.
,, 29.—Annual Dinner.

Five pounds was granted towards the Permanent Collection. The report and balance sheet, showing a balance in hand of £89 1s. 0½d., were approved. The Officers and Committee were elected, and the rules of the auctions were revised in favour of the members who wish to sell at the same.

Messrs. P. Lanzon, F. Brocchi, J. M. Molesworth, W. Silk, Alex. J. Sefi, V. F. James and S. C. L. Wade were elected members.

Votes of thanks were entered on the minutes to all those who had sent periodicals during the past session, also to Messrs. F. C. Henderson. F. Brocchi, Mrs. Lake, Messrs. H. Bamwell, and P. T. Deakin for recent addition to the Permanent Collection, and to Mr. H. S. Hodson for catalogues.

It was decided, as usual, to enter the names of all those who had given donations to the Permanent Collection during the past year in the front of the albums in the order of the value of the gifts.

A vote of sympathy with the Hon. President in his illness was unanimously passed, as was the decision to supply every member with the *Philatelic World* for the next twelve months who sends 6d. for the postage on same to the Hon. Secretary.

The total value of stamps circulated during the past year was £28,963 2s. 11d., and the total sold £2,874 11s. 9d. The total membership on September 30th was 255, but philatelists of good standing are still welcome, whether collectors or dealers, and the Society would be glad of more Colonial and foreign members who could send sheets regularly.

Anyone who has not received a copy of the annual report may have one on application to the Hon. Secretary.

New South Wales.

Mr. Maney Lake was the first to inform us that new electros had been brought into use for the ½d., 4d., 6d., and 1s. values. The sheets are dated 1907, and have coloured margins; and we understand that all the stamps are placed the same way on the plates, so that inverted watermarks will in future not be so plentiful as the normal kind, which was the case with some values. Most likely the 2½d., 8d., 10d., and 2s. 6d. values will follow suit. We understand that one of the reasons for making these electros was in order that the sheets might fit the new rotary perforating machine made at the the Government printing office very much on the same lines as the Adelaide press. The stamps are fed into both of these machines automatically, and there can be no possibility of imperforations or double perforations; besides the work is done much more quickly. The gauge of the recently installed machine varies a little from the triple cutters, some would say that it was 12 all round, but in reality it gauges about $12 \times 11\frac{2}{3}$, and we shall still continue to list it as $12 \times 11\frac{1}{2}$. He would be a clever man who could tell from single specimens which stamps were perforated on the old triple cutters, which on the Adelaide perforating machine, and which on the new rotary. We might add, however, that those values—new electros—above 2d., perforated on the new machine, have the gutters between the panes perforated, while the margins are not. It is the reverse on the old triple cutters.—*Australian Philatelist.*

Trinidad.

The *Colonial Office Journal* states that this colony "has decided to complete the adoption of the new colour scheme by using the colours appropriated to the 4d., 6d., and 1s. values. This means the following changes:

"4d. red and black on yellow instead of green and blue on buff.
"6d. purple on white instead of purple and black on white.
"1s. black on green instead of purple and blue on yellow.

"As the printing of the new stamps has not yet been authorised it will no doubt be some time before we see the new stamps; the three stamps at present in use are however doomed."

Herts Philatelic Society.

PROGRAMME FOR THE SESSION, 1908-9.

1908.
Oct. 20.—Display of a portion of his Collection. The EARL OF CRAWFORD, K.T.
Nov. 17.—Display of St. Vincent and Bahamas, with notes. Mr. M. P. CASTLE, J.P.
Dec. 15.—Display of Europeans (unused), with notes.
1909. Mr. ROBT. REID.
Jan. 19.—Display of Great Britain, with notes. Baron ANTHONY DE WORMS.
Feb. 16.—Display of Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Ltd.'s Collection of Forgeries of Italian States, etc., with notes. Mr. CHAS. J. PHILLIPS.
Paper on the Italian States. Mr. PERCY ASHLEY, M.A.
Mar. 16.—Display of Holland and Colonies, with notes. Mr. A. J. WARREN.
Apr. 20.—"The Purchasing power of the Penny from a Philatelic and a non-Philatelic point of view," with display. The VICE-PRESIDENT (Mr. H. L. Hayman) and Mr. PERCY ASHLEY, M.A.
May 18.—Annual Meeting.

Falkland Islands.

The printing of the 1d. with watermark sideways was presumably an error, as it is now issued again with upright watermark. We do not appear to have yet noted the size of the sheets in these columns. Those just received (issued 3.9.08) are in ten rows of six (½d., 1d., and 2½d.) or six rows of ten (2d, 6d., 1s.), with plain margins all round, no plate numbers. Of the 1d., however, only the top halves (30 stamps) of the sheets are sent us. The 1d. stamps are also remarkable in having a smudge of red ink down the edge of the right-hand margin, a very unusual occurrence in stamps printed by Messrs. De La Rue & Co., if in fact these are done by that firm. The colour varies considerably also, from dark blood-red to almost dull red, and some of the stamps were slightly smudged in printing, giving a deeper shade to the colour.—*Ewen's Weekly Stamp News.*

British Guiana Philatelic Society.

On the 31st August a meeting of the British Guiana Philatelic Society was held at the residence of Canon Josa, Waterloo Street, under the presidency of the Hon. B. Howell Jones. There were present Canon Josa, Revs. D. Duffus, M. Turpin, and V. Salmon, and Messrs. E. M. Bordman, H. Blackmore, V. A. Tatum, A B. Anderson, J. Williams, and A. D. Ferguson, Hon. Secretary.

Correspondence was read from Mr. D. E. Armstrong thanking the Society for the trouble they had taken in obtaining for him information with respect to the issues of the Cayman Islands.

Mr. Fred J. Melville, President of the Junior Society, London, wrote asking the Society to accept three copies of his recent works on Philately and to supply copies of the previous issues of the local Journal.

On the motion of Canon Josa, a vote of thanks was accorded Mr. Melville for his books, and it was agreed to send the issues of the Society's Journal.

Canon Josa proposed and the President seconded a vote of condolence to the widow of the late Mr. D. G. Garraway, who was an honorary member of the Society.

With regard to the social evening to be held on the next anniversary of the Society it was decided that it should take place at the President's residence, and those members who desired to invite friends should submit their names to the Secretary. It was also decided that members be asked to exhibit collection of stamps, and Canon Josa promised to show his collection of the the Italian States, the Hon. B. Howell Jones a general collection and the Museum collection, and Mr. Anderson and the Secretary also promised to exhibit collections. It was proposed that the general meeting should be held either on the 24th October or the first Saturday in November. Canon Josa exhibited his collection of British Guiana and West Indian stamps, the chief of which were the British Guiana 1858 4 cent magenta, damaged, the official issues, and a fine lot of Barbados, Antigua, St. Lucia, St. Vincent, Grenada, Jamaica, Trinidad, Nevis, Virgin Islands and Tobago, the latter being almost complete. Canon Josa also read some notes on his experiences in stamp collecting, dealing with it as a hobby and also as an investment, and expressed the opinion that there was nothing in it from the latter standpoint. He also mentioned that although his British Guiana and West Indian collection was not very extensive, it had been his lot to handle all the very best stamps of the colony from the 2 cent rose 1851 to the Royal Gazette stamps.

Some discussion took place on the question of stamp collecting as an investment, several members differing from the Canon's opinion.

A Rarity.

A correspondent has shown us a block of the 2d. value of the 1887 issue of Great Britain with continuous lines of green and carmine.

From Wright and Creeke's book we take the following extract:—"About the middle of 1889 a continuous green line with rounded corners was placed round the panes; and broken carmine lines (outside the one in green) were added opposite to and co-extensive with the tablet containing the numeral of value. This arrangement has continued in use up to the present (1899) except for a very short period in December, 1889, and the following January, during which the carmine lines were like those in green, continuous. This variety appears to be of considerable rarity."

* * *

Luxemburg stamps bearing the portrait of the Grand Duke Adolphus cannot be used after the 1st January next for franking purposes.

The Mart.

By Messrs. Ventom, Bull & Cooper, at the Loudoun Hotel, on September 24th and 25th, 1908.

	£	s.	d.
Great Britain: 1840, 2d. blue, without white lines, unused, part gum, but slightly creased	1	8	0
Another unused specimen, on entire, but has escaped cancellation	1	13	0
1847-54, octagonal issue, 6d., mint, but slightly short at bottom	0	15	0
Another, mint, clipped	0	7	0
Another, mint, margins all round	2	0	0
1867, 2s. blue, mint	1	6	0
2s. dull blue, unused	0	12	0
5s. rose, plate 1, unused	1	10	0
1874, 5s. rose, plate 2, unused	1	7	0
"I.R. Official," 1885, 5s. rose, superb	3	12	0
10s. blue, superb	4	0	0
Roumania: Moldavia, 27 paras black on rose, with blue postmark	24	0	0
Spain: Private Postage stamp, allowed to be used by the late Señor Castell, 1869, blue, an unused *tête-bêche* pair, in mint state	2	0	0
Hong Kong: King's Head, single wmk., set of 12, up to and including the 2 dollars, King's Head, multiple wmk., 2 dollars, and lower values, all unused in mint state, 26 in number	1	1	0
Labuan: 1886, wmk. C. and CA., perf. 12, 2c. purple, in colour of 8c., unused	0	9	0
Perf. 12, 2c. grey, in colour of 16c., unused	1	0	0
Straits Settlements: 1st issue, 8c. in green on 2a. yellow, unused pair	1	4	0
1883, vertical surcharge, 2c. on 32c. pale red, wide "E" in "CENTS," mint	0	15	0
2c. on 12c. blue, mint	1	20	0
8c. on 12c. purple-brown, mint	1	16	0
Another mint specimen, but with additional figure "8" in red, and 1885-87, 3c. on 5c. blue, mint	1	7	0
King's Head, single wmk., set of 10, including 1 dollar, multiple set ditto, and others, all mint, 35 in number	0	16	0
British South Africa: 1891, provisionals, ½d. on 6d., 2d. on 6d., 4d. on 6d., and 8d. on 1s., all mint	3	10	0
Cape of Good Hope: Woodblock, 1d. red	5	5	0
4d. deep blue, very fair	3	12	6
Transvaal: 1877, overprinted "V.R. TRANSVAAL," 6d. dull blue with inverted surcharge	2	6	0
Oct., 1877, 6d. blue on blue with full wide roulettes, pinhole	2	7	0
British Guiana: 1st issue, 12c. deep blue, cut octagonal	3	3	0
1862, provisional, 2c. black on yellow, border of pearls, very fair	2	2	0
British Honduras: 1887, perf. 12, 1d. grey, in colour of 1s., mint	0	14	0
Grenada: 1883, provisional, overprinted "POSTAGE," 1d. orange, variety "POSTAG"	0	19	0
St. Vincent: 1886-89 perforated 12, 1d. pale violet, in colour of 6d., mint	1	0	0
Trinidad: 1896-1900, provisional, "3d." on 5d. lilac and mauve, unused, mint, uncatalogued	1	10	0

By Messrs. Glendining & Co., at their Galleries, on October 6th and 7th, 1908.

	£	s.	d.
France: Postage Due, 1859, lithographed, 10c. black, unused	0	19	0
French Colonies: 1871-6, 4c. grey	1	5	0
Great Britain: 1862, 3d. rose, variety with dots, mint, but two or three perfs. cut	2	16	0
1867-80, 2s. brown, plain edges left side	1	0	0
1867-83, £5 orange, mint	4	12	6
I.R. Official, 1884-5, 5s. rose, except for slight creasing, mint	4	5	0
I.R. Official, 1884-5, 10s. blue, mint	6	0	0
Italy: Embossed letter sheets of 1818, 15g., 25g., and 50g.	0	19	0
Naples: Nov., 1860, ½ T arms, unused	5	17	6
Naples: Used copy of same stamp, slightly defective	5	15	0
Oldenburg: 1855, ½sgr., three copies on original	3	15	0
1859: ⅓gr. black on green, fine on original 2 and 3gr., both with wide margins, first slightly thinned	2	0	0
3gr. black on yellow, fine on original	2	2	0
1861, ½gr. chestnut and 3gr. yellow	1	17	0
2gr. rose, two good shades	1	3	0
Saxony: 1850, 3pf. pale red, unused, but has one or two small nicks in margins	4	17	6
1863, 5ngr. dull violet, mint sheet of 100	1	14	0
Switzerland: Zurich, March, 1843, horizontal lines, 4 rappen, unused but slightly thinned	5	17	6
Vertical lines, 4 rappen, on piece of original, two small tears	5	15	0
Ceylon: 1857-9, imperf., 8d. deep yellow-brown, with margins, cracked at right side	6	10	0
1s. 9d. green, unused	2	8	0
1861, clean cut perfs., 5d. and 1s., both mint	0	16	0
Rough perf., 8d. yellow-brown, mint, but three or four perfs. cut at bottom	4	12	6
1872-80, perf. 14 × 12½, 32c. slate, mint	5	0	0
Perf. 12½, 2r. 50c., mint, but few perfs. on right side cut	6	0	0
1883-4, 24c. purple-brown, mint	6	15	0
Cyprus: 1880, 1d. red, plate 208, mint vertical pair, one stamp without overprint	3	10	0
1d. red, plate 208, mint vertical pair, one stamp with double overprint	2	0	0
1881, 30 paras on 1d., plate 220, surcharge double, one inverted	2	0	0
Hong Kong: 96c. yellow-brown, mint	10	10	0
Gold Coast: 1891-4, £1 lilac and black on red, mint	0	18	0
£1 green and red, mint	7	0	0
Lagos: 1884-6 5s. blue, mint	5	7	6
10s. lilac-brown, mint, but plain edge on left side	5	10	0
Zululand: 1888-92, 5s. carmine	1	14	0
1894-6, £1 purple on red, mint	1	13	0
£5 purple and black on red, mint	6	2	6
Postal Fiscal, 1s. on Natal, mint, with margin showing control No. 2, but plain edge left side	0	15	0
£1 green, mint, but perfs. partly clipped on left side	3	0	0
British Guiana: Jan., 1852, 1c. black on magenta, lightly marked copy	1	19	0
4c. black on blue	2	0	0
1875, perf. 15, 12c. lilac, mint	3	10	0
1876, 96c. olive-bistre, mint, but perf. slightly shortened at bottom	1	10	0
1889-90, $1 green, mint	2	6	0
$2 and $3, both mint, but first has few perfs. shortened	1	0	0
$4 green, mint	0	16	0
$5 green, mint	1	0	0
Official, 1875, 12c. lilac, mint, but perfs. slightly shortened	3	0	0
24c. green, mint, but a few perfs. slightly shortened	2	12	6
1877, 2c. orange, mint	1	1	0
4c. blue, mint	1	10	0
12c. mauve, mint	4	10	0
74c. green, mint	4	17	6
St. Vincent: 1881, 4d. on 1s. vermilion	7	5	0
Sept., 1884, wmk. Crown CA., perf. 12, ½d. orange, mint	4	0	0
1883-4, wmk. Crown CA., perf. 14, 4d. bright blue, mint	1	12	0
1885, 4d. red-brown, mint, but perf. shortened	2	0	0
1886-9, 6d. pale violet, mint	0	11	0
Tobago: 1879, wmk. Crown CC., 1s. green, practically mint	1	0	0
5s. slate, mint	1	8	0
Another, unused	1	1	0
£1 mauve, mint, but perfs. shortened	3	15	0
1882-4, wmk. Crown CA., 6d. stone, mint	3	10	0
United States of America: Aug., 1861, Premieres Gravures, 1c. deep blue, unused	21	10	0
3c. claret, nicely centred unused copy, has two minute ink marks on face of stamp	3	10	0

Correspondence.

"Afghanistan."

To the Editor of the "Philatelic Record."

Sir,—In reference to your review on the recently issued handbook on "Afghanistan," by Sir David Masson and myself, I see you remark that in the 1293 Type II. issue "the two different ways of writing the Shahi character are mentioned, but the second and rarer character for this value is not explained."

An "explanation" was hardly necessary, seeing that in both cases the word in Arabic was "Shahi." The only difference is in the final flourish. The word in both instances is *written*, and consequently differs a good deal from *type* (in the same way as English writing differs from printing type). At the end of the section dealing with this "1293 (B) issue" it is distinctly stated that twenty of one type and four of the other are on each sheet. Arabic as written does not always run strictly from right to left, but the succeeding characters are often *above* the first, etc. This peculiarity cannot be, therefore, reproduced in *type*. Evidently it is this that is puzzling you in the two "types." In the clearer writing (that of twenty varieties on each sheet) the word is written  ; and in the other four types the left character is merely above and across the right one, with the left tail cut short, but with the right one prolonged abnormally. This was hardly worth commenting on at all and so we did not mention it.

I hope this will make the matter clear to you.—Yours faithfully,

B. Gordon Jones.

P.S.—Both ways of writing the word "Shahi" were also used in the 1293 "tablet" issue.

374, Camden Road,
London, N.
2nd October, 1908.

U.S. Navy Error.

To the Editor of the "Philatelic Record."

Dear Sir,—We wish to call your attention, and that of the philatelic public, to the fact that fraudulently perforated copies of the United States 2 cents green Navy error are on the market, and have recently been advertised and offered at prices ridiculously low, compared with the value of the genuine. It appears that some of the well-known imperforate greens have been perforated and sold as the genuine regular error. These imperforates have sold in recent years, as "space-fillers" for the perforated stamp, at a round $10.00 each, which appears to be about their actual market value.

Noticing, recently, that fine copies of the perforated Navy error were being offered at $32.50 each, which we ourselves would be glad to pay for a fine specimen, and knowing that the really fine copies, as well as practically all the others, of our own original lot, had long since been absorbed into collections, and believing the same to be true of the lot afterwards discovered by Mr. C. F. Rothfuchs in Washington, and knowing, also, that the lot of imperforates existed, we began investigation of the matter.

As a result, the vendor who advertised these stamps has admitted to us that his copies were perforated by a well-known stamp repairer, located in New York since his removal here from Paris.

When taxed with the matter, the party who offered these stamps gave us the excuse that he understood that most of those on the market had been produced by perforating imperforates, and to us his contention seemed to be that, as long as others were making "easy" money in this way, he did not see why he should not get his share of the plunder. It is to this intimation, that other dealers also have been quietly selling these fakes, that we wish to draw additional attention.

We are acquainted with the characteristics of the imperforates, are able to pronounce upon them, and shall be glad to examine and give our opinion, free of charge, upon any 2 cents green Navy errors purchased by collectors within the past few years, which are sent us for examination. We request that all stamps sent us for examination *be marked on the back by the owner for identification,* in order that there may be no question as to our returning the same stamps.—Yours faithfully,

Scott Stamp & Coin Co.
(F. Putney, Jr., Manager).
18, East 23d St., New York,
October 9, 1908.

THE

Philatelic Record.

NOVEMBER, 1908.

Editorial Note.

VICTORIA is in a somewhat unhappy state at the moment through the discovery of a fraud perpetrated upon the revenue, one which it is said has extended over a period of years, and which, up to the time of writing, the detective department have failed to bring home to any of the parties implicated—and also through being faced with a loss in revenue estimated by the Premier (Sir Thomas Bent) at £160,000 per annum, if the Colony follows the lead set by New South Wales and abolishes the stamp duty on bills of exchange and promissory notes. The immediate result of the policy of New South Wales has been to transfer a volume of business, hitherto transacted in Melbourne, to Sydney, and as there is no likelihood of New South Wales reimposing the duty, the Premier has made the announcement that South Australia is contemplating making a concession in the removal of the tax, in so far as it relates to over-sea bills of exchange, which will mean a loss in revenue of about £4,000.

An (Im)pious Fraud.

Philatelists are more concerned in the first of these dangers to the revenue of Victoria, which relates to the discovery of extensive stamp frauds committed by the removal of duty stamps from old court documents, and their alleged use again as new stamps. It appears that about six months ago a clerk in one of the Ballarat Courts was asked to find an old document, and when he did so, discovered that the stamp was missing; he therefore examined other old documents, and found the stamps upon many had either been carefully removed or ruthlessly torn off. A careful examination of other documents revealed the fact that the stamps upon them were cleaned copies. Present investigations go to show that the cases where the stamps have been removed are confined to the Ballarat group, but cleaned stamps have been found on official documents in Melbourne. The values of the stamps are practically confined to the 1s., 1s. 6d., 2s. 6d., and 4s. values, these values not having been changed in form or colour for many years; whereas no 5s. stamps have been removed, it being interesting to note that changes have taken place in the paper upon which that value is printed. If investigations were made by the other Colonies in the Commonwealth, we fancy similar frauds would be unearthed; it has at all events been well recognised by stamp collectors for years that high values of Victoria, Queensland, and South Australian stamps have been put upon the market which have been cleaned copies, and in some instances bore fraudulent postmarks as well. It is difficult to account for the number of such stamps being about, except upon the hypothesis of their fraudulent removal from State documents.

Notable Philatelists.

W. Dorning Beckton.

THE subject of our sketch this month is one who is well-known in philatelic circles, by reason of the prominent part he has played during the last fifteen years in Exhibitions, both as a successful exhibitor, and in more recent times as one of the Jury, and also in Society work. In connection with the latter, Mr. W. Dorning Beckton was one of the promoters of the Manchester Society, which as a provincial Society has been vouchsafed more than the usual amount of notoriety and success. He was one of its first Vice-Presidents, in its early stages acted as Hon. Secretary for some years, and has been President since 1896. By virtue of this position he was the Chairman of the Manchester Philatelic Exhibition of 1899, which will always be looked upon as one of the great Exhibitions of the past, to bring about which he, in conjunction with his friend, Mr. G. F. H. Gibson, the Hon. Secretary, ably supported by other well-known Manchester philatelists, strove so long and so hard.

Mr. Beckton's ability in the matters indicated, and as a philatelist, have received recognition at the hands of the Royal Philatelic Society, London, upon the Council of which he was elected, and sat for three or four years before it received its present title of which its Fellows are so justly proud. He was a member of the Executive Committee of the last London Exhibition in 1906, and was also appointed one of the Judges, having served in the same capacity at the Hague and other places.

The successes gained by him as an exhibitor at the London Exhibition of 1897, Calcutta (1898), Manchester (1899), Paris (1900), and Berlin (1904), are represented by four gold, seven silver, and one bronze medal. We believe we are correct in saying that the last medal was one coveted by Mr. Beckton, and caused him the most pains to secure.

Coming to his stamps, these may be best summed up by saying that he has what may be termed a sound slightly specialised general collection of those issued between the years 1840 and 1890, in which a few countries are highly specialised, such as Greece, Roumania, the Native Protected States of the Straits Settlements, and one or two others. The all-round general strength of the collection can be gauged by the fact that no country has been shown at any Exhibition a second time, and that the medals Mr. Beckton has won have been for different countries, all of which at present form part of his collection. In fact, when touching upon this point, it is well recognised amongst his friends that he has never been known to sell a single stamp out of his collection since he commenced collecting in 1879.

Having regard to its size, which does not approach that of very many specialised collections of to-day, and all told amounts to only slightly over 60,000 stamps, it is remarkable how many surprises its owner from time to time is able to spring upon his London friends, as



W. Dorning Beckton.

instances of which may be mentioned his blocks of 5s. and 4d. Griqualand with large G, both unique, as well as his almost entire sheet of the ½d. red surcharge, and panes of the 1d.; while only a few weeks ago he astonished an eminent specialist of Japan by producing entire sheets of the 6 sen, including the rare syllabic 17. Other instances could be given, but enough has been said on this head to make apparent what is indeed pretty well recognised in the Strand, that no one quite knows what he may still have up his sleeve. It must not be overlooked, however, that this "Mark Tapley," as he was dubbed at one of the Exhibition banquets, is the leader of the Manchester school, identified so closely with which is the collection of stamps in entire sheets and large blocks —so much so that it was in imminent peril at one time of being re-christened the "Strip, Block, and Sheet Society."

Mr. Beckton is widely known as a writer; his work upon the stamps of Greece, and that undertaken by him with his friend, Mr. Duerst, upon Roumania, being perhaps the best examples, although, of recent years, a very large quantity of philatelic matter has appeared in the press written by him, but without his name being disclosed.

"You, Sir, by nature are of a broad-minded disposition, and your collection has been built accordingly, which has brought with it an all-round knowledge of the stamps of the world formed by few in these days. From one point of view, it would have been better had you restricted the sphere in which to work; by so doing, your natural philatelic ability would have given to the hobby another brilliant specialist of the Crawford school. From another standpoint it is as well, perhaps, that you have always remained a general collector, thereby enabling you to be in greater sympathy with the general body of stamp collectors, as so much is done by sympathy to encourage and foster the pursuit. We have said you are broad-minded, and believe this to be the case, although at times in your writings you have been very severe upon the stamp collector who ties himself down to used stamps only, and also upon the new issue collector. This severity is really attributable in a great measure to the virtue we ascribed to you, as it is begotten by your aversion to the hypocrite or the narrow-minded man who fails to see good except through his own particular pair of spectacles.

"You have spent a busy, we might almost say an arduous philatelic life; your friends recognise that your labours on behalf of philately have been prompted solely by your love for the hobby, and you have in the past spared neither your time nor money to further the interests of the hobby you have so much at heart. You would, we know, gladly welcome others to take part of the care and work in future from off your shoulders, and thereby to give you that respite from your labours whereby you could enjoy to the full the satisfaction of looking back upon the past, and the future study of your stamps, which have given you such intense pleasure in getting together."

The Stamps of Liberia.

By Bertram T. K. Smith.

OWING to the uncertain variations of former catalogue-makers, and to the scarcity of material for study, especially in the shape of dated specimens, the true arrangement of the earlier Liberian stamps is open to some doubt; but the student of these interesting old issues will probably find his surest foundation in Dr. Legrand's article in *Le Timbrophile* of July 30th, 1869, where that writer divides them into the printings given below. He does not mention the name of the manufacturers, but this is given in the *Stamp-Collectors' Review* of May, 1863, as "Messrs. Dando, Todhunter & Smith, Gresham Street, London."

There can be no doubt that, as Dr. Legrand wrote, the Liberian stamps must have been produced from three separate line-engraved dies. "The sheets were made up by transferring to the lithographic stone impressions taken from the original dies, and when one stone became too worn, it was easy to make another transfer by the same method"; but, as he went on to point out, these transfers would vary, even if done by the most skilled workman, who would naturally pay more attention to the actual designs than to the minute accuracy of their arrangement. Dr. Legrand's description of the three successive transfers is as follows:—

TRANSFER I. *Stamps without framing lines.*

TRANSFER II. *Stamps with special framing lines for each stamp,* so that every specimen is separated from its neighbours by two lines on each side. The blank space between each stamp is also greater—about 5mm.

TRANSFER III. *Stamps with framing lines;* but while the vertical lines are distinct for each stamp, the horizontal lines are single, or at least so close together that they run into one another when the stamps are slightly less spaced. The distinguishing feature of this transfer is the reduced distance between the stamps (about 2½mm.), with this consequence—that the perforation cuts into the framing lines or the edge of the design, while in Transfer II. the perforation generally falls on the space between the framing lines.

TRANSFER IV. *Stamps without framing lines.* During the preparation of his article, Dr. Legrand received the latest printing, which he described as differing from the first "in being printed on much thinner paper and by a difference in the colours." A further reference to its distinguishing features will be found later on.

[TRANSFER V. *Stamps with framing lines,* issue of 1880.]

Before describing these issues in detail, it is desirable to say a word as to the gauge of the perforation, which is referred to by the early writers and cataloguers as being either 11 or 12. As far as my own investigations have gone, I am inclined to think that two single-lined perforations were in use before 1880—(*a*) measuring $11\frac{1}{4}$ to $11\frac{1}{2}$; and (*b*) measuring $11\frac{3}{4}$ to almost 12. I have seen (*b*) used alone, and (*a*) used vertically in combination with (*b*) horizontally. With this cautionary remark I must leave the perforations given below to the authority of the writers cited. It may be added that the Tapling Collection includes a 24c. green, *rouletted* $6\frac{1}{2}$, but on examination the stamp itself proves to be a forgery.

TRANSFER I.

Described in Moens's catalogue (1892) as

1860. Imperf.	6 cents	...	...	red.
	12 „	...	...	dark blue.
	24 „	...	...	green.
Perf. 12.	6 „	...	...	red.
	12 „	...	...	dark blue.
	24 „	...	...	dark green.

In the case of this issue we are first of all met with the question as to the status of the imperforate stamps. Were these ever in use? As far as I am aware, no undoubtedly used specimens are known, and all we can say of them is that they seem to have been regarded by the early authorities as a separate issue. Writing of them in 1867, E. L. Pemberton described them as being far rarer than the perforated set, adding that "they can only be secured now on the breaking up of an old collection."*

Do proofs of Transfer I. exist in black? Legrand, in 1869, attributed all the black impressions to Transfers II. and III., but on the other hand, Moens, in 1865, mentioned black proofs of Transfer I. only. No doubt, however, Dr. Legrand was right, for in Moens's catalogue of 1872 we find the proofs (not only in black, but also in blue, in red, and in green) classed under Transfers II.—III., and priced at 1 franc each. Furthermore, no black impressions of any kind seem to have been recorded until 1864.

With regard to the colours of the stamps of Transfer I., it is probable that the 12c. was not uniform in shade, as in *Le Timbrophile* of October, 1865, Mahé spoke of having received a consignment with this stamp "in a very dark blue." In the *Stamp-Collector's Magazine* of June, 1863, Dr. Viner (who was then very likely the only English importer of Liberian stamps) wrote:—"We have a 24 cents olive-green; it is not an essay, having passed the post"; and again, in August, 1864, he mentions the 24c. "whether accidentally or designedly, olive-coloured."

The 12c. [imperforate] printed in "lavender" was catalogued by Booty in 1862. Writing to the *Stamp-Collector's Magazine* (October, 1863) "on the subject of the lilac stamp known as the essay of

* The Tapling Collection contains a number of unused imperforate specimens, all classed under the date of 1860, and including a pair of each value. It is doubtful, however, whether any of the single copies can be regarded as indubitably imperforate, nd it appears to the writer that the pairs really belong to Transfer IV,

Liberia," the late Jules Pauwels related the then-current story "to the effect that about fifty or more of them were struck off by a youth who surreptitiously got hold of the 12 cent plate in the printing office of the London firm that supplies them, but could not obtain (or durst not use, more probably) the proper colour. These he sold to a barber, who again disposed of them to a Jew boy at twopence each, who, in his turn, retailed them so as to be sold by another party at threepence.

"'As it was told us, so we give the tale.'"

Commenting on this, Dr. Viner observed "it was rather a dangerous game to play, and we are rather inclined to believe that the stamps in question were really among the first essays for Liberia; which does not at all militate against the probability of their having been repeated in the way described above, our correspondent having authentic vouchers for the truth of his narration. Moreover, we are persuaded we have seen the stamp alluded to, postmarked, in a collection." Pemberton, also, though he did not include it in his "Handbook," vouched in 1868 for the existence of a postmarked copy of "the old 12c. lilac," describing the stamp as "from an early die, being finely executed."

Transfers II.—III.

Until further material is available, it is difficult for us to discuss the exactness of Dr. Legrand's description of these transfers, and for the present we will take them together as one issue, viz., that "with framing lines," described in Moens's catalogue (1892) as

1864. Perf. 11, 12.	6 cents ...	...	pale red.
	12 ,, ...	...	pale blue.
	24 ,, ...	...	green.

⁂ Varieties:—6c. pale red, 12c. pale blue, 24c. green, *imperforate*.

The date given is no doubt correct, for in *Le Timbre-Poste* of May, 1865, we find it stated that the above stamps "were issued in January, 1864. There is a small line added to the stamp, placed 1mm. from the edge, and thus forming a frame. The shades are unchanged."

According to Dr. Legrand (*Timbre-Poste*, February, 1867), the "framed" stamps were at first perforated 11, except the 12c., which was perforated 12, like the stamps of Transfer I. "The three values in the sets last to hand [Transfer II.]," he wrote, "are all perforated 12. A few of the 6c. have reached us imperforate, in consequence, no doubt, of some accident to the perforating machine." It is, however, not the 6c. of Transfer II., but the imperforate set of Transfer I. that Berger-Levrault, in his 1867 catalogue, attributed to an accident to the machine, and, he added, "specimens are found showing, by their imperfect perforation, traces of this accident." No mention appears to have been made of imperforate specimens of Transfer III. until the publication of the 1882 edition of Moens's catalogue, where the set of 1867 is given as existing in that condition.

Of Transfer II. Dr. Legrand stated (*Le Timbrophile*, 1869), that proofs of all three values existed in black,* and to Transfer III. he

* It appears from the *Timbre-Poste* (June, 1865), that some bogus "proofs" in black of the 6c., 12c., and 24c. were being put on the market. "They are printed on thin paper and are produced by means of photo-lithography." It may be that these forgeries deceived E. L. Pemberton, and that the "proofs" referred to by him in 1868 as being "struck simply for sale, on very thin paper, from the old worn dies," were those already exposed in 1865.

attributed not only a set of proofs in black, but also the blue, red, and green impressions already mentioned. The whole of these "Transfer III." proofs were denounced as mere speculations by M. Mahé in 1867. He described them as being "badly printed on white notepaper," and said that they could not be genuine proofs inasmuch as they had evidently been surfaced *au cylindre* between two metal plates, crushing both paper and impression, and making the stamps look like the little labels used by perfumers. "Just imagine a skilful printer calendering his proofs! Do we ever see a collector of engravings putting a gloss on one of his proofs, in other words, destroying all its qualities—its vigour, the sharpness of its lines, the quality of its blacks? The thing is too ludicrous; one might as well imagine a numismatist taking his medals to be ground down, and then offering them to collectors as trial impressions!" On the other hand, M. Maury (*Collectionneur de Timbres-Poste*, July, 1867), maintained their genuineness and said that he had obtained his specimens in the following manner:—"On the recommendation of a friend of his, we asked one of the principal Liberian officials for some imperforate stamps of that country; after waiting for several months, we received some sheets of these stamps, imperforate, but in inverted colours, *i.e.*, instead of the 6c. rose, 12c. blue, and 24c. green, we received the following:—6c. blue, 12c. green, 24c. red; 6c. green, 12c. red, 24c. blue; and also a set in black. A note accompanied them, kindly informing us that the enquiries made on our behalf had not led to the discovery of any imperforate stamps beside those in question. Our letter arrived a fortnight too late, they added, all the stamps on hand being perforated."

An element of confusion is introduced by the continuation of M. Maury's article. "In carefully examining these essays," he wrote, "we noticed the absence of the exterior line, which, in the case of the second issue, spaced the stamps out a little, so that they could be perforated without trenching on the design, a feature that distinguished them from those of the first issue.

"Were our proofs, therefore, of old date? No, for the impression was quite fresh, and, furthermore, the stamps of the first issue were line-engraved,* while these impressions are the result of a lithographic transfer. . . . In any case they were sent to us with no idea of making a profit, for we were not charged for them.

"Just lately some stamps taken off letters coming from Liberia show all the characteristics of our proofs—thin paper, lithographic impression, colours precisely alike, and finally absence of the exterior line."

(To be continued.)

* The writer does not propose to discuss this statement, which appears to him to be untenable. It is true that the idea that the first issue was in *taille-douce*, was shared at the time not only by Mahé and Maury, but also by Moens—but the last-named authority abandoned it in later years.

The Lithographed High Values of Queensland (1881 series).

By Leslie L. R. Hausburg.

(Continued from Page 188).

The Five Shillings

(Ten Types).

Type I.
(1) The inner oval is broken above the "V" of "FIVE."
(2) The outer oval is broken below the "F," between the "F" and "I," and between the "I" and "V" of "FIVE."
(3) There are two excrescences on the lower part of the last "S" of "SHILLINGS," and the upper limb touches the scroll work.

Type II.
(1) There is an excrescence on the end of the upper bar of the "F" of "FIVE," and another on the end of the shorter bar, and there is a small coloured dot between them.
(2) The lower limb of the last "S" of "SHILLINGS" is nearly straight.

Type III.
(1) There is a small nick in the inner oval just above the "F" of "FIVE," and there is a small coloured spot there.
(2) There are two small coloured spots below the last "S" of "SHILLINGS," the lowest curve of which touches the scroll work.

Type IV.
(1) There is a coloured spot between the "V" and "E" of "FIVE," nearly touching the lower part of the "E."
(2) There is a small coloured spot to the right of the lower limb of the last "S" of "SHILLINGS," and the outer oval is broken just below this "S."

Type V.
(1) The last "S" of "SHILLINGS" is heavily drawn, but is very small and narrow.
(2) There is a small coloured spot above the "G" of "SHILLINGS."

Type VI.
(1) The upper bar of the "F" of "FIVE" is split at the end, and the scroll next to it is broken.
(2) There is a small coloured spot above the right arm of the "V" of "FIVE."
(3) The inner oval is broken between the letters "E" and "S" of "FIVE SHILLINGS."

Type VII. (1) The circle in the centre of the scroll next to the "F" of "FIVE" is joined to the outer curve.
(2) The scroll next to the last "S" of "SHILLINGS" touches it, and is broken.

Type VIII. (1) There are two, and sometimes three spots, between the "V" and "E" of "FIVE."
(2) There are two small spots below, and to the right of, the last "S" of "SHILLINGS."

Type IX. (1) The scroll next to the "F" of "FIVE" has been re-drawn, and is much flattened; very little is left of the circle in the centre.
(2) There is a short line connecting the lower limb of the last "S" of "SHILLINGS" to the adjacent scroll.

Type X. (1) The outer oval is broken between the "I" and "V," and under the "E" of "FIVE."
(2) A short vertical line has been added to the end of the lower bar of the "E" of "FIVE."

The Ten Shillings

(Ten Types).

Type I. (1) The outer oval is broken slightly to the left of the "T" of "TEN," and there is a coloured spot just above the break.
(2) There are short vertical lines between the "N" and "S" of "TEN SHILLINGS," and between the "H" and "I," nearly touching the former.
(3) There is a small excrescence on the outer oval, just after the last "S" of "SHILLINGS."

Type II. (1) There is a spot between the foot of the "T" and the "E" of "TEN."
(2) There are several small spots, and a short line touching the inner oval, above the "TE" of "TEN."
(3) The scroll next to the last "S" of "SHILLINGS" is broken.

Type III. (1) The top of the "T" of "TEN" curves upwards on the right, and downwards on the left.
(2) The inner oval is slightly thickened and sometimes broken above the "TE" of "TEN."

(To be continued).

Plate II.


1
2
3
4
5
QUEENSLAND
TEN SHILLINGS
6
7
8
9
10


1
2
3
4
5
QUEENSLAND
TWENTY SHILLINGS

The Postmaster-General's Report for 1907-8.

THE Annual Report of the Postmaster-General again shows an increase in the already tremendous business of the Post Office. The numbers of postal packets delivered in the United Kingdom for the last three years are as follows :—

	1907-8.	1906-7.	1905-6.
Letters	2,863,900,000	2,804,400,000	2,707,200,000
Post-cards	858,300,000	831,400,000	800,300,000
Halfpenny packets ...	940,600,000	933,200,000	891,600,000
Newspapers	199,800,000	189,100,000	185,400,000
Parcels	109,470,000	104,820,000	101,700,000
Totals ...	4,972,070,000	4,862,920,000	4,686,200,000

Letters show an increase of 2.1 %, against 3.6 % last year, and 3.1 % the year before; post-cards an increase of 3.2 %, against 3.9 % and 9 % respectively; halfpenny packets an increase of 0.8 %, against 4.7 % and 5.7 % respectively; newspapers an increase of 5.7 %, against 2 % and 3.3 % respectively; and parcels an increase of 4.4 %, against 3.1 % and 4.6 % respectively. The total increase was 2.2 % for this year, against 3.8 % last year, and 4.6 % the year before.

As stated in the last report, the popularity of picture post-cards had reached its climax, and the annual increase in post-cards has returned to the normal.

	1907-8.	1906-7.	1905-6.
Registered Letters ...	19,123,050	18,491,770	18,634,333

This year shows an increase of 3.4 %, against a decrease of 0.8 % last year, and an increase of 0.7 % the year before.

	1907-8.	1906-7.	1905-6.
Express Services... ...	1,808,888	1,673,258	1,578,746

an increase of 8.1 % over last year, against one of 6 % the preceding year.

Undelivered packets reached the unprecedented total of 31,278,000, an increase of 5.08 % on the total of the preceding year. Amongst these were 393,298 registered letters and letters containing articles of value, amounting to £19,378 16s. 6d. in cash and banknotes; £636,680 17s. in bills, cheques, money orders, postal orders, and stamps.

The Postmaster-General also mentions that the colour of the 1½d. embossed postage stamp was changed in October, 1907, from yellow to purple, as some difficulty had been experienced in distinguishing the yellow stamps in artificial light.

The total weight of letters and post-cards despatched from the United Kingdom to places abroad during the year shows an increase of 9.67 % on the total of the preceding year. This is nearly twice the rate of increase during the preceding year, and is no doubt mainly due to the concessions in regard to the postage and weight of letters for abroad which came into force on the 1st of October last; 11,605 letters to places abroad were insured, against 10,531 the preceding year, an increase of 10.20 %.

Parcels sent to, and received from, places abroad, numbered as follows :—

	1907-8.	1906-7.	1905-6.
Sent	2,736,561 ...	2,575,891 ...	2,474,003
Received	1,515,800 ...	1,471,785 ...	1,431,035
	4,252,361	4,047,676	2,905,038

an increase of about 5 % over last year.

The number of inland money orders issued during the year was 10,431,497, representing a sum of £39,060,590, against 10,845,032 and £37,997,339. The foreign and colonial orders numbered 3,197,178, amounting to £9,291,470, against 2,974,653 and £8,338,544.

The number of postal orders issued during the year was 125,264,000, representing an amount of £44,614,000, an increase of 22.5 % in number and 9.1 % in amount, as compared with the previous year. This large increase is principally due to the heavy demand for "sixpenny" orders for the "Limerick" competitions. The value of British postage stamps affixed to postal orders was £236,000. The commission on the orders yielded the sum of £466,131, or £51,090 more than the previous year. The total amount of money remitted through the Post Office by means of money orders and postal orders during the year was £93,000,000.

The Post Office Savings Bank shows clearly the hard times we are passing through. Last year the withdrawals exceeded the deposits by £2,216,344, whereas during the previous year the deposits exceeded the withdrawals by £217,577. The total number of accounts remaining open at the end of December, 1907, was 10,692,555, and are distributed as follows :—

	Number of Depositors.	Total Amount to Credit of Depositors.	Average Amount to Credit of each Depositor.	Proportion of Depositors to Population.
		£	£ s. d.	
England and Wales...	9,672,200 ...	140,587,592 ...	14 10 8 ...	1 in 3.63
Scotland	494,914 ...	6,336,571 ...	12 16 1 ...	1 in 9.65
Ireland	525,441 ...	10,575,914 ...	20 2 7 ...	1 in 8.33
United Kingdom ...	10,692,555	157,500,077	14 14 7	1 in 4.14

The average amount to the credit of each depositor shows a further decrease of 7s. 4d.; the previous year there was a decrease of 3s. 5d., and the preceding year—1905—a decrease of 1s. 4d.

During the year ending 31st of March, 1908, 85,969,000 telegrams passed over the Post Office wires, as compared with 89,493,000 in 1906-7, a decrease of 3.9 %. The receipts were £2,736,746, against £2,756,528 the preceding year. The number of foreign telegrams sent to and from the United Kingdom during the year (exclusive of certain

telegrams dealt with entirely by Cable Companies) was practically the same as the numbers sent during 1906-7, viz., 9,147,000.

The total number of Post Offices open on the 31st March, 1908, was made up as follows:—

	London.	England & Wales.	Scotland.	Ireland.	Total.
Head Offices ...	11	593	129	110	843
Branch Offices	109	131	30	10	280
Town Sub. Offices	930	4,566	387	224	6,107
Country Sub. Offices	—	11,835	1,857	2,678	16,370
	1,050	17,125	2,403	3,022	23,600

The number of letter boxes was increased during the year from 41,720 to 43,025.

The number of persons on the establishment of the Post Office on 31st March, 1908, was 90,776, of whom 13,259 were women. The increase during the year was 2,568. In addition, there were 112,821 persons filling unestablished positions (some of them employed only for a portion of the day), of whom 30,476 were women. The total number of persons employed, wholly or in part, was thus 203,597.

To show the increase during the last ten years the following table will be interesting reading:—

	1898-1899.	1907-1908.
Letters delivered	2,186,800,000	2,863,900,000
Post-cards ,,	382,200,000	858,300,000
Half-penny Packets delivered	701,500,000	940,600,000
Newspapers ,,	154,100,000	199,800,000
Parcels ,,	71,913,000	109,470,000
Registered Letters ,,	15,240,669	19,123,050
,, Parcels ,,	761,801	1,034,262
Express Delivery Service	641,227	1,808,888
	3,513,156,697	4,994,036,200

A very interesting item would be a table containing the consumption of stamps (each value of course separate), envelopes, post-cards, etc.



The earliest information as to New Issues will be much appreciated by us, and will be duly credited to the correspondent, or firm, sending it. Our foreign subscribers can materially help us in this direction. When possible, a specimen should accompany the information, and be addressed to

G. Fred. H. Gibson, *Fairfield, Crumpsall, Manchester.*

The British Empire.

Australian Commonwealth. — The *Australian Philatelist* notes the appearance of the following :—

Adhesive.
Unpaid Letter stamp.
Wmk. Crown and A. Perf. 11½ × 11.
5s. pale green.

Bahamas.—It is stated in *Ewen's Weekly* that the pictorial 1d. is now coming on thinner paper and in a different shade to heretofore.



Adhesive.
Wmk. CC and Crown.
1d. bright rose and grey-black.

Bermuda.—*Ewen's Weekly* is officially informed that the ½d. stamp has now been issued.



Adhesive.
Wmk. CA and Crown multiple.
½d. lilac and brown.

Grenada.—As long ago as June, 1906, we listed some new values of the pictorial set from particulars given in Continental Exchanges; as these particulars do not appear now to be entirely accurate, we chronicle them afresh as below.



Adhesives.
Wmk. CA and Crown multiple.
6d. lilac.

Wmk. CA and Crown single.
1s. black on green.

Wmk. CA and Crown multiple.
2s. blue and purple on blue.
5s. red and green on yellow.

Wmk. CA and Crown single.
10s. red and green on green.

New Zealand.—*Ewen's Weekly* states that the current 6d. has now appeared perforated 14 × 15.

Papua.—The 2½d. of the permanent type comes in both perforations, 11 and 12½.

South Australia.—Again the 10s. value with large "Postage" is listed in various quarters; we hope it is really issued at last.

Foreign Countries.

Abyssinia.—Messrs Whitfield King & Co. write in reference to the recent provisional :—"The ½ guerche red stamps have "been overprinted '1 piastre'; 7,000 were "issued in July, and distributed amongst "the various Post Offices in Abyssinia. In "a letter from our Abyssinian correspon-"dent, dated September 17th, he states "there were remaining in stock no stamps "of ¼, ½, 1, or 2 guerches of any issue, "surcharged or unsurcharged. In conse-"quence of this shortage, the Postage Due "stamps, overprinted 'Taxe à Percevoir,' "were allowed to be used as ordinary "postage stamps, and our consignments "were franked with some of them."

Argentine Republic.—The latest values that have appeared are the 2c. and 5c. Mr. W. H. Peckitt sends us specimens.

Belgium.—The stamps surcharged for use in Offices in China are not to be issued.

We understand also that the recently listed 2c. is not on sale, their being a sufficient stock of the old type of this value to last for a considerable time.

Colombia.—*Mekeel's Weekly Stamp News* states that the contract with the postage stamp printers having run out, the Government has placed a fresh contract. The new stamps are similar to the present, but a little larger ;. so far three values have appeared.

Adhesives.

½c. orange.
2c. carmine.
5c. blue.

Crete.—Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. advise us that on October 18th the undermentioned values were overprinted with the Greek word "ΕΛΛΑΣ."

These overprinted stamps are to remain in use until the annexation with Greece has been finally accomplished, when all Cretan stamps will be withdrawn and ordinary Greek stamps used.



Adhesives.

1l. red-brown.
2l. violet.
5l. green.
10l. rose-red.
20l. blue-green.
25l. blue and black.
50l. brown.
1dr. carmine and brown.
2dr. brown.
3dr. orange and black.
5dr. green and black.

Danish West Indies.—*Le Timbre Poste* adds two more values to the new set.



Adhesives.

40 bit vermilion and grey.
50 bit yellow and grey.

France.—Mr. W. H. Peckitt has shown us specimens of two Postage Due stamps in a new design, inscribed "Recouvrements—Valeurs Impayeés."

Adhesives.
Unpaid Letter stamps.

1c. olive.
10c. violet.

New Hebrides.—Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. send us five stamps of New Caledonia overprinted for use here; the overprint is in two lines, in capitals.

Adhesives.

5c. green.	Surch. "Nouvelles Hebrides" in black.			
10c. rose-red.	,,	,,	,,	,,
25c. blue on greenish.	,,	,,	,,	red.
50c. red on orange.	,,	,,	,,	black.
1fr. blue on green.	,,	,,	,,	red.

Tunis.—The following are the numbers issued of the recent provisionals :—

10c.	...	...	1,009,950
35c.	...	...	61,200
40c.	...	...	51,200
75c.	...	...	44,850

German Empire. German East Africa.—The latest to appear upon watermarked paper is the 3r. value.

Adhesive.

3r. red and blue-black. Watermarked:

Holland.—The two following novelties are chronicled in *Ewen's Weekly*.

Adhesive.

20c. yellow-green and grey.

Postage Due stamp.

6½c. blue.

Italy.—*L'Echo de la Timbrologie* mentions that a new Express Delivery stamp for foreign service has been issued.

Adhesive.
Express Delivery stamp.

30c. blue and red.

Nicaragua.—Mr. W. H. Peckitt informs us that he has recently seen a provisional stamp formed by overprinting one of the long fiscals; the surcharge is in red and reads "Correos 1908 Vale 35c.," vertically, upwards.

Adhesive.

35c. in red on 50c. yellow-green and black (fiscal).

Norway.—Mr. W. H. Peckitt has shown us a permanent 15 öre, just issued.

Adhesive.
15 öre brown.

Paraguay. — *Gibbons' Stamp Weekly* chronicles two new colours and one new provisional, and Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. favour us with another of the latter.

Adhesives.
60c. orange-brown.
0c. pink.
5c. in black on 60c. pink.
20c. in black on 30c. violet.

Peru.—We find we have not given the colours of the pictorial issue, recently completed by the emission of the 2 soles. The particulars, of which we avail ourselves from *Ewen's Weekly*, are as follows :—

Adhesives.

1c. green and black ..	Monument Bolognesi.
2c. vermilion and violet	Admiral Gran.
4c. olive-green	Llama.
5c. dark blue and black..	Statue S. Martins.
10c. red-brown and grey..	Exhibition Buildings.
20c. dark green and black	School of Medicine at Lima.
50c. black	Post & Telegraph Office.
1 sol. violet and green ..	Hippodrome of S. Beatrice.
2 soles dark blue.. ..	Monument of Columbus.

Roumania.—*Ewen's Weekly* corrects their chronicle of last month ; particulars of the two high values should be as below.



Adhesives.
1l. grey-brown.
2l. red on red paper.

Siam.—We have been sent by Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. a provisional 4 atts stamp, formed by overprinting the 5 atts rose of 1906 with new value with fresh numerals.



Adhesive.
4 atts in black on 5 atts rose.

Switzerland.—Mr. W. H. Peckitt sends us specimens of the new 20c., 35c., 50c., and 75c., in the type shown below. Mr. W. T. Wilson adds a 3 francs.



Adhesives.
20c. vermilion and yellow.
35c. emerald and yellow.
50c. dark green.
70c. marone and yellow.
3frs. yellow and ochre.

Uruguay. — *Ewen's Weekly* lists three Commemorative stamps to celebrate the Declaration of Uruguayan Independence (in 1825), and the opening of Municipal Electric Light Works (in 1908) !

Adhesives.
1c. carmine. Rouletted.
2c. green. ,,
5c. orange. ,,

Notes and News.

Manchester Philatelic Society.

The 272nd meeting of the Society was held at the Geographical Society's Rooms on Friday evening, October 30th, the President in the chair. Mr. F. S. Porter was elected a Corresponding Member.

On the motion of Mr. Beckton, seconded by Mr. Abbott, a very hearty vote of thanks was given to Professor Hubner for his offer of the loan of a micrometer, and also for his kindness on the occasion of the recent visit to the Municipal School of Technology.

The Honorary Secretary read a letter from the Junior Philatelic Society, announcing the dissolution of the Manchester Branch, and thanking the Senior Society for the assistance rendered in founding it, and for the co-operation which has enabled its work to be carried on ; also a letter from the Manchester Branch, to the effect that it has been re-formed under the title of the Manchester Junior Philatelic Society, and asking for a continuance of the cordial support and practical help given in the past. Both letters were ordered to be placed upon the Minutes.

The Honorary Secretary read a letter from Mr. Percy C. Bishop, with reference to medals which the *Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly* intend to award for philatelic papers, and it was referred to the Committee for consideration.

Mr. A. P. Walker, of Birmingham, gave a display of the "Stamps of the Italian States on Entires." He showed a fine lot of nearly all the stamps issued by Sardinia, amongst which the old letter-sheets in red and blue were specially noticeable, Modena, Tuscany, Parma, Romagna, Naples, Sicily, and the Roman States. The latter included several specimens with the St. Andrew's Cross, mostly bearing a special postmark, "Netta fuori e dentro" (Clean without and within), thus supporting the theory that they were dispatched from plague-infested districts.

The best thanks of the members present were afterwards expressed to Mr. Walker for his visit and interesting display.

Mr. Duerst took the chair at the meeting on November 16th, at which Mr. F. J. Peplow was present as a visitor, and said a few words upon the work and aims of the Philatelic Literature Society.

Messrs. A. W. Walton and C. P. Rogers were elected Active and Corresponding Members respectively.

Mr. Munn gave a display with notes of the "Stamps of Western Australia," referring to the varieties in the framework of the first issue, and other matters of interest.

The List Meetings, at which the various processes connected with the "Making of a Stamp" are explained, have been continued. In the absence of Mr. Abbott, on October 23rd, his paper on "Materials used in Paper-making" was read by Mr. Gee. Mr. King dealt with "Varieties of Paper" on November 6th ; and on the 20th Mr. Taylor gave a most comprehensive and useful paper on "Watermarks."

The Manchester Junior Philatelic Society.

At the meeting held on November 5th, the Vice-President (Mr. J. J. Darlow), read a paper on the "Stamps of St. Lucia." He showed a practically complete collection of these stamps, and informed the members that the first postage stamps used in St. Lucia were the contemporary issues of Great Britain, and those so used can only be distinguished by the postmark "A 11." Another interesting feature of the stamps of St. Lucia was that the value of the stamp could be distinguished by the colour only, no value being described on the stamps.

Mr. H. S. Horner read a paper entitled "A few notes on Current Issues." His paper was accompanied by a display of stamps in which the various plates and differences were set forth, the countries dealt with being New Zealand, France Chili, Russia, Finland, and finally Columbia. Of the latter country, Mr. Horner gave a short account of his discoveries of the various plates.

Herts Philatelic Society.

The first general meeting of the session 1908-9 was held (by kind invitation of the Earl of Crawford), at No. 2, Cavendish Square, London, W., on Tuesday, October 20th, 1908, at 6.30 p.m. The President took the chair.

The Minutes of the meeting held on April 14th, 1908, were read and signed as correct.

The election of Mrs. H. R. Baird (life member), and Messrs. J. L. Corser, C. E. Macnaughton, and J. W. Campion, as ordinary members of the Society, was duly confirmed. The resignations of Messrs. M. Z. Kuttner and E. W. Wetherell were received and accepted with regret.

Donations of envelopes from Mr. C. C. Tait ; of stamps from the President and Mr. R. Frentzel ; and of books, etc., from different members and Societies, were acknowledged with thanks.

The meeting was informed that the President and the Honorary Secretary had accepted the nominations on the Committee of Honour of the International Philatelic Exhibition, Amsterdam, 1909, for themselves

and the Society. Promises of support to the Manchester Philatelic Exhibition were confirmed.

The Honorary Secretary was requested to forward the condolences of the Society to the Swedish Philatelic Society, on the occasion of the death of their lamented member, Mr. Rudolf Krasemann.

Lord Crawford then exhibited his famous collection of the stamps of Italy and the old Italian States, which comprises no less than twenty volumes, and is practically complete in every respect.

A hearty vote of thanks to Lord Crawford for his courtesy was proposed by the President, seconded by the Vice-President, and carried unanimously. A most enjoyable and instructive evening was thus brought to a close.

The Royal Philatelic Society, London.

The following meetings and list of papers and displays have been arranged for the season 1908-1909 :—

Oct. 22.—Display of South Australia and the Departmental Stamps. The Earl of Crawford.
Nov. 5.—Display of a Collection of Fiji Stamps, lent lent by Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Ltd.
,, 19.—Paper on Some of the Recent Issues of Switzerland, with Display and Lantern Enlargements. T. Wickham Jones.
Dec. 3.—Notes on the Lithographed Issue of Trinidad, with Display. M. P. Castle.
,, 17.—Display of British and British Colonial Stamps. R. Reid.
Jan. 7.—Display by Members: Twelve Interesting Stamps.
,, 21.—Display of the Earlier Embossed Stamps of Portugal, with Notes. R. B. Yardley.
Feb. 4.—Display of Victoria, with Notes. H. Grey.
,, 18.—Paper on the Waterlow Series of New Zealand, with Display. E. J. Nankivell.
Mar. 4.—Display of a portion of the Society's Collection. H. R. Oldfield.
,, 18.—Display of the Stamps of Grenada. H.R.H. The President.
Apr. 1.—Display of Stamps of the United States of America, with notes. H. J. Duveen.
,, 22.—Studies in Plating the First Two Issues of the Stamps of Japan. L. W. Fulcher and P. J. Peplow.
May 6.—Paper on the 1864-7 Issues of the Argentine Republic. T. W. Hall.
,, 20.—Notes on the Stamps of Mauritius, with Display. M. P. Castle.
June 3.—Annual General Meeting.

At the meeting on January 7th, it is hoped that members will bring a few stamps (not exceeding twelve each) of special interest, with short explanatory notes. Other objects of philatelic interest may also be brought.

All meetings, unless otherwise stated, are held at No. 4, Southampton Row, W.C. The chair will be taken at 6 o'clock in the evening precisely.

Obituary.

It is with the sincerest regret that we have to record the death of Sir William B. Avery, Bart., on October 28th last. We had known for the past year that Sir William was suffering from bad health, but as he was reported to be improving the announcement of his death came as a painful surprise.

He was a partner in the well-known firm of W. & T. Avery, scale manufacturers, of Birmingham, which was his native town, although for some years past he had lived in London, having a delightful home at Oakley Court on the Thames, where he was wont to dispense hospitality on a lavish scale on the occasion of any function bringing together a number of his co-philatelists. The writer, in common with so many others, has the liveliest satisfaction and pleasure in looking back upon such gatherings on the occasion of the 1897 Exhibition, and again in 1906.

Sir William's collection is too well-known to call for any extended notice here. Our readers will recall that it was dealt with in these columns some three years ago on the occasion of his appearing on our roll of "Notable Philatelists," see Vol. XXVII., page 233.

The hope then expressed that his interest in stamps which appeared to us to be declining would be quickened by the forthcoming exhibition the next year unfortunately did not bear fruit. In point of fact for some time past many of the gems out of his collection have been sold privately, and we learn from a contemporary that a further lot have been sold by auction.

The collection was a very large one, probably ranking amongst the first then in this country, but was never properly mounted; in fact on the occasion of our last seeing it at Oakley Court some two years ago it was lying in the large strong room in utter confusion, large and important purchases being in the album in which they had been bought, no attempt having been made to incorporate them in what may be termed the collection proper.

The deceased was a very active man both in business and in the social and collecting world, his home at Oakley Court affording abundant evidence of this in Japanese ivories, relics of all kinds, and *objets d'art*. He was of an exceedingly kind disposition, and his loss will be mourned by a large circle of friends, and also by those who only knew him as an old enthusiast in the cause.

New Roumanian Varieties.

Mr. Kosack has just shown us the following new varieties in the surcharges of the short-lived set of Roumanian stamps used for Constantinople :—

1 piastre lilac, surcharge on 5 bani blue, perf. $13\frac{1}{2}$.
1 piastre lilac, surcharge on 10 bani green, perf. $11\frac{1}{2} \times 13\frac{1}{2}$.
10 paras black, surcharge on 25 bani lilac, perf. $13\frac{1}{2}$.
20 paras black, surcharge on 25 bani lilac, perf. $13\frac{1}{2}$.
20 paras lilac, surcharge on 25 bani lilac, perf. $13\frac{1}{2}$.
20 paras black, surcharge on 25 bani lilac, perf. $11\frac{1}{2} \times 13\frac{1}{2}$.

REVIEWS.

The "W. E. P." Series.

Imitation we have always been told is the sincerest form of flattery, and it was with this feeling within us that we read through the small volume recently to hand, entitled The "W E P." Series of Philatelic Handbooks—Hong Kong, written by B. W. H. Poole, published by D. Field, price 6d. The volume is a reprint of the articles upon this colony which have been appearing in the columns of our contemporary, the "West End Philatelist," for the current year, wherein the stamps of this colony are dealt with in an interesting manner. The handbook is well illustrated, published at a nominal price, and forms a handy reference work.

Whitfield King's Catalogue.

The ninth edition of Whitfield King's Catalogue reaches us just as we are going to press. It is getting quite an old friend, and upon its receipt we involuntary turn to the preface—a thing we do with no other catalogue—for in it we invariably see some interesting statistics of the total number of stamps issued to date as included in its pages, which we find on this occasion is 22,382, of which 6,849 are apportioned to the British Empire, and 15,533 to the rest of the world. Europe has 4,685, Asia 4,342, Africa 4,974, America 496, the West Indies 1,808, and Oceania 1,612.

In this edition some important changes are to be noted under the headings of British Colonies. British Central Africa and British New Guinea will be found under their new official names of Nyasaland Protectorate and Papua respectively, British South Africa is now Rhodesia, and Nigri Sembilan, Pahang, Perak, Selangor, and Sungei Ujong are now grouped together under the heading of Malaya.

With a view of possibly escaping from the criticism of our good old friend of Chelsea, a careful revision of colour names has been made throughout, especially in the case of lilac, violet, mauve, and purple. It is indeed terrible to think that the publishers have to admit that in previous editions many purple stamps have been incorrectly designated as lilac.

Such attention to detail ought to satisfy our readers that no pains are saved by this old established firm in making this catalogue the ideal one for those who do not concern themselves with varieties of the more or less minor kind.

Histoire des Timbres-Poste Français. II. Volume. Arthur Maury. Paris. 257 pages. 350 illustrations.

The first volume of this erudite work we reviewed in No. 9, Vol. 29. In spite of the death of the talented author on the 1st of December, 1907, the second volume has now appeared, and must have been written very largely by him, as we can undoubtedly see his workmanship everywhere.

The contents of this volume are the Pneumatic Post, 1879-1900; post-cards and card letters, 1878-1898; service post-cards; envelopes and wrappers, 1882-1900; unpaid letter stamps, 1881-1906; telephone tickets; forgeries, reprints, obliterations, curiosities, etc., etc.

The book is replete with all decrees, details as to printing, times of issues, quantities, etc., etc. It is fully illustrated, well printed on good paper, and the price is simply a marvel of cheapness—two volumes of 650 pages of really first class work for 4s.

We advise all our readers to buy the entire work. To the specialist in French stamps we need not give such advice, as he is simply forced to buy it, and we doubt very much whether much more can be said on the stamps of France.

Our old and esteemed friend Maury has set up for himself in this his masterpiece—a monument, which will serve to keep his memory green in philatelic circles.

Catalogue Général de Timbres-Poste et Télégraphe. Par A. Montader. Paris. 1,020 pages. Fr. 3 plus postage.

This handy catalogue is a partial extract from the *Catalogue Officiel*, which for many collectors is too advanced and too complete. In the one under review, double or inverted surcharges, the various perforations, minor shades, etc., are omitted. Varieties such as watermarks, which really indicate new issues, are catalogued, although even here certain issues are omitted, which we think should be in every catalogue, and which perhaps will be inserted in the next issue. Issues being perforated 12½ and 14, and being printed in different years are also maintained. France and her Colonies is practically a reprint from the parent catalogue, and consequently the catalogue will in the first place be appreciated by the collectors of these stamps.

The paper is very thin and the print clear, the illustrations and their numbers have been taken from the parent catalogue.

The weight is under twelve ounces, and we can therefore recommend this catalogue to medium collectors who cannot live without always carrying a catalogue about with them.

Carl Willadt & Co., Pforzheim.

This firm has issued their twelfth price list of European stamps, and no doubt collectors will find upon perusal that their want lists can be filled from the large stock of this firm.

* * *

Inland letters in Holland can, as from June 18th, weigh 20 grammes for 5c.; local letters, 3c. for the same weight; and printed matter, 1c. for 50 grammes.

Newfoundland.

This British possession will shortly issue a new stamp of 2 cents in carmine. The centre will contain the map of the island instead of the portrait of the Prince of Wales. The stamps are engraved by the American Bank Note Co., of New York.

The change is said to have the following cause: Last April the steamer Sylvia, bringing 100,000 dollars of stamps of 2 and 5 cents, was wrecked. The case containing the stamps was found by natives, who appropriated a large number of stamps. The rest, when found later on by the Government, were useless for franking purposes. It was therefore decided to have a new design for the 2 cent value, and most likely we shall have one for the 5 cent value also.

The 1896 Provisional Stamps of Seychelles.

It does not seem to be generally known that there are three interesting minor varieties in the 18c. and 36c. provisional stamps issued in the Seychelles in 1896. These two values were surcharged upon the 45c. of the 1893 issue, pending the arrival of a supply of the regular stamps of these values. They were placed on sale on August 1st, 1896, when revised rates of postage from Seychelles to other countries in the Postal Union came into force.

The surcharges were applied to blocks of 30 stamps at a time (five horizontal rows of six), so that each pane of 60 stamps had to be placed in the printing press twice before all were overprinted. The same type was employed for both values, with, of course, the figures altered from "18" to "36," or *vice versa*. On the third stamp in the top row of each block of 30 the "T" is much shorter than on the other stamps, owing to the lower part being cut away, and on the fifth stamp in the same row the first upright stroke of the "N" is short. These varieties are just as interesting and important as the similar ones in the 1889 surcharged issue of Gibraltar, which are catalogued in Gibbons at many times the price of the normal varieties. The other variety occurs on the third stamp in the bottom row of each block of 30. In this the limbs of the "E" are all too short, making the letter look much smaller than the others.

It is interesting to note that on the date these provisionals were issued and the new regulations came into force, all the then current 13c., 15c., 45c., 48c., and 96c. stamps were "abolished" by official decree. All the 45c., of which there were 37,200 on hand, were used in the production of the surcharged values mentioned above. None of the 96c. were left, and of the others there were 3,000 of the 48c., 60,000 of the 15c., and 10,800 of the 13c.

These remainders were never destroyed, and one value, at any rate, was again brought into use. This was the 15c., and the 60,000 of these lasted until 1900, when a stamp of the same value, but printed in blue instead of sage-green and lilac, was issued.—*The West End Philatelist.*

German Stamp Statistics.

The following figures from the *Philatelist* are not without interest:—

To manufacture the German stamps, the following quantities are used yearly:

200,000kg. paper for stamps.
700,000kg. cardboard for post-cards.
200,000kg. ,, ,, money orders.
1,300kg. green colour.
800kg. red ,,
500kg. brown ,,
1,200kg. blue ,,
75,000kg. gum.

The small round pieces of paper occasioned by the perforation weigh 9,000kg. yearly.

Control Letters.

It may be interesting to place on record a list of the various Control Letters of Great Britain which have received overprints for Colonial use. We have beside us as we write notes of the following:—

British Bechuanaland.

*½d. vermilion, Control B, overprinted S.G. type 3.
½d. ,, ,, D, ,, ,, 3.
½d. ,, ,, F, ,, ,, 3.
½d. ,, ,, P, ,, ,, 6.
1d. lilac, ,, N, ,, ,, 11.

* This has received the additional "Protectorate" overprint.

Bechuanaland Protectorate.

½d. green (Queen's Head), Control R.
1d lilac (,,), , N.
½d. green (King's Head), ,, A.
1d. red (,,), ,, A
1d. ,, (,,), ,, E6.

Oil Rivers Protectorate.

½d. vermilion, Control K.
1d. lilac, ,, N.
1d. ,, ,, Q.

British East Africa Company.

½d. on 1d. lilac, Control ?

Zululand.

½d. vermilion, Control D.
½d. ,, ,, K.
1d. lilac, ,, ?

—*Marsh's Weekly Circular.*

MISCELLANEOUS.

The 10 pen. black on buff of the 1866 issue of Finland has been found rouletted horizontally 1½ and vertically 1¾mm.

* * *

In the Jubilee Exhibition at Prague, there is a machine printing 3, 5, and 10 heller on entires.

* * *

Transvaal stamps with surcharges V.R.I. and E.R.I. cannot be used after the 31st of December next for franking purposes.

THE

Philatelic Record.

DECEMBER, 1908.

Editorial Note.

CHRISTMAS is here once more, bringing with it those joys with which it seems to be so essentially interwoven, and we once again send to our subscribers the very kindest expressions of good will. In speaking of our subscribers we are pleased to be able to say that there are still a few of the original ones of thirty years ago surviving, and they, together with many who have taken a lively interest in the fortunes of this paper for a quarter of a century or so, have come to look upon the *Philatelic Record* as the personal link in philately between the present and the past, and one which recalls very pleasant memories to most of us.

Le Roi est mort: Vive le Roi!

Eight years ago this link was threatened with a break which in the opinion of many well-known philatelists would have been a most regrettable incident in the annals of philatelic literature. A small body of Manchester enthusiasts came to the rescue, found the necessary capital to purchase outside interests in the paper, and have since endeavoured in its pages to advance the cause of philately from an attitude independent of everything but a desire to further its knowledge.

This is the last occasion on which the present Editor will have the pleasure and privilege of extending greetings to those who for so long have been such kindly critics and friends, and our words are peculiarly halting under such conditions. After the issue of the present number the *Philatelic Record* will undergo a change in management, brought about mainly owing to the fact that those who have guided its fortunes during the past eight years can no longer devote the time which such work demands, and also because they have felt at times a staleness creeping over them, and recognise that the Journal will greatly benefit by the infusion of new blood. Yet when the moment comes to say good-bye, how hard it is to do so! We can assure our readers that an affection exists between us and the *Philatelic Record*, and it is not without many pangs of regret that we lay aside our pen, but our task is made the easier by the knowledge that those

who will follow us in the editorial chair are not only eminent philatelists, but are animated by the same feelings towards the Journal as ourselves.

The course of the Journal has not been without its vicissitudes, but those responsible for its publication are able to contemplate with considerable satisfaction that they leave it in a much better position than they found it and once again placed upon a high pedestal in the philatelic world.

The causes which have led to a transfer are, as we have said, purely personal, and this transfer has been made under circumstances which may be considered rather a change than a reconstruction, for the Journal itself will be continued along its former disinterested lines, with, of course, slight alterations in detail which must necessarily accompany such a change. The future proprietors of the *Philatelic Record* will be philatelists, who, like their predecessors, are interested in philately only as amateurs, and the name of Mr. L. W. Fulcher as Editor will be a sufficient guarantee of the widest aspect of philately. It is, of course, difficult to presage the future of the Journal, but from the assurances we have received we have confidence that the main features will be retained and that such alterations as are made will not divagate from its established policy. We do not think we are too insistent upon this point, for there is a deal of sentiment bound up with this, the oldest philatelic paper in the English language.

To those who have contributed to the success of the Journal, whether by philatelic articles, chatty notes, or support of a financial kind through the advertisement columns, we desire to express our hearty thanks; and in making our final bow would ask from them, as well as from our patient readers, who have frequently expressed their appreciation of the humble services which we have been able to render to the cause of philately, similar support for our successors in the furtherance of the hobby which we all have so much at heart.

The Stamps of Liberia.

By Bertram T. K. Smith.

(Continued from Page 204).

AT the same time (July, 1867) there appeared the following note in *Le Timbre-Poste*:—"The lines which form a frame on the current stamps are suppressed, at least in the case of the 24c., which reaches us in a very pale green, printed on white paper, thinner than before. The stamps have gone back to their original size, *i.e.*, 25 × 30mm.; those with double frame generally measured 28 × 32mm. Of the latter we have found

6c., 28 × 33mm.
12c., 29 × 32mm. and 27 × 32mm.
24c., 37 × 32mm."

[But perhaps the confusion is only apparent, for we need not take the expressions "absence of the exterior line" and "the lines . . . are suppressed" as literally exact, but may read them in conjunction with Dr. Legrand's description of Transfer III. That this is so we may infer from Moens's catalogues of 1869—1882, where it is expressly stated that the 1867 issue had the "encadrement à double filets" like those of 1864. We there find the following list:—

1867. Perf. 12. 6 cents red* [priced]
12 cents pale blue* [priced]
24 cents pale green* [priced]

and this, moreover, was a definite correction of the 1868 catalogue where the 1867 issue (then taken to consist only of the 24c. pale green) is described as "encadrement à un filet." Why Moens omitted all mention of an issue of 1867 in the final (1892) edition of his catalogue, I am unable to explain.] †

* These are the colours as given in the earlier editions of the catalogue, but in the 1882 edition they are described as "pale red," "pale blue," and "green."

† Since this article was written, including the paragraph printed above in brackets, I have found among my stamps a pair of 24c. green, apparently of Transfer IV., used on a piece of the original envelope, with the Monrovia postmark as usual undated, but fortunately with the Liverpool Packet postmark of February 7th, 1866. At first I took it for granted that they were simply stamps of Transfer I., used at a late date, but on further consideration I believe them to be the stamps chronicled by *Le Timbre-Poste* in July, 1867, as mentioned above. I think that the confusion referred to is rightly to be cleared up by assuming that the original chronicle was correct, and that the later editions of Moens's catalogue erred in following the *Timbre-Poste*'s chronicle of Transfer IV. in August, 1869, this chronicle being no doubt penned in forgetfulness of the previous record of 1867, while the *Timbrophile's* paragraph was a mere journalistic paraphrase. In my opinion, Transfer IV. should be given as follows:—

1866 (Jan.)	24 cents	...	pale yellow-green;
1869	6 cents	...	pale red;
,,	12 cents	...	pale blue;

though these dates are subject to correction, first of all as regards the 24c., which may have been used earlier than my copy, and secondly as regards the 6c. and 12c., which, if

Transfer IV. (see footnote to preceding page).

In the *Timbre-Poste* of August, 1869, we find the following chronicle "The stamps after having had a second framing-line have just re-appeared in their primitive form, without this modification. The issue of 1869 may easily be distinguished from that of 1860 by the shades.

6 cents	...	...	pale red.
12 cents	...	...	pale blue.
24 cents	...	...	pale yellow-green.

The impression is still on white paper, and the perforation is also unchanged. We have seen a set of these stamps imperforate." A similar chronicle is found in the *Timbrophile* of the same month, where we are told that the "paper is thinner* and the colours less bright" than those of 1860, and the stamps are described as being perforated 12. In Moens's catalogue of 1877 the perforation is given as 11, but in the 1882 edition it is described as being perforated $11\frac{1}{2}$. The 1892 edition of Moens's catalogue gives us the following revised list:—

1869. Perf. $11\frac{1}{2}$.	6 cents	...	...	red, pale red.
	12 cents	...	...	blue.
	24 cents	...	...	yellow-green.

*** Varieties:—6c., 12c., 24c., *imperforate.*

Transfer V.

In November, 1880, the *Philatelic Record* mentioned that "an envelope which we have seen, postmarked 'Monrovia, 9th Oct., 1880,' is franked by two new stamps, one [the 2c.] being a new value, and the other, the 6 cents changed in colour. They are of the same type as those with which we are already acquainted; have the outer line of border, and are lithographed." In the following month we read that "besides the 2 and 6 cents, we have received the 12 cents, changed in colour to a bright yellow. Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. mention a 1 cent blue, and a 24 cents pink, which we have not seen. The 2 cents already displays a lively variety of shades, and whilst some of them are printed upon medium paper, others are on a very thick paper, verging upon cartridge." Again, in January, 1881, the 1 cent is chronicled, in shades of ultramarine. At a meeting of the Société Française de Timbrologie, on March 1st, 1888, a letter from the Postmaster-General of Liberia was read, in which he said:—"With regard to the sales of the 1880 issue, I am the person who had the stamps printed during my

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they are to be understood as included among the "some stamps" mentioned by M. Maury (p. 203), appeared at least as early as 1867.

I have thought it better, however, to let this paragraph and the remarks on Transfer IV. appear as they were originally written, in case my later conclusion may be overthrown.

It is also right to add that I have never discovered any specimens answering to Legrand's Transfer III. While it is very difficult to believe that his minute description of Transfers II. and III. was not founded on a true difference as between two printings, it is also clear that his knowledge of the printings was not up-to-date, since it was not until his article of 1869 was being written that he became aware of the existence of Transfer IV., which both Maury and Moens had noted two years earlier.

* "Thinner and bluer," according to Pemberton in his "Handbook." Lindenberg ("Grosses Handbuch der Philatelie") mentions specimens of the 24c. as occurring with a watermark in the shape of a rosette, or part thereof; this, as he says, is merely a manufacturer's mark.

stay in England, and I brought them out here with me. Those which you tell me are being sold at one-tenth of their value can only be forgeries."

1880 (end of). Perf. 10½.	1 cent	...	ultramarine (shades).
	2 cents	...	rose (shades).
	6 cents	...	violet.
	12 cents	...	canary-yellow.
	24 cents	...	carmine.

The existence of the 3c. black stamp, inscribed "INLAND," was first reported in the *Timbre-Poste* of February, 1881, and if Moens's date of January is correct, we may fairly assume that this stamp, representing a new value, was issued at the new year. It was not demonetized with the 1885-6 issue, and is presumably still available for postage.

1881 (Jan.)	Perf. 10½.	3 cents	... ...	black.

With regard to the 3 cents, *red*, the following note appeared in the *Stamp News* of March, 1894:—"The readers of the *London Philatelist* will get their deserts if we can judge by the 'chestnuts' which are being served up to them. Just a year ago—in the number for March, 1893—we chronicled the 3 cents 'Inland' in *red*. It is now paraded in the *L. P.* as a 'discovery.' Since we first recorded it, we have made enquiries as to its origin, and what we have found is that these stamps were undoubtedly produced at the same time as the black stamps by the Continental firm who executed them, and who received an order for some sheets in *red*, and that both the black and the red were sent out together. The red were never issued, but lay in the Post Office until our publishers, some time ago, purchased from a correspondent in Liberia some of the remainders which were on hand when the large type, with figure of Liberty, were superseded in 1886 by the issue with numeral in centre. When the consignment arrived in this country, our publishers were surprised to find a small quantity of these red stamps, of which they had never heard, amongst the others. They had lain so long, probably forgotten, that it can hardly be suggested that they were created as a speculation. One interpretation, which we think the most probable, is that they were colour trials, which were not adopted owing to the design, which was lithographed, not coming out so clearly in red as it does in black."

There is no doubt, however, that the explanation given in the *Timbre-Poste* of November, 1893, is the true one. "A few years ago some German firms sent out some red 3c. stamps to Monrovia to be postmarked. The authorities confiscated the stamps. We can only suppose that they were afterwards found at Monrovia and sent to England. It is quite certain that the Post Office never issued them." As Major Evans wrote, "their appearance leads us to doubt very much whether they were printed from the same stone as the genuine stamps"; and we must therefore regard them as forgeries.

In July, 1882, the *Stamp News* chronicled two new values of a fresh type. "We have two specimens of the 8c., both of which bear the genuine postmark; one being printed in dull blue, while the other is a bright ultramarine." The stamps were described as being

"roughly perf. about 11½."* The *Timbre-Poste*'s description of the paper is "thick white," while it gives the colour of the 16c. as "deep flesh."

1882 (? June).	Perf. 11½.	8 cents	...	blue (shades).
		16 cents	...	rose.

In January, 1886, the *Philatelic Record* chronicled a new series as under. It described the perforation as 12, but in the following month the *Timbre-Poste* gave it as 11, a description afterwards modified in Moens's catalogue to 10½ for the 1c.—6c., and 11 for the higher values. At the same time the *Timbre-Poste* recorded the whole series as existing imperforate. As will be seen from the Postal Notice of 1892 given below, these stamps, described there as the issue of 1885 and 1886, were demonetized in 1892. In September, 1892, the remaining stock of 3c. and 6c. stamps was returned to London to be converted into Postage Due stamps, as described later.

1885 (end)—1886.	1 cent	...	...	rose-pink.
	2 cents	...	...	light green.
	3 cents	...	...	purple-lilac.
	4 cents	...	...	light chocolate.
	6 cents	...	...	pearl-grey.
	8 cents	...	...	slate-grey.
	16 cents	...	...	yellow.†
	32 cents	...	...	blue.

As regards the general division of this series into two printings (i.) 1886-8, stamps spaced 2mm. apart; and (ii.) 1892, stamps spaced 4½mm. apart; and the further division into various perforations, 11½ × 10½, 10½, etc., I have nothing to add to Gibbons's catalogue.

In June, 1889, the *Timbre-Poste* chronicled the re-drawn 8 cents, with larger figures in the angles, and the interior of the "8" with lines crossed lozenge-wise instead of oblique lines. The colour is given as "ultramarine-blue," but in Moens's catalogue this is altered to "dull blue." It was there classed as a reprint, but in the *Timbre-Poste* of March, 1894, there was published the following note:—"We are assured that the re-drawn 8c. has been in use. It exists not only perforated 14, but also 12, and even imperforate, so there is enough for every taste."

1889.	Perf. 14.	8 cents	...	...	blue.
	Perf. 12.	8 cents	...	...	blue.
	Imperf.	8 cents	...	...	blue.

The following Postal Notice appeared in 1892:—

"No. 5. "POSTAL NOTICE!

92. "*General Post Office, Monrovia.*

"On the first day of September, a new set of postal stamps, constituting the fourth series of the stamps of the Republic, and a new postal card, constituting the third of the series, will be issued for use at the Post Offices of Liberia.

* The actual gauge of specimens of the 16c. rose, carefully examined by the writer, shows a single-line perforation of 11½ to 12.

† An examination of a large block of the 16c. yellow, perf. 10½ (single-line machine) shows that it was printed in rows of ten, probably twelve rows to the sheet. There is a watermark in the sheet, "SOUTHERN CROSS, FINE QUALITY."

"The denominations of the new series are 1c., 2c., 4c., 6c., 8c., 12c., 16c., 24c., 32c., one dollar, two dollars, and five dollars.

"The new postal card is distinguished from the last by the portrait of Hon. J. T. Wilkes, late Postmaster-General.

"The stamps and cards of the issue of 1885 and 1886, the domestic 3c. stamp excepted, will from said time be no longer receivable at the Post Offices of this Republic. Persons having said stamps may exchange them for others of the new issue upon application at the General Post Office, Monrovia, it appearing that they obtained said stamps in a legitimate way.

"ARTHUR BARCLAY,

"August 19th, 1892. "*Postmaster-General.*"

In 1892 there appeared a new series of stamps, line-engraved, by Waterlow & Sons. The impression was on paper impressed with a "watermark" of nondescript design, and the perforation was 15. The 8c. showed a portrait of Ex-President H. R. W. Johnson, who held office from 1884 to 1892, these dates being inscribed on the stamp.

1892. Perf. 15.	1 cent	... ...	vermilion.
	2 cents	... ...	blue.
	4 cents	... ...	black and green.
	6 cents	... ...	green.
	8 cents	... ...	black and brown.
	12 cents	... ...	rose.
	16 cents	... ...	lilac.
	24 cents	... ...	green on buff.
	32 cents	... ...	greyish blue.
	1 dollar	... ...	black and ultramarine.
	2 dollars	... ...	brown on buff.
	5 dollars	... ...	black and carmine.

The 4 cents and 5 dollars with inverted centre were discovered in 1901, and a used pair of the 8 cents with inverted centre was seen and chronicled by the editor of the *Monthly Journal** in 1905. I have been unable to trace any information as regards the so-called errors of colour, viz., the 1 cent blue, and the 2 cents vermilion.

At the end of 1893 the 6c. was surcharged with new value, "Five Cents" in black, with several minor varieties of setting as described.

1893. 5 cents on 6c. ... ... green.

Varieties :—(*a*) Both figures "5" with short serif. (*b*) One figure with short serif. (*c*) Small figures "5" with straight serif. (*d*) No dot over "i" of "Five."

I am unable to say how these varieties occur on the sheet, but according to a statement in the *American Journal of Philately* (1896, p. 528), it would seem that variety (*a*) occurs three times on the sheet, being the eighth stamp of the second, third, and fourth horizontal rows. The same paper describes variety (*c*) as occurring once only on the sheet, being the last stamp in the last row of each sheet.

In February, 1894, the triangular 5 cent stamp, with the emblematical design and the motto *The love of Liberty brought us here*, was first chronicled. The *Stamp News*, in describing them, said "no machine

* Haas, in his paper, "Ueber die Fehldrucke mit verkehrtem Mittelstück" (XX. Deutsche Philatelisten-Tag), describes the 8 cents with inverted centre as an extremely doubtful variety.

has yet been made for perforating these stamps, and it is not proposed that they should be perforated, as the sharp corners of the lower angles would be liable to fracture. . . . It is probable, however, that they may be rouletted." This prophecy was fulfilled, and at the end of May, 1894, the stamp was chronicled rouletted.

1894. 5 cents ... carmine (centre black), *imperf.*
5 cents ... carmine (centre black), *rouletted.*

* * * * * *

In order not to overburden this paper with what would be a mere repetition of the current catalogue list, I will confine myself to the following short notes on the remaining issues of the ordinary postage stamps, and of the Registration, Postage Due, and Service stamps.

As regards the issue of 1897, we find the following note in the *Monthly Journal* of May, 1900:—"We are shown two very distinct varieties of the 1c. of 1897; one is a pale mauve tint, and the other is a very much redder colour, which we might perhaps call dull crimson. The 2c. of the same issue seems to vary also, some impressions being what might be termed pale olive-green and others olive-yellow." In May, 1899, the same magazine had already noted the set of stamps with "ORDINARY" overprint which, as originally catalogued, consisted only of those varieties now numbered 120, 121-2, 124-5, 126, 128-131, 132-3, in Gibbons's catalogue (19th edition), and the quantities printed were said by the *Monthly Journal* to be 240 each of the 1c. to 1 dollar, and 12 each of the 2 dollars and 5 dollars. To these *Der Philatelist*, in 1906, added the varieties numbered 123, 123a, 125a, 127, 131a, but concerning these Mr. C. J. Phillips wrote in the *Monthly Journal* of October, 1903, as follows:—

"*Der Philatelist*, in the numbers for May, June, and July, has chronicled a large number of Liberian stamps of different issues overprinted with the word "ORDINARY," and we have just had the opportunity of examining some of these stamps, and have no hesitation in declaring the overprint to be forged, and also the postmark.

"The only genuine stamps that we know of are those we list under the numbers 100 to 111 in our catalogue (15th edition). This overprint was set up loosely, and the letters are never in true alignment, and the word is 15 to 16mm. long. In the forgeries, the overprint is fully 1mm. longer, and the lettering is set very level and too correct.

"The postmark of the forgeries consists of a large circle, 29mm. in diameter, containing the words, "MONROVIA LIBERIA," and date in centre, which postmark we have never met with except on stamps coming from Germany! The goods are chronicled on the authority of Mr. Otto Bickel, and we call on that person to prove their status."

Apart, however, from any question as to the genuineness of the particular specimens referred to, it will be seen that the varieties chronicled by *Der Philatelist* are now duly catalogued.

According to *Alfred Smith & Son's Monthly Circular*, the 75c. on 1 dollar provisional (1902) was printed in blocks of ten stamps, the tenth stamp having the variety in which the "C" is taller and narrower, and followed by a comma. In the same journal it was stated, in chronicling the 3c. black stamp of 1893, with the corresponding Service stamp, and the Registration stamps of that year, that the watermark in the sheets appeared to be JA^{S} WRIGLEY & SON L^{D} BURY EXTRA STRONG.

Registration Stamps.

The date of the first issue of these stamps (impressions in black, for Buchanan, Grenville, Harper, Monrovia, and Robertsport) is given in the catalogues as 1893, but in chronicling the 10c. black, Monrovia, in April, 1894, the *Philatelic Journal of Great Britain* wrote "this, we believe, was issued some eighteen months ago." It is possible, therefore, that this series appeared as early as 1892.

Postage Due Stamps.

At the end of 1892, the *Monthly Journal* noted the issue of the 3c. and 6c. of 1885-6, overprinted "POSTAGE DUE," and in April, 1893, the *Stamp News* published the following information:—"Doubt having been raised as to the genuineness of these Postage Due stamps, we made some enquiries, and learn that on September 1st, 1892, the Liberian issues of 1886 were no longer received at the Post Offices to prepay postages on letters, etc., and that on the same date the remaining stock of 3c. and 6c. stamps were returned to the Agents of the Government in this country, who were at the same time authorised to have the same overprinted, in black ink, "POSTAGE DUE," 3c. and 6c. respectively. In a decree which was issued, it was declared that these stamps were to be used for the better collection of fees on unpaid and insufficiently-paid letters."

In January, 1893, the *Philatelic Journal of Great Britain* stated that it had copies of the 6c. *imperforate*, and in the following month it added, "we believe our publishers were the only dealers to get the 6c. imperf.; at any rate we have failed to find it mentioned elsewhere. We now hear that another dealer obtained some [3c. and 6c., perforated] with the overprint *inverted*."

The following description of the arrangement of the types of this overprint is taken from the *Questionneur Timbrophilique* (IV., p. 31):—

"The overprint is merely a *type-set composition*, framed by four fragments of ornamental bordering. Of this surcharge, printed, like the stamps themselves, by lithography, there are four types, which are the same in each of the two values, apart from the arrangement of the words '3 CENTS' and '6 CENTS.' The four varieties occur an equal number of times, and are distinguished as follows:—

"3 CENTS (*80 stamps to the sheet*).

"On account of a jumbled arrangement of the plate of overprints, the varieties are not regularly arranged on the fourth pane; that is to say, on the twenty stamps of the lower right-hand part. In the case of sixty of the stamps, or three-fourths of the sheet, the four varieties are arranged in regular columns of four.

1	1	1	1	1
2	2	2	2	2
3	3	3	3	3
4	4	4	4	4

"In the fourth pane the arrangement is as follows :—

1	3	2	1	1
2	4	2	3	4
3	1	2	3	4
4	1	2	3	4

"In spite of the confusion of types in this part of the sheet, they occur in equal number, viz., five of each. This anomaly in the setting makes it possible in the case of the 3 cents only to find both vertical and horizontal strips showing all the types.

"*Type I.*—The right-hand vertical border ends below, and the left-hand border above, the horizontal borders. The numeral '3' is distant from the frame.

"*Type II.*—The right-hand vertical border ends above, and the left-hand border below, the horizontal borders. The numeral '3' is distant from the frame.

"*Type III.*—Both vertical borders end beyond the top horizontal border. The numeral '3' is distant from the frame.

"*Type IV.*—Resembles Type I., except that the upper horizontal border ends in a small hook at the right. The numeral '3' is near the frame.

"6 CENTS (*40 stamps to the sheet*).

"The four varieties are placed regularly over each other, so that they are repeated ten times on each sheet. Only vertical strips, therefore, can be found showing the four types.

"*Type I.*—The right-hand vertical border ends below, and the left-hand border above, the horizontal borders. The numeral '6' is near the frame.

"*Type II.*—The right-hand vertical border ends above, and the left-hand border below, the horizontal borders. The numeral '6' is distant from the frame.

"*Type III.*—Both vertical borders end beyond the top horizontal border. The numeral '6' is square-shaped, and is distant from the frame, while the word "CENTS" is very near it.

"*Type IV.*—Resembles Type I. as regards the border, except that the upper horizontal border ends in a small hook at the right."

Service Stamps.

In the *Monthly Journal* of September 30th, 1892, there appeared the following note :—"The beautiful series of stamps, which we described not long back, has been adapted to *official* use by means of a surcharge of that word in microscopic capitals. It has been carefully applied so as to disfigure the stamps as little as possible. On the 1c. and 2c. it is printed horizontally below the star, on the 6c. across the centre, on the 8c. and 5 dollars above the President's head, on the 24c. and 2 dollars within the star, and on the 1 dollar at the bottom of the stamp; on the other values it appears twice, vertically at each side of the

central device, and on the specimen of the 32c. before us the word on the right is spelt 'OFFICISL,' with a large capital 'S' instead of the small 'A.'"

Variety. 32c. Overprinted "OFFICISL."

Referring to the same variety, the *Philatelic Journal of Great Britain* stated that its publisher, Mr. W. Brown, also had a specimen of this "curiosity, which was on one of the earlier printed sheets, including the sheet exhibited at the Paris Exhibition, but which has now been corrected. . . . On the sheets . . . only one value . . . showed the error, and that on only one of the stamps. As the sheets contained various numbers of stamps, and the stamps themselves are different in size, we believe that the overprint of each value was set up separately. . . . It is curious that two presentation sets should contain the error, and we congratulate our *confrère* on obtaining what we believe in future years will be a rarity."

SERVICE. (STAMPS OF 1892 OVERPRINTED).

1892.	1 cent,	overprinted in	black.
	2 cents,	,,	black.
	4 cents,	,,	red.
	6 cents,	,,	black.
	8 cents,	,,	red.
	12 cents,	,,	black.
	16 cents,	,,	black.
	24 cents,	,,	black.
	32 cents,	,,	black.
	1 dollar,	,,	black.
	2 dollars,	,,	black.
	5 dollars,	,,	red.

This overprint was so microscopic as to be hardly legible, and at the end of 1894 the stamps of 1c. to 32c. received the "O S" overprint. Although the complete series of 1c. to 5 dollars is catalogued under the date of 1894, it appears that the 1 dollar, 2 dollars, and 5 dollars were not put into circulation until 1895.

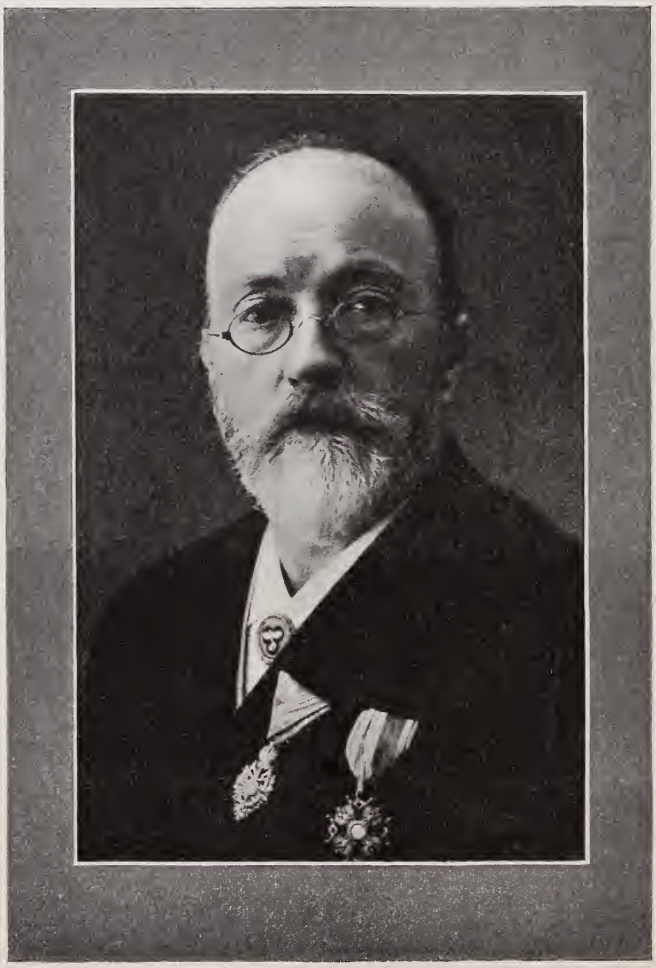
In October, 1900, the following paragraph appeared in the *American Journal of Philately*:—"Mr. A. W. Batchelder has shown us a sheet of the latest 5c. Official stamp, in which the first three stamps in the top row escaped the surcharge."

(*Conclusion*).

Notable Philatelists.

Alfred Moschkau.

THE subject of our sketch this month is one of the best-known philatelists in Germany—in fact, one might call him one of the fathers of philately. Born in Löban, Saxony, on the 24th of January, 1848, Mr. Moschkau now lives in Oybin, where he founded some thirty years ago the historical museum in the old castle, which he still supervises. As Counsellor of Art for the kingdom of Saxony, he has had many an opportunity of helping art, history, and folklore, and these have created for him a very agreeable circle of friends in his



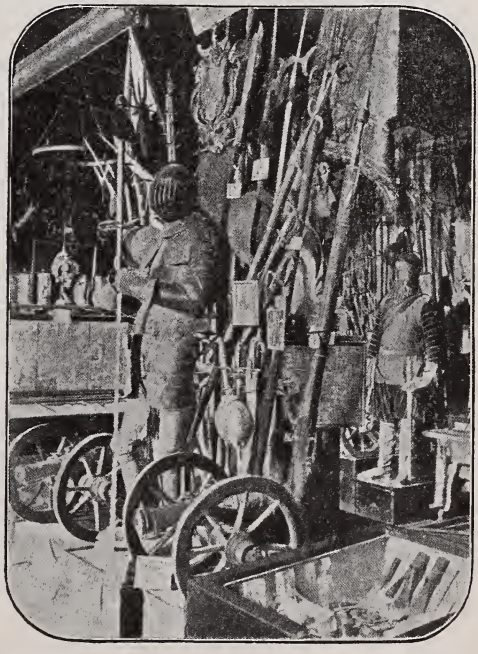
beloved mountain home. When we had the pleasure of interviewing him, he gave us the following particulars :—

"Next year will be my fiftieth of stamp collecting, and in two years I shall have been editor of philatelic journals for thirty years. In 1870 I commenced as editor of the *Deutsche Briefmarken Zeitung*, besides my *Magazin* and *Germania*; I edited for some years *Senf's Illustriertes Briefmarken-Journal* and *Friedl's Weltpost* in Vienna, and for the last fifteen years I have been one of the editors of the *Dresden Philatelist*. My 'Postmarken-Handbook' put stamp collecting upon a firm basis, and was considered the best in its day. My books on 'Essays' and 'Watermarks' are still read. The 'Schaubeck Album' was compiled on the basis of my collection, and I was the cause of the first Philatelic Society being formed, and of the first introduction of a recognised place in Germany for expertising stamps. It has ever been a pleasure to me to serve collectors and their interests, and honest dealers always found in me a friend. I fought, and still fight, most strenuously, all forgeries and all forgers, and in this coterie I have found in the past many strong opponents—contrasting strongly with the many good and brave friends and helpers among philatelists."

A number of German and foreign Societies have elected Herr Moschkau as an honorary member, and he assures us that he shall hold up the banner of "Philatelia" to the end. Unfortunately his health is not good, and there are many months when illness forbids him occupying himself with our hobby.

The King of Saxony honoured him by conferring the title of "Royal Counsellor," and the Order of Wettin; the Emperor of Austria nominated him a Knight of the Order of "Francis Josephus"; and the Emperor of Russia, Knight of "Holy Stanislaus." In spite of illness, Herr Moschkau is blessed with a very happy family life, and if there were no philatelic rogues in the world he would say that paradise had already commenced for him upon earth.

The photo we give to our readers has only been taken very recently, and shows the face of an exceedingly kindly dispositioned man; everybody is heartily welcomed when visiting him in his beautiful old castle at Oybin, upon which occasions one cannot afford him greater pleasure than in discussing philately with him. May he long live and be able to continue to work and wield his pen in the advancement of the interests all philatelists have in common with one another.



A Corner of the Museum at Castle Oybin.

The Universal Postal Union.

A Paper read before the Manchester Philatelic Society, on Mar. 6th, 1908.

By I. J. Bernstein.

(Continued from Page 183).

IT is an interesting sight to see how the charges individual countries have to pay for transit and other dues are arrived at. During a period of twenty-eight days, once every six years, every scrap of mail matter is most scrupulously weighed, and the total arrived at forms the amount chargeable for every twenty-eight days during the next six years. Of course periods when the mails are just ordinary are chosen, as it would be obviously unfair to take a Christmas mail as a basis. This method may, should the particular twenty-eight days be extraordinarily busy, operate to the disadvantage of the country concerned, but on the whole it works smoothly and equitably.

Advantage of the right to lower the rates of postage by means of restricted unions has been taken not only by Great Britain and her Colonies, but between such neighbouring countries as France and Belgium, Belgium and Holland, etc., and a reduction is in course of negotiation between this country and the United States of America.* Others, too, are mooted, and the time is not far distant when one penny will be the postage of a single rate letter to all parts of the world.

A table of the dates of entry into the Union by the various countries will, I am sure, be of interest.

July 1st, 1875.—Great Britain; German Empire; Austria and Hungary; Belgium; Denmark; Egypt; Spain; United States of America; Greece; Italy; Luxemburg; Norway and Sweden; Holland; Portugal; Roumania; Russia; Servia; Switzerland; Turkey; Malta (British Post Office).

January 1st, 1876.—France (signed 3rd May, 1875); Gibraltar; Algeria; Monaco.

July, 1876.—British India; the French Colonies.

April 1st, 1877.—Brazil; Japan; Persia; Ceylon; Hong Kong; Straits Settlements; Labuan; Mauritius and Seychelles; Jamaica; Trinidad; British Guiana; Bermuda; the Danish Colonies; Dutch Colonies; Spanish Colonies; Portuguese Colonies.

April 1st, 1878.—The Argentine Republic.

July 1st, 1878.—The Dominion of Canada.

December, 1878.—Cyprus (on becoming a British possession).

* This has since become an accomplished fact.

January 1st, 1879.—Newfoundland; British Honduras; Falkland Islands; Sierra Leone; Lagos; Gold Coast; Gambia; Luxemburg; Mexico; Peru; Montenegro; Salvador.

July, 1879.—Leeward Islands (Antigua, Dominica, Montserrat, Nevis, St. Kitts, and Virgin Islands); Bulgaria (on separation from Turkey).

January, 1880.—Bahamas; Dominican Republic; Ecuador; Uruguay; Venezuela.

1881.—Chili; United States of Columbia; Guatemala; Hayti; Paraguay; Barbados; Grenada; St. Lucia; St. Vincent; Tobago; Turks Islands.

1882.—Hawaii; Nicaragua.

1883.—Costa Rica.

July 1st, 1885.—Siam.

January 1st, 1886.—Congo.

April 1st, 1886.—Bolivia.

1887.—The Cameroons; Tunis.

1888.—Togo; German South-west Africa; Marshall Islands; German New Guinea.

1891.—The Australian Colonies; German East Africa; North Borneo.

July 1st, 1892.—Natal; Zululand; Bosnia and Herzegovina.

1893.—South Africa Republic.

1895.—Cape of Good Hope; Zanzibar; British East Africa.

1896.—St. Helena.

1897.—Sarawak.

January 1st, 1898.—Orange Free State.

1899.—Kiautschon; Samoa.

1900.—Korea.

1901.—British Bechuanaland; Rhodesia.

1902.—Crete; Cuba.

1903.—Southern Nigeria; British Somaliland.

1904.—Eritrea and Benadir; Panama.

(*Conclusion*).

The Lithographed High Values of Queensland (1881 series).

By Leslie L. R. Hausburg.

(Continued from Page 206).

Type IV.
(1) The left leg of the "N" of "TEN" is shorter than the right one.
(2) There is a sort of hook on the left side of the foot of the "T" of "TEN."
(3) The scroll next to the last "S" of "SHILLINGS" is broken, and there is a spot in the centre of the break.
(4) There is a nick in the cross-lined background a little above the last "S" of "SHILLINGS."

Type V.
(1) There is a thin vertical line and a spot to the left of the "T" of "TEN."
(2) The top of the "T" of "TEN" is curved upwards slightly at each end.
(3) The scroll next to the last "S" of "SHILLINGS" is broken, and is joined to the lower curve of it by a short line.

Type VI.
(1) There are two small spots to the left of the "T" of "TEN," and other very small ones above the "EN."
(2) The outer oval is slightly thickened just below the vertical stroke of the "E" of "TEN."

Type VII.
(1) There is a small spot to the left of the foot of the "T" of "TEN."
(2) There is a spot above the "N" of "TEN."

Type VIII.
(1) There is a short curved line joined to the left arm of the "T" of "TEN."
(2) There is a horizontal line above the "E" of "TEN."
(3) There is a spot to the right of the lower part of the "N" of "TEN."
(4) There is a short stroke like an apostrophe between the letters "G" and "S" of "SHILLINGS."
(5) The last "S" of "SHILLINGS" is narrow, and the lower limb heavily drawn.

Type IX.
(1) There is an excrescence on the right side of the foot of the "T" of "TEN," and a spot between the foot of the "T" and the "E."
(2) There is a spot between the upper part of the "N" of "TEN" and the first "S" of "SHILLINGS."
(3) The upper part of the last "S" of "SHILLINGS" is very small.

Type X. (1) There is a short line above the right arm of the "T" of "TEN," and a scratch on the neck of the Queen, just inside the oval above the "E" of "TEN."

(2) There is an excrescence on the left side of the foot of the "T" of "TEN."

The Twenty Shillings

(Five Types).

Type I. (1) The inner oval is double above the "Y" of "TWENTY," and is sometimes broken above the "TY."

(2) There is a spot connecting the inner and outer frames on the left, in a line with the centre of the lower scroll.

Type II. (1) The inner oval is double above the letters "ENT" of "TWENTY."

Type III. (1) The first "T" of "TWENTY" is joined by a short line to the scroll, and is much closer to it than in Types I. and II., and a portion of the sort of hook which separates the scrolls from each other has been left; remains of this are also to be seen after the last "S" of "SHILLINGS."

Type IV. (1) The left lower scroll has the hook, as in Type III., but the "T" is not quite so close.

Type V. (1) The first "T" of "TWENTY" is very close to the scroll, and the top of the "T" is narrower than in any of the other types.

In plating a stamp of any of the values, it is generally of great assistance to note the positions of the words expressing the value with regard to the outer and inner ovals.

(*Conclusion*).



The British Empire.

Bechuanaland Protectorate.—Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. forward the current ½d. Great Britain overprinted for use here.

Adhesive.

½d. yellow-green. Overprinted "Bechuanaland Protectorate" in black.

British Guiana.—Mr. W. H. Peckitt informs us that, writing under date of the 26th of last month, the Postmaster informs him that the new 72c. are still unissued.

Brunei.—Mr. W. H. Peckitt sends us the 8c. stamp printed in single colour.



Adhesive.

8c. blue. Wmk. CA and Crown multiple.

Cayman Islands.—Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. send us a specimen of the new 6d. value, Postage and Revenue.

Adhesive.

6d. lilac. Wmk. CA and Crown multiple.

Canada.—*Mekeel's Weekly Stamp News* mentions that a sheet of the current King's Head 2c. has been discovered imperforate.

Gibraltar. Morocco Agencies.—Mr. W. H. Peckitt has shown us a very interesting error in the 15c. on 1½d., an error existing in which the "15" is omitted. His correspondent in Tangier informs him that only nine were found, the variety appearing vertically on the left-hand side of the bottom left-hand pane.

Adhesive.

5c. on 1½d. lilac and green (error).

Natal.—We are informed that the 2s., 5s., and £1 stamps in the new colours became available on the first of this month.

Orange River Colony.—Mr. W. H. Peckitt tells us that he is informed by the Postmaster of Bloemfontein that the 1s. upon multiple watermark paper is not yet issued, and indeed that there is no prospect of its being on sale for some time to come.

Papua.—Mr. W. H. Peckitt sends us the 2d. and 1s. of the new permanent type. He tells us that he is advised that the permanent 2s. 6d. will not be issued until well into next year.

Victoria.—Mr. W. H. Peckitt sends us the 3d. in what has been described as a new shade, we should prefer to say almost a new colour, as it is now in pale orange yellow.

Foreign Countries.

Abyssinia.—With fuller reference to our paragraph of last month under this heading, Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. send us an entire surcharged set. We give particulars below.

Adhesives.

"¼ piastre"	in black on	¼	gairsh	green.
"½ piastre"	,,	½	,,	red.
"1 piastre"	,,	1	,,	blue.
"2 piastres"	,,	2	,,	brown.
"4 piastres"	,,	4	,,	claret.
"8 piastres"	,,	8	,,	lilac.
"16 piastres"	,,	16	,,	black.

China.—The *Postage Stamp* chronicles the current 2c. stamp printed in green, and *Messrs. Alfred Smith & Son's Monthly Circular* the 10c. in blue, both changed to conform with Postal Union requirements.

Adhesives.

2c. green.
10c. blue.

Crete.—Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. make some additions to our list of stamps overprinted "ΕΛΛΑΣ."

The 10 lepta is of a new design, showing the Hermes of Praxilites. So far we have not seen this unsurcharged.

Adhesive.

10l. red. Overprinted "ΕΛΛΑΣ" in black.

Official stamps.

10l. claret. Overprinted "ΕΛΛΑΣ" in black
30l. pale blue. ,, ,, ,,

Unpaid Letter stamps.

1l. red. Overprinted "ΕΛΛΑΣ" in black.
5l. ,, ,, ,, ,,
10l. ,, ,, ,, ,,
20l. ,, ,, ,, ,,
40l. ,, ,, ,, ,,
50l. ,, ,, ,, ,,
1d. ,, ,, ,, ,,
2d. ,, ,, ,, ,,

Danish West Indies.—*Ewen's Weekly* lists the 15 and 30 bits as having been issued in October.



Adhesives.

15 bit violet and brown.
30 bit red-lilac and black.

Italy. FOREIGN OFFICES.—*Ewen's Weekly* adds the following to recent lists:—

Adhesives.

"30 Parà 30" on 15c. grey.
" 4 Piastre 4" on 1l. brown and green.
"20 Piastre 20" on 5l. blue and rose.

Express Delivery stamp.

"Levante 1 piastre 1" on 25c. rose.

Paraguay.—We are indebted to *Ewen's Weekly* for the very useful list of recent Provisionals, and to these we have one more to add, as Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. have just sent us the 2c. of 1904 printed in rosy lake and surcharged "Habilitado en 5 centavos."

On Postage stamps.

1. 5c. on 28c. orange.
2. ,, 40c. blue.
3. ,, 2c. vermilion.
4. ,, 2c. olive.
5. ,, 2c. pink.
6. ,, 1c. green.
7. ,, 60c. dark brown.
8. ,, 60c. orange-brown.
9. ,, 60c. light red.
10. 20c. on 30c. mauve.

On Official stamps.

11. 5c. on 15c. orange.
12. ,, 50c. grey.
13. ,, 60c. purple.
14. ,, 10c. bright green.
15. ,, 10c. dark purple.
16. ,, 10c. lilac.
17. ,, 10c. bistre
18. ,, 20c. light red.
19. ,, 20c. bistre.
20. ,, 20c. dark purple.
21. ,, 20c. bright green.
22. ,, 30c. light grey.
23. ,, 30c. blue.
24. 5c. on 30c. blue-green.
25. ,, 30c. yellow.
26. ,, 60c. orange-brown.
27. ,, 60c. dark blue.
28. ,, 60c. dark brown.
29. ,, 60c. dull salmon.

Surcharged Habilitado on Official stamps.
(To enable them to be used on ordinary letters).

30. On 5c. dark blue.
31. ,, 5c. greyish-blue.
32. ,, 5c. greenish-blue.
33. ,, $1 orange-brown and black.

Adhesive.

5c. in black on 2c. rosy lake.

Siam.—We have been shown another Provisional, this time a 2 atts upon the 24c. of the 1887 issue.

Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. also send us the 10 atts blue of 1900, overprinted "9 atts" in black.

Adhesive.

2 atts on 24a. purple and blue.
9 atts on 10a. ultramarine.

Switzerland.—Mr. W. T. Wilson sends us the 1fr. in the new design, as below.



Adhesive.

1fr. marone and green.

United States.—Just upon going to press we have received the new 1c. and 2c. stamps from Mr. W. H. Peckitt. So far the former has only been issued in 25c. booklets, though the 2c. has been already seen in sheet form. There is some doubt as to whether either of these will be permanent, the denomination not being shown in plain figures, in accordance with the new regulations, as well as in words.





Adhesives.

1c. green.
2c. carmine.

Notes and News.

Manchester Philatelic Society.

The 274th meeting was held at the Rooms of the Geographical Society, on Friday evening, November 27th, Mr. C. H. Coote in the chair.

Messrs. H. Howell Jones and F. J. Peplow were elected Active Members and Dr. Baildon a Corresponding Member of the Society. The Hon. Secretary read a short paper on the "One Pnney" error of Malta, and Mr. Beinstein followed with one on the "Revolutionary Stamps of Venezuela."

A display of six artistic stamps was given by several of the members present. There was naturally some difference of opinion, but all agreed as to the merits of the 5s. St. Vincent.

At the List Meeting, on December 4th, Engraving and Surface Printing in connection with the Making of a Stamp was dealt with by Mr. Coote.

The President took the chair at the meeting on December 11th, when the Hon. Librarian reported the arrival of the books which had been purchased from the duplicates of the Royal Society. Major French was elected an Active Member and Mr. J. W. Hedley a Corresponding Member of the Society. A display of the "Surface-Printed Stamps of Great Britain, 1855-84," was given by Mr. W. M. Gray, Vice-President of the Bradford Society. The collection consisted of about 7,000 specimens in seven or eight albums, all, with the exception of three or four used copies being in mint condition, arranged with extreme neatness, and accompanied by copious explanatory notes. Imperforate copies (uncatalogued) were shown of most of the stamps, many in pairs and strips, none bearing the word "Specimen." The greatest rarity was the 5s., Plate 4, watermarked cross patée, said by Wright & Creeke not to have been issued. Other scarce stamps were the 4d. of 1855, with both small and medium garter; the 3d. rose, 1862, with white dots; 2½d. lilac-rose, plates 4 and 5, wmk. anchor; six or eight absolutely mint specimens of the 2s. brown, in distinct shades, and many panes and half-sheets of stamps, a single copy of which would be highly prized by most collectors of Great Britain.

A very hearty vote of thanks was given to Mr. Gray before the meeting terminated.

German Levante.

The issue of German stamps with oblique surcharge of new values in French currency has the following reason:—Several large commercial houses asked the German Post Offices in Turkey to issue stamps, post-cards, and wrappers in French currency, which would be used exclusively for samples, commercial papers, and printed matter. Ten post-cards cost 5 Turkish piastres, but in French currency only $4\frac{3}{4}$ piastres, a saving of 10 paras on ten cards Letters are not franked with the new stamps, as 25c. would frank a letter of 20 grammes; 25c. is equal to 20pf., whereas 1 piastre is equal to 18pf. These stamps are largely used in Smyrna for samples, because sample boxes of raisins, up to 250 grammes, are sent in very large quantities through the post.

Letter Telegrams.

An innovation, which is sure to appeal to English advocates of cheaper telegrams and postal facilities, will come into force on December 1st in France. On and after that date it will be possible to send from any important town in France to another what are called "Letter-Telegrams." The rate is to be one centime a word, or in other words ten words can be sent for one penny, with a minimum charge of five centimes (one half-penny). These letter-telegrams will be received for transmission after 9 p.m. They will be telegraphed in the usual way and delivered early on the following morning by the postman.

Holland.

New tariff for inland letters, etc.:—

For inland letters up to 20 grammes ...	5c.
,, ,, ,, from 20 to 200 ,, ...	10c.
,, ,, ,, ,, 200 to 500 ,, ...	15c.
,, each further 500 grammes	5c. more.
,, local letters up to 20 grammes ...	3c.
,, ,, ,, from 20 to 200 ,, ...	5c.
,, ,, post-cards	1½c.
,, inland ,, ...	2½c.
,, printed matter for each 50 grammes—	
up to 500 grammes	1c.
500 to 750 ,, ...	12½c.
750 to 1,000 ,, ...	15c.
and for each 1,000 grammes more	2½c.
,, newspapers up to 55 grammes ...	½c.
,, ,, from 55 to 150 ,, ...	1c.
and for each 50 grammes more	½c.
,, each post-card not prepaid	2½c. extra.
,, ,, letter not prepaid ...	5c. ,,

Paraguay.

One peso service stamps, red with black centre, have been used as ordinary postage stamps, and that according to the *Ill. Briefmarken Journal* for the following reason: "The service stamps arrived before the ordinary 1 peso postage stamps, and as the public demanded 1 peso stamps the officials sold the service stamps over the counter. These were then used by the public as postage stamps, and must be considered as such. As soon as the ordinary 1 peso stamps arrived, the service stamps were withdrawn."

We should now only require the exact date when the ordinary 1 peso stamps arrived to make certain which stamps, when used, must be considered as postage stamps, because on the date of obliteration alone will rest the fact whether they were used for ordinary franking purposes or not.

Herts Philatelic Society.

The second general meeting of the season, 1908-1909, was held at No. 4, Southampton Row, London, W.C., on Tuesday, November 17th, 1908, at 6.30 p.m. The President took the chair.

The minutes of the meeting held on October 28th, 1908, were read and confirmed.

Before proceeding to the other business of the meeting, the President alluded with a few touching words to the lamentable and untimely death of Sir William B. Avery, Bart., one of the Hon. Vice-Presidents of the Society, and moved the following resolution:—

"The Herts Philatelic Society wish to express their deepest sympathy with Lady Avery and the other members of the family at the lamentable death of Sir William B. Avery, Bart., one of their Hon. Vice-Presidents, and asks the Hon. Secretary to forward this resolution to her."

This motion was seconded by the Vice-President, an old personal friend of the deceased, and carried unanimously.

In the absence of the Hon. Librarian, the President informed the meeting of some valuable additions to the Library, presented mostly by himself, and also by Messrs. D. Field, H. F. Johnson, A. Montader, P. Kosack, L. Harald Kjellstedt, H. Griebert, and the Bath Philatelic Society.

Messrs. S. Chapman, W. G. Cool, and W. Jacoby sent contributions to the Society's collection of entires, and Mr. W. G. Cool and Mrs. H. R. Baird gave some good specimens of forgeries. All these donations were acknowledged with thanks.

The Vice-President promised a generous donation, amounting to about £20 in value, to the Society's collections at a later date.

The Vice-President and Mr. M. P. Castle expressed views on the "Open Letter" appearing in the November number of the "Monthly Report," and suggested that in future the Editor should decline to publish anonymous letters. This the Editor agreed to do.

The President then called upon Mr. M. P. Castle for a display of his collections of the "Stamps of Bahamas and St. Vincent," which, although started recently, were complete in every respect, and accompanied by explanatory notes, afforded a great amount of instruction and enjoyment to all the members present.

After the conclusion of the display, the President proposed and Mr. P. Ashley seconded a hearty vote of thanks to Mr. Castle. Needless to say, this was carried with enthusiasm and suitably responded to.

Guatemala.

The present postal tariff for Guatemala is as follows:—

For local letters, each 15gr. or part thereof	6½c.
,, inland ,, ,, ,, ,, ,, ,,	12½c.
,, foreign ,, ,, ,, ,, ,, ,,	50c.
,, printed matter, local, each 50gr. or part thereof	12½c.
,, printed matter, inland, each 50gr. or part thereof	12½c.
,, patterns, local, each 50gr. or part thereof	12½c.
,, patterns, inland, each 50gr. or part thereof	12½c.
,, patterns, foreign, 1 to 50gr.	15c.
50 to 100gr.	20c.
100 to 150gr.	30c.
150 to 200gr., etc.	40c.
,, post-cards, single, local	3c.
,, ,, ,, inland ...	6½c.
,, ,, ,, foreign ...	15c.
,, ,, double, local ...	6c.
,, ,, ,, inland ...	12½c.
,, ,, ,, foreign ...	50c.
,, newspapers, each 15gr., local ...	1c
,, ,, ,, ,, inland...	2c.*
,, ,, ,, 50gr., foreign...	10c

* This tax has only to be paid on foreign papers; papers printed in the country are exempt from postage in all Central America.

—*Ill. B. Journal.*

New Post Office Departure.

The first wireless telegraphy station under the control of the Post Office—the new radio-telegraph station which has been erected for the Post Office by the Marconi Company at Bolt Head, Devonshire, near Plymouth—was opened by the Postmaster-General a few days ago. The station will be available for communication with all ships fitted with wireless telegraphy, whatever their system may be, and will be available for transmitting to or from ships messages originating at or destined for places abroad. The station embodies the latest improvements in wireless telegraphy. Its range is 250 miles, and it will be used for communication with the Channel Islands in the event of interruption in the cable between England and the Islands.

Reduced German Postage.

The Berlin correspondent of the *Standard* says the announcement of the introduction of penny postage for letters from Germany to America not exceeding 20 grammes, to commence on the 1st of January, 1909, is welcomed by the whole business community, which has been untiring in its efforts to obtain postal advantages similar to those which have been enjoyed by England since the 1st of October. It cannot be said, however, that the Imperial Post Office has granted the concession ungrudgingly, and if it had not been for the success of the English experiment, which has to a certain extent forced its hand, there is but little doubt that the present rate would have remained in force.

Last Horsed Mail-Coach.

The beginning of this December has marked a point of considerable interest in the history of the Post Office. On the first day of this month the last of the horse-drawn night mail-coaches to and from London was superseded by the motor. The four-in-hand coaches between London and Guildford Post Offices concluded a long period of useful service at the end of November, and, barring accidents to the motor, the quick trot of the mail horses heard from afar in the sleepy Surrey villages during the silence of the night will be replaced by the whirr of the petrol-driven engine.

Postal Waste of Time.

Commend me to the Post Office for taking pains about trifles. I sent a parcel by post the other day, and it was delivered promptly and intact. But two days later a yellow Post Office form reached me asking nearly a dozen questions about the parcel—where and when it was posted and the amount of the postage, the number of stamps used, the value of the separate stamps, whether they were fixed on a label or on the parcel, and who fixed them and who saw them fixed, and, if they were put on a label, whether I saw that the label was fixed to the parcel, and so on. The circular told me that the parcel had been duly delivered, and that the particulars asked for were required for official purposes only. What official purposes? I wondered, and, wondering, I went to the Post Office and inquired. At first I was "stalled off." The Post Office was not at all willing to let me into its secrets. "Very well," I said, "I'll answer your questions if you will tell me why you ask them; not otherwise." There followed an interval of two days, and then a Post Office official paid me a call. The stamps on my parcel had been rubbed off in transit. There was no doubt about this; the mark where the stamps had been fixed was plain, and, besides, the stamps must be affixed to a parcel before it is accepted at a Post Office counter. But the disappearance of the stamps was an "irregularity," and in the Post Office it is the rule that every "irregularity" shall be inquired into very closely. In that way is efficiency maintained. I asked the official what chance there was that the cause of this "irregularity" would be discovered. "Between you and me," he said, "no chance at all."

The Mart.

By Messrs. Puttick & Simpson, at their Galleries, on October 27th and 28th, 1908.

	£	s.	d.
Gibraltar: 1889, 10c. carmine, error, value omitted, mint	15	0	0
Great Britain: 1867, 3d. rose, plate 4, wmk. Spray of Rose, a block of nine, mint	10	10	0
1891, £5 orange on white	1	6	0
Levant, 1906, provisional, 1 piastre on 2d., issued at Beyrouth, mint	6	0	0
India: Scinde, ½a. blue	1	4	0
Straits Settlements: 1902, $100	2	10	0
Cape of Good Hope: 1882, CA., 5s. orange	1	3	0
Bahamas: 1884, £1 Venetian red, mint	1	1	0
Cayman Islands: 1907, ½d. on 5s., double surcharge, mint	2	8	0
½d. on 5s., a block of four, one stamp showing inverted surcharge, mint	4	2	6
1d. on 5s., a pair, showing apparent double surcharge, mint	2	0	0
1908, 2½d. on 4d. brown and blue, mint	3	0	0
1d. on 4d. Fiscal, mint	1	17	6
Trinidad: 1896, 10s. green and ultramarine, and £1 carmine, mint	2	5	0
British New Guinea: 1905, 2s. 6d. black and brown, mint	1	16	0
New Zealand: 1862, 2d. slate-blue	1	6	0
Papua on British New Guinea: 1907, 2s. 6d. black and brown, with vertical surcharge, mint	2	12	0
Another copy, with two vertical surcharges	3	0	0

By Messrs. Ventom, Bull & Cooper, at the Loudoun Hotel, on November 26th and 27th, 1908. The sale contained a more than usually interesting lot of Great Britain.

	£	s.	d.
Great Britain: 1735, Dokwra's "Peny Post Paid," stamped on entire	0	12	0
1841, 1d. red, proof with voided corner, and 1855, wmk. large crown, perf. 14, 1d. plum, a mint pair with bottom margin	0	12	0
1855, wmk. large crown, perf. 16, 1d. red-brown, unused	1	0	0
1858, wmk. large crown, perf. 16, 1d. rose-red, unused	1	12	0
1858-79. 1d. red, plate 225, a mint vertical strip of four with side margin	3	3	0
1870, ½d. rose, a mint corner block of 54 showing plate No. 14	4	8	0
1856-57, wmk. medium garter, 4d. rose-carmine, a mint "Specimen" part pane of 24 with full margins	4	4	0
1862, 9d. straw with hair lines in corners, imperf. right side	7	5	0
Another similar specimen, but perforations added at extreme edge	7	15	0
1867, 10d. red-brown, plate No. 2	13	10	0
1872, 6d. chestnut, plate 13	8	10	0
1s. green, plate 5, the "Stock Exchange" forgery, used on piece	0	18	0
"I.R. Official," Queen's head, 5s. rose, unused	4	0	0
10s. blue, unused	2	2	0
£1 green, unused, tiny flaw	5	2	6
Another unused specimen in mint state overprinted "specimen"	1	6	0
King's Head, 1s. green and scarlet, a fine horizontal pair	1	4	0

	£	s.	d.
Austria: 1858-59, 2 kr. orange, mint	4	0	0
Servia: Paper coloured through, 1 para green on rose, an unused sheet of twelve, in mint state	2	10	0
Nevis: 1st issue, 4d. rose on greyish paper, and another unused	0	18	0
4d. rose, fine..	0	15	0
1878 Lithographed, 1d. red, a reconstructed plate of 12 used specimens..	1	10	0
6d. grey, fine..	3	3	0
1s. deep green, an entire unused sheet of 12 with full margins, in mint state	15	10	0

By Messrs. Glendining & Co., Ltd., at their Galleries, on December 1st and 2nd, 1908.

	£	s.	d.
Great Britain: 1881, 1d. lilac, variety, printed both sides, unused	5	5	0
1d. lilac, variety, gummed wrong side, and 1d. lilac, block of thirteen, gummed wrong side, and all with inverted wmk.; and 1887-92, ½d. vermilion, gummed wrong side ..	4	5	0
1887-92, error of colour, 2½d. purple on white, an unused block of four ..	1	0	0
I. R. Official, 1884-5, 5s. and 10s.; and 1887-91, £1, all overprinted specimen	4	5	0
Wmk. orbs, £1 brown-lilac, overprinted specimen	6	5	0
Govt. Parcels, 1883-6, 1s. brown-orange, plate 13, mint horizontal pair from corner of sheet	1	8	0
A single copy of the same stamp and I R Official, 1s. green, both mint ..	0	16	0
1887-1901, 4½d. mint	0	11	0
Do., 1s. green, mint	0	8	0
1902, 1d., 2d., 6d. and 9d., all mint ..	0	14	0
Do., 1s. green and scarlet, mint.. ..	1	1	0
Board of Education, 1902-4, 2½d. ultramarine, mint	1	4	0
Admiralty Official, 1903, Type II., 2½d. on small piece	2	6	0
Levant: July, 1906, 1 para on 2d., mint ..	7	15	0
Cape of Good Hope: 1s. deep green, brilliant mint pair	4	10	0
1s. deep green, two fine shades	0	17	0
1s. deep green, and 1s. yellow-green, superb copies	1	5	0
1s. yellow-green, pair	2	12	0
1s. yellow-green, 1s. deep green, and 1863-4, 1s. emerald-green	1	8	0
1s. yellow-green, and on blued paper, 6d. slate-lilac	1	5	0
1855-8, Rouletted, 4d. blue	0	16	0
March, 1861, wood blocks, 1d. pale brick-red, superb..	4	12	6
1d. brick red, lightly marked	3	10	0
1d. scarlet, nice lightly marked copy ..	2	15	0
4d. pale blue	2	10	0
4d. pale blue, nice copy	1	11	0
4d. blue, slightly creased	1	11	0
Reprints, 1d. red and 4d. blue	1	3	0
1863-4, 1d. deep brown-red, rare shade, brilliant unused block of four.. ..	3	10	0
1s. emerald-green, brilliant mint pair ..	4	17	6
Mauritius: May, 1848, early state, white paper, 1d. vermilion	6	15	0
2d. blue, lightly marked and fine ..	5	0	0
On white paper, 2d. blue, deeper shade	5	15	0
British Honduras: 1888, 2c. on 1d. rose, variety, surcharge inverted	4	4	0
St. Vincent: 1866, compound perfs., 1d. rose-red, unused	5	10	0
July, 1880, 5s. rose-red, mint	7	10	0
1880, 1d. of half of 6d., blue-green	2	14	0
1881, One penny on 6d. yellow-green ..	1	18	0
4d. on 1s. vermilion	6	13	0
Tobago: 1882-4, wmk. Crown C.A., perf. 14, 6d. stone	4	0	0

* * *

Belgium has opened Post Offices in China, and the Belgian stamps of 5, 10, 25, and 50c. have been surcharged "Chine," and value in Chinese characters. So runs the latest philatelic canard.

Correspondence.

Registration.

To the Editor of the "Philatelic Record."

SIR,—Since you were good enough to write your Editorial upon my collection in your issue of March, 1907, I have added to it considerably, and have thought your readers might be interested in the following, he reproduction of which is prohibited:—

HARRADENS PLANS, 1788, OUTWARD LETTERS.

To establish office for registering all letters which certain bank notes, etc., senders to pay 1d.

Receiving clerk to enter the surname and post town in a book.

Specially secure boxes for such letters to be provided for each division at all the sorters' tables.

The postage of these letters to be entered in special column on the slip.

These letters to be conveyed in special bags.

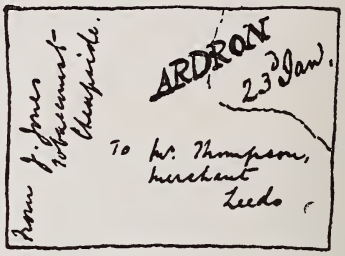
A separate bill to be sent to the Receiving Postmaster, so that the letters may be followed up step by step to the very sources of neglect on the faulty party.

and

BONNERS PLAN, 27th FEBRUARY, 1793.

Nine bureaus to be opened at G. P. O., one for each of the mail routes. A piece of paper the exact size of the letter to be brought with it, with copy of direction of letter written upon it in the same hand-writing as address of letter, and bearing on the left hand name and address of sender. This to be impressed with the office stamp in the corner, which will be torn off (leaving a portion of the stamp on each piece) and given to the sender as evidence of receipt.

The receiving clerks to be provided with locked boxes in which to place these letters,



Reproduced from a manuscript copy made by "Plain Anchor."

they to be entered in a book, and a senior clerk to place in the respective bags himself, and a separate bill sent to Receiving Postmaster who would receipt same.

I have also acquired two essays for the Registration Envelopes, and many more curious and special postmarks. — Yours faithfully, PLAIN ANCHOR.

8th December, 1908.

Queensland.

To the Editor of the "Philatelic Record."

DEAR SIR,—It may be of interest to your readers to know that I have a vertical pair of the 2s. 6d. Queensland, 1881 lithographed issue, showing types 1 and 2 *se-tenant*. This does not fit in with Mr. Hausburg's recently published arrangement of the types of this value, and it seems to point either to a mistake in his arrangement or to another transfer.

I may add that I have a block of eight showing types 2, 3, 7, and 8, which agree with Mr. Hausburg's arrangement.—Yours faithfully, P. L. PEMBERTON.

68, High Holborn, W.C.

December 15th, 1908.

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THE

Philatelic Record

JANUARY, 1908.

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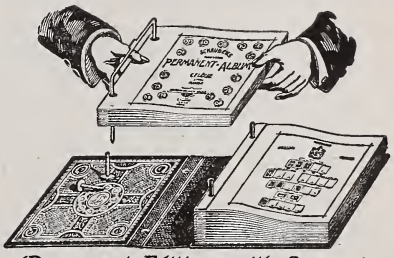

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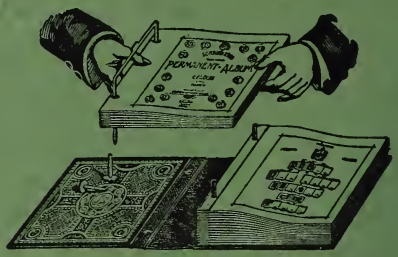

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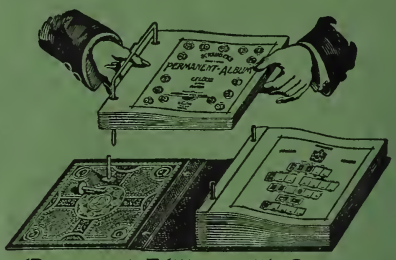

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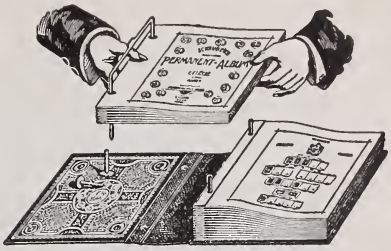

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2 ,, ,, ,, ...	30 0	30 0
3 ,, ,, ,, ...	30 0	—
4 ,, ,, ,, ...	9 0	—
8 ,, ,, buff	55 0	—
1 rupee ,, ,, ...	95 0	—
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1a.	75 0	—
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Nov., 1896, Type printed—no "L."		
1 anna black on white (Type I.) ..	25 0	—
1 ,, ,, ,, (,, II.) ..	3 0	4 0
2 ,, ,, ,, ...	3 0	5 0

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Nov., 1896—*continued.*		
3 annas black on white	4 6	7 6
4 ,, ,, ,, ...	5 6	—
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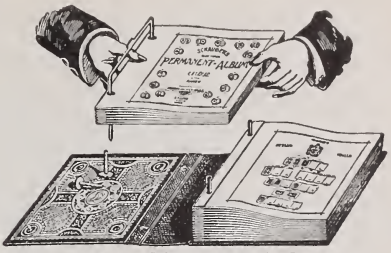

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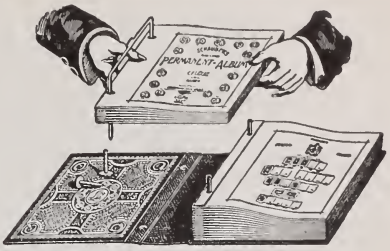

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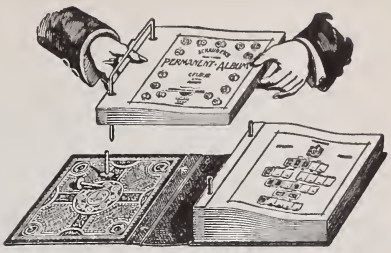

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THE

NEW ENGLAND STAMP CO.

Of BOSTON, MASS.,

ANNOUNCE that their President & Manager, Mr. ALBERT W. BATCHELDER, will again visit England early in October, with a

Superb Line of Stamps of all Countries,

and will be pleased to make appointments with old and new Customers.

If you are interested in

UNITED STATES, CONFEDERATE STATES, or BRITISH NORTH AMERICA,

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1908-9 COLONIAL CATALOGUE

Nearly all British Colonial Stamps up to £5 each, priced, and IN STOCK.
ALL STAMPS IN FINE CONDITION, and subject to approval.

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1888, ½d. vermilion, inverted surcharge (S.G., No. 52B)	15 0	15 0
British South Africa.		
1891, ½d. on 6d. ultramarine	7 6	—
,, 2d. on 6d. ,, ...	30 0	—
,, 4d. on 6d. ,, ...	30 0	—
,, 8d. on 1s. brown	30 0	—
Special price for set of 4, mint	*90 0*	—
Canada. 1897, $2 violet, Jubilee ..	—	3 0
Cyprus. 1882, 30 paras on 1 pias. carmine	—	3 9
Seychelles.		
1896, 36c. on 45c. brown and carmine	3 6	—

New Colonial Stock Books.—We have just completed the re-arrangement of our series of Stock Books of British Colonial Stamps. Write for your special countries. Fine representative selections, and large numbers of copies & shades to select from.

Foreign Stock Books.—These are now being re-made. Let us know the country you require. Prompt attention.

Want Lists.—We can probably fill these better than any other Dealers. Prices quoted for any stamps. Send us a trial list.

BRIDGER & KAY,
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INDIA, 1854, lithographed issue.

½ anna blue, May, 1854, transfer, superb mint pairs, 15/-; ditto, mint blocks of four, 25/-; ditto, mint blocks of eight, with sheet margins on side, 50/- Corner block of sixteen, 100/-; ditto, lower right corner, block of sixteen, with date, 120/-

½ anna pale blue, August, 1854, transfer, superb mint pairs, 15/-; ditto, mint blocks of four, 25/-; ditto, mint blocks of eight, with sheet margins on side, 50/- Corner blocks of sixteen, 100/-; ditto, lower right corner, block of sixteen, with date, 120/-

1 anna red, September, 1854, transfer, superb mint pairs, 17/6; ditto, mint blocks of four, 30/-; ditto, mint blocks of eight, with sheet margins on one side, 60/- Corner blocks of sixteen, 120/-; ditto, lower right corner, block of sixteen, with date, 150/-

INDIA, 1895-1902, high values, picked copies.

1895, Queen, 2 rupees, 4d.; per twelve, 3/6. 3 rupees, 1/-; per twelve, 8/- 5 rupees, very fine, 3/-; sets of three, 3/6; per twelve sets, 40/-

1902, King, 2 rupees, 3½d.; per twelve, 3/-; per 100, 20/-

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RARE POSTAGE STAMPS

— HELD BY —

Messrs. VENTOM, BULL & COOPER

(WHO ORIGINATED THEM IN THIS COUNTRY), AT THE

Loudoun Hotel, Surrey Street, Strand, W.C.

(Close to the Temple Station on the District Railway).

Messrs. VENTOM, BULL & COOPER beg to announce that their Sales for the forthcoming Season will be held on the following dates:—

1908.—October 8th & 9th, and 22nd & 23rd; November 12th & 13th, and 26th & 27th; December 10th & 11th.

1909.—January 7th & 8th, and 21st and 22nd; February 4th & 5th, and 18th & 19th; March 4th & 5th, and 18th & 19th; April 1st & 2nd, 15th & 16th, and 29th & 30th; May 13th & 14th, and 27th & 28th; June 17th & 18th.

OCTOBER 8TH AND 9TH,

Messrs. VENTOM, BULL & COOPER will sell on the above dates a very fine selection of

BRITISH, FOREIGN, AND COLONIAL POSTAGE STAMPS,

Also COLLECTIONS, including a fine collection of BRITISH COLONIAL "SPECIMEN" STAMPS, formed by the late Sir Penrose Julian.

OCTOBER 22ND AND 23RD,

Messrs. VENTOM, BULL & COOPER have received instructions to sell on the above dates

THE VERY FINE COLLECTION OF BRITISH COLONIALS,

the property of E. W. Wetherell, Esq.

The chief items in the Collection are:—

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CAPE OF GOOD HOPE. Fine triangulars and wood-blocks, including pair of 4d.

GRIQUALAND. A very fine lot, including strips of the 5s., showing different types.

GOLD COAST. 20s. green and red unused.

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NEW SOUTH WALES. Superb SYDNEY VIEWS (43 in all): Laureated issues, very fine, including the rare 8d. orange, no leaves variety, etc.

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TASMANIA. 1st issue, 1d. blue (three); 4d. orange on ribbed paper, etc.

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Catalogues of all Sales may be obtained of

Messrs. VENTOM, BULL & COOPER,

(Philatelic Department), 35, Old Jewry, LONDON, E.C.

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A SPECIALITY.

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NEXT SALE

WILL TAKE PLACE ON

OCTOBER 13 and 14, 1908.

The dates of Sales for next Season have been fixed as follows :—

1908.—Oct. 13 and 14, 27 and 28; Nov. 10 and 11, 24 and 25; Dec. 8 and 9.

1909.—Jan. 5 and 6, 19 and 20; Feb. 2 and 3, 16 and 17; March 2 and 3, 16 and 17, 30 and 31; April 27 and 28; May 11 and 12, 25 and 26; June 8 and 9.

Owing to the very large number of commissions received from the Continent and America, the Catalogues are issued, when possible, one month or more before the date of sale. Owners wishing to include Stamps should therefore forward them as early as possible.

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,,	,, ,,	...	...	½ Rupee ,, ,, ,, ,, ,,
,,	,, ,,	...	...	Abasi Brown-BLACK, ,, ,, unused.
,,	,, ,,	...	...	½ Rupee ,, ,, ,, ,, ,,
,,	,, ,,	...	...	1 ,, ,, ,, ,, ,,

Note.—These are **the rarities**—the Abasi JET-BLACK is the rarest stamp of this country.

1293.	Type II.	...	...	Sanar Bright Green, fine, cut square, unused.
,,	,, ,,	...	...	Abasi ,, ,, ,, ,, ,,
,,	,, ,,	...	...	½ Rupee ,, ,, ,, ,, ,,
,,	,, ,,	...	...	Sanar ,, ,, ,, ,, used.
,,	,, ,,	...	...	½ Rupee ,, ,, ,, ,, ,,

Note.—In this colour these are equally rare—the usual colour being a dull brownish yellow-green.

The new Handbook of the PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF INDIA on the "POSTAGE STAMPS OF AFGHANISTAN" (containing 24 fine Plates, etc., etc.) is Now Ready, and can be supplied from stock, price 20/- post free.

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THE

Philatelic Record

OCTOBER, 1908.

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ASIA.—**Ceylon,** first issue; **India,** ½ anna, error, Service 2a., 4a., 8a. on fiscal; **Indian States**; **Straits** and **States** complete; **Labuan,** first issue and rare surcharge. **AFRICA.**—**B.C.A.,** £25 green and black; **B.E.A.**; **B.S.A.,** complete; **Bechuanaland Protectorate,** 2s., 2s. 6d., 5s., 10s.; **Cape,** Wood-blocks; **Niger Coast,** 5s., 10s., and types of the other values; **Lagos,** 5s., 10s.; **Gold Coast,** 20s. green and red; **Madagascar,** Consular Mail; **Mauritius,** first issues, very fine, with pairs; **New Republic,** specialised collection; **Orange Free State,** rare surcharge and errors; **Transvaal,** a very fine specialised collection.

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Dealers in Postage and Revenue Stamps,

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1. **Prices at which we can sell** British Colonial Stamps from ½d. to £50 each. We have nearly all Colonial stamps between these prices in stock.

2. **Packets of Colonial Stamps** from 2/- to £225 each. We make up from stock the finest and cheapest packets of these stamps that can be obtained anywhere. No torn or damaged copies. Is it possible to get the following at lower prices?

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We also have a Serial packet of 1,250 entirely different British Colonial stamps, in 35 packets, priced from 2/- to 7/6 each, or the entire series for £6 10s. Full particulars in price list.

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Collection of 12,500 different Stamps £170

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	s.	d.
Afghanistan, 1290, shahi, black	5	0
1290, black, abasi, ½ and 1 rupee, set of 3	40	0
1293, tablet, purple, 1 rupee	100	0
1293, grey, set of 5 values	37	6
1294, black, ½ and 1 rupee, pair	100	0
1294, yellow-brown, shahi and sanar, pair	18	6
1294, yellow, 1 rupee .. .. .. (All superb square-cut unused copies)	50	0
1298, 1 abasi, purple, lake or brown, each	1	0
1298, 2 abasi, purple or lake, each ..	2	6
1298, re-engd. 1 ab., purple or lake, each	1	0
1309, 1 abasi, slate, fine (Cat. 5s.) ..	2	0
1309, 2 abasi, ditto (Cat. 15s.)	5	0
1310, 1 abasi, green, shades	1	6
1894, 2 abasi, green, "Skeleton"	2	0
Ceylon. 1899, 2 to 75c. mint (7)	3	9
Curacao. 1892, 30c. drab, mint (Cat. 2s)	0	6
Egypt. O.H.H S., 1, 2, 3, 5m., & 1p. used (5)	0	2½
Fiji. 1881-83, 5s. mint	7	6
Gibraltar. 1889, 25c. on 2d. brn.-lilac. mint	1	6
India. 1895, 2, 3, 5rs. fine, 3/9; per 12 sets	40	0
1902, 2rs. fine, 3½d.; per 12, 3s.; per 100	20	0
1883-1900, set of 10, mint (Cat. 10s) ..	5	0
Japan. 1888, 50 sen, rosine (Cat. 8/6) ..	1	8
Lagos. 1893, ½d. on 4d., mint	1	6
Mauritius. 1876, ½d. on 10d. marone, mint	0	6
Natal. 1878, 4d. brown (Cat. 3/6)	1	0
Patiala. Ser. King, ½a. to 1re. used (6) ..	2	0
Straits. 1902, 1, 2, 5$ bank-cancelled (3)	3	6
Siam. 1887, 64 atts, mint	2	0
Tobago. C.C. 1s. ochre-yellow, mint ..	2	6
C.A. 1s. orange-brown, mint	3	9
Transvaal. 1885, ½d. on 3d., 11½ × 12, used	3	6
1893, ½d. on 2d. olive, mint, red or blk., each	0	9

WANTED.—The **better** stamps of **India** and the **Indian Convention States** (Chamba, Faridkot, etc.) Send on approval with lowest cash prices.

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374, Camden Road, London, N.

PERIODICAL SALES BY AUCTION OF ..

RARE POSTAGE STAMPS

— HELD BY —

Messrs. VENTOM, BULL & COOPER

(WHO ORIGINATED THEM IN THIS COUNTRY), AT THE

Loudoun Hotel, Surrey Street, Strand, W.C.

(Close to the Temple Station on the District Railway).

Messrs. VENTOM, BULL & COOPER beg to announce that their Sales for the Season will be held on the following dates:—

1908.—November 12th & 13th, and 26th & 27th; December 10th & 11th.

1909.—January 7th & 8th, and 21st and 22nd; February 4th & 5th, and 18th & 19th; March 4th & 5th, and 18th & 19th; April 1st & 2nd, 15th & 16th, and 29th & 30th; May 13th & 14th, and 27th & 28th; June 17th & 18th.

NOVEMBER 12TH AND 13TH,

BY ORDER OF EXECUTORS.

Messrs. VENTOM, BULL & COOPER have received instructions, by order of Executors and others, to sell on the above dates, a fine Collection of

BRITISH, FOREIGN & COLONIAL POSTAGE STAMPS,

including the following Rarities:—

Cape of Good Hope. Woodblock, 4d. deep blue, a very fine unsevered pair.

British Guiana. Officials. 1875, 8c., 12c., and 24c.; 1877, 1c, 2c, 4c., 8c., 12c., and 24c., all unused in mint state.

British Central Africa. 1896, wmk. C. & C.C., £10 vermilion, £25 green; and 1897, £10 yellow, all unused in mint state.

Labuan. 1st issue, wmk. sideways, 12c. carmine, mint.

Ceylon. Pence issues in brilliant mint condition, including the very rare 9d. without wmk.; 1872, 2r. 50c. lilac-rose, mint; C.A., 16c. lilac, mint.

Gold Coast. 20s. green and red, mint.

Sierra Leone. C.A., 4d. blue, mint.

Montserrat. C.A., 4d. blue, mint.

Nevis. C.A., 6d. green, mint.

St. Christopher. C.A., 4d. blue, mint.

And many other scarce Colonials in brilliant mint condition.

Included in this sale is also the EUROPEAN PORTION of Mr. E. W. Wetherell's Collection. Catalogues are now ready.

NOVEMBER 26TH AND 27TH,

Messrs. VENTOM, BULL & COOPER have received instructions to sell on the above dates

The Very Fine Collection of GREAT BRITAIN,

formed by E. W. Wetherell, Esq.

Amongst the many fine stamps in the Collection are the following:—1862, 9d. straw with hair lines in corners, two specimens; 1874, 6d. pale buff, plate 13; 1867, 10d. red-brown, plate 2, etc., etc.; also a very fine lot of the early issues, including octagonals, in mint state.

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Messrs. VENTOM, BULL & COOPER,

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RARE POSTAGE STAMPS

A SPECIALITY.

Messrs. PUTTICK & SIMPSON beg to announce that their next Sale will take place on

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